



**DESERT HEALTHCARE DISTRICT
PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING
MEETING MINUTES
July 14, 2020**

Directors & Community Members

Present via Video Conference

Chair Evett PerezGil
Vice-President Karen Borja
Director Carole Rogers, RN
Nicolas Behrman, Community Member
Allen Howe, Community Member

District Staff Present via Video Conference

Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, Chief Executive Officer
Chris Christensen, Chief Administration Officer
Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer
Will Dean, Marketing and Communications Director
Alejandro Espinoza, Program Officer and Director of Outreach
Meghan Kane, Programs and Research Analyst
Erica Huskey, Administrative and Programs Assistant
Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk of the Board

Absent

Luciano Crespo, Community Member
Thomas Thetford, Community Member

AGENDA ITEMS		DISCUSSION	ACTION
I. Call to Order		The meeting was called to order at 12:04 p.m. by Chair PerezGil.	
II. Approval of Agenda		Chair PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the agenda.	Moved and seconded by Director Rogers and Vice-President Borja to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.
III. Meeting Minutes 1. June 09, 2020		Chair PerezGil asked for a motion to approve the June 09, 2020 meeting minutes.	Moved and seconded by Director Rogers and Vice-President Borja to approve the June 09, 2020 meeting minutes. Motion passed unanimously.
IV. Public Comment		There was no public comment	
V. Old Business 1. Funding Requests 2. Grant Payment Schedule		Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, described the funding requests outlined in the packet and explained that since the fiscal year has ended the grant-making has been revised to coincide with the five new Board-approved strategic areas – healthcare infrastructure behavioral health, homelessness, vital human services to people with chronic conditions, and	



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	<p>economic protection, recovery, and food security. The grant guidelines are under revision, and the new grantee webpage will be discussed later in the meeting.</p> <p>Director Rogers inquired on Alianza's grant request and the completion of the audited financials. Ms. Craig explained that the engagement letter with the auditing firm is executed, and since this is Alianza's first audit, it may take time for completion with the possibility in mid-August.</p>	
<p>VI. New Business</p> <p>1. Consideration to approve \$500,000 from FY 20-21 Grant Budget to further Advance the District's Role in Addressing the Healthcare Needs of Black Communities in the Coachella Valley – Strategic Focus Area: Healthcare Infrastructure and Services</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">a. Expanding Racial Diversity in the Health Profession Workforce - \$100,000</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">b. Access to Healthcare</p>	<p>Conrado E. Bárzaga, MD, CEO, explained that the item was presented at the June Board Meeting; however, the Board requested that the Program Committee discuss and forward to the Board for approval. Dr. Bárzaga described the challenges in Black communities of the Coachella Valley, illustrating the District's past work and contributions to the Desert Highland Gateway Community. The \$400,000 would address competitive bidding to access healthcare strategies, and the \$100,000 would be toward a scholarship fund to support black students pursuing careers in the field of healthcare.</p>	<p>Moved and seconded by Community Member Howe and Director Rogers to approve a \$500,000 allocation from the FY20-21 Grant Budget to further Advance the District's Role in Addressing the Healthcare Needs of Black Communities in the Coachella Valley – Strategic Focus Area: Healthcare Infrastructure and Services and forward to the Board for approval.</p> <p>Motion passed unanimously.</p>



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<p>Strategies - \$400,000</p>	<p>Dr. Bárzaga discussed with the committee and provided an overview of the map illustrating the black communities throughout the Coachella Valley.</p> <p>Public Comment: Maribel Nunez, Inland Equity Partnership, formerly California Partnership, supports the Districts investments in black communities and addressing racial equity.</p> <p>Vice-President Borja requested additional information related to Desert Highland Gateway Estates, such as the Desert Hot Springs Health and Wellness Center resources and investments in black communities of Desert Hot Springs, and whether the Health and Wellness Center extends its services to Desert Highland Gateway Estate residents. Additionally, the demographics of federally qualified health centers providing services in those communities, and if they require support in the future reaching out to those areas. Other opportunities could be available for collaboration with the City of Palm Springs or other agencies to possibly match the \$100,000 scholarship fund.</p> <p>Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, explained that a partnership with the Desert AIDS Project (DAP) isn't feasible given the current stigma with HIV/AIDS in Desert Highland</p>	
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	Dr. Bárzaga, CEO, described Proposition 209, the Affirmative Action Initiative, related to equity, diversity, and inclusion. New legislation is underway to amend and possibly reverse the Proposition that may likely move forward.	
VII. Committee Members Comments	Director Rogers inquired on unexpended grant funds, such as the Mizell Center's 2-year grant with \$38k remaining in the grant, also inquiring on the deliverables. Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer, provided an overview of the grants line item, explaining that most of the grants in question are closed.	
V. Adjournment	Chair PerezGil adjourned the meeting at 1:12 p.m.	Audio recording available on the website at http://dhcd.org/Agendas-and-Documents

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A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Evett PerezGil".

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ATTEST: _____

Evett PerezGil, Chair/Director
Program Committee

Minutes respectfully submitted by Andrea S. Hayles, Clerk of the Board