



MEETING MINUTES

CIVICORPS
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
101 Myrtle Street, Oakland, CA 94607
Wednesday; January 20, 2021
6:00 pm

Due to COVID-19 shelter-in-place and Governor's Executive Order N-25-20 Members of the Board will be calling in from various locations.
Public are also able to join the meeting via:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84917449941?pwd=NkxtSTNsdXYvd0liZEJUSU9LY0w0xZz09>

Meeting ID: 849 1744 9941
Passcode: 1acCwX

Dial by your location
+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
Meeting ID: 849 1744 9941
Passcode: 726190

AGENDA

1. **Roll Call & Approval of Agenda** (2 minutes)

There were sufficient members for a quorum.

Agenda approved unanimously.

Board Members Present:

Aja Cooper
Nita Kirby
Amy Slater
Robbie Yohai
Steven Hanson
Eric Premack
Joel Rogers
Eduardo Chaidez

Board Members Absent:

Gary Lyla (joined @ 7:08)

Staff Present:

Tessa Nicholas
Brian Hickey
Rachel Eisner
Audrey Blanson

2. **Executive Director Update** (3 minutes)

- Tessa recognizes the newly-elected VP Kamala Harris, hailing from Oakland.
- Staff continue to keep each other and Corpsmembers safe by following COVID protocol on-ground and Corpsmembers are distance learning. There have been no COVID-related quarantines or self-isolation.
- 137 active Corpsmembers across programs: 78 paid job training, 66 have high school diplomas; 71 are engaged in Academy and 12 of those are engaged with the JTC, while 59 enrolled in classes.
- Corpsmembers are working at Silicon Valley Second Harvest Food Bank.
- Corpsmembers at the JTC continue to work on projects for EBRPD and ACFC.
- Five Civicorps representatives will present to the EBRPD Board Committee to build bridges to career paths.
- Recycling continues to provide essential services to small businesses in the East Bay, though some accounts are cancelled as effects of the pandemic continue to be felt.
- Civicorps continues to provide Chromebooks to Corpsmembers who need them while teachers move Corpsmembers to graduation, no matter the path chosen.
- Civicorps is committed to serving young people of the community who are underrepresented, and will not close as it undergoes structural changes.

3. **Public Comment on non-agenda items** (30 minutes)

Please limit comments to a maximum of two minutes per speaker. Ordinarily, Board members will not respond to presentations and no action can be taken. However, the Board may give direction to staff following a presentation. If there are more than fifteen members of the public who wish to speak time will be reduced equally in order to stay within the 30 minutes allotted.

- There was public comment from 13 speakers

4. **Board Chair Remarks** (3 minutes)

- Nita acknowledges all voices during public comments. Nita asks everyone to keep open hearts and open minds and keep respect as the agenda continues through board meeting.

5. **Report Back on Closed Session Actions** (2 minutes)

- There were no actions taken during closed session of November 18, 2020 Board Meeting.
- There were no actions taken during closed session of December 2, 2020 Special Board Meeting.

6. **Approval of Consent Agenda** (2 minutes)

- Minutes for meeting of November 18, 2020
- Minutes for Special Meeting of December 2, 2020
 - Minutes for November 18, 2020 meeting unanimously approved, with one absent vote (Gary Lyla).
 - Minutes for the Special Meeting of December 2, 2020 unanimously approved, with one absent vote (Gary Lyla).

7. **Ad-Hoc Academy Exploration Advisory Committee** (30 minutes)

Advisory Committee recommendation regarding next steps around Civicorps education programming and possible partnership.

- Nita Kirby provided a reminder of Ad-Hoc Committee process and how the Ad-Hoc Committee came to the recommendation to partner.
- Eric Premack comments about the myriad considerations the Ad-Hoc Exploratory Advisory Committee took as they came to their conclusive decision to recommend a possible partnership, including his role in helping to found our Charter.
- Steven Hanson comments on the tough decisions made under heavy discussion over 7 months, and why he supports the recommendation.
- Amy Slater comments about the difficult and complex discussions made to reach the recommendation, acknowledging that the result was not a foregone conclusion.
- Nita invites board to ask questions/comments before moving into action.
- Eduardo asks if the Ad Hoc Committee considered any additional content that they haven't yet shared. There were none.
- Aja Cooper comments that she hears all the concerns voiced by the public, but she agrees with the recommendation. She acknowledges that it was not an easy decision, but a necessary one.
- Robbie Yohai thanks Board members and notes the importance of fiscal responsibility; Civicorps can't serve anyone if it can't move forward with stability.

Nita clarifies the decision the Board will make tonight: Motion to a structured, approved agreement where there is no rescinding Charter, but rather allows the Executive team to open and build negotiations on a contract outcome with Opportunity Academy. The motion will enable the Civicorps Executive team to negotiate, with the support of Ad-hoc Committee, to move forward with a potential academy partnership.

There is a Motion to vote.

Amy approves the recommendations of the Ad-hoc Academy Exploratory Advisory Committee and to move forward with the recommendations therein.

Adoption of the recommendations are unanimously passed.

Board moves to closed session.

8. **Closed Session** (30 minutes)

Conference with Labor Negotiators (California Government Code 54957.6)

Agency designated representatives: Tessa Nicholas, Brian Hickey, Audrey Blanson, Rachel Eisner, and Justin Otto Sceva, Senior Counsel, Sloan Sakai Yeung Wong

9. **Adjournment**

Next Scheduled Board Meeting:

Wednesday, March 17, 2021; 6:00pm

Civicorps, 101 Myrtle Street, Oakland, CA 94607