

# **BVHP COMMUNITY CONVENER MEETING # 43**

**Tuesday, April 19, 2011, 1:00pm - 3:00pm PST**

**Bayview Opera House  
4705 Third Street  
San Francisco, CA 94124**

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18	Javier Marquez	Community Ambassador	(415) 713-2795	

19	Lottie Titus	City of Dreams	(415) 424-0330	<a href="mailto:lottie@cityofdreams.org">lottie@cityofdreams.org</a>
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## **MEETING SUMMARY DECISIONS AND ACTION ITEMS**

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### **1. INTRODUCTIONS:**

On April 19, 2011 BMAGIC held its Community Convener Meeting at the Bayview Opera House. Yvette Robles opened the meeting with a brief introduction and went over the agenda for the afternoon, mentioning the possibility of time restraints, and shifting of order of some agenda items. She asked for everyone to participate in an ice breaker activity by sharing their name, organization and one word that describe how they are feeling in the present moment.

### **2. CAPACITY/COMMUNITY BUILDING:**

A Coleman Advocates update was presented by Pecolia Manigo regarding the 2011 SFUSD Summer School programming. The goal for summer schooling is for more Latino, Asian/Pacific-Islander, and African-American students to graduate on time as planned. A parent-led effort to close the achievement gap in order to adequately prepare students for college/career readiness is a must, in addition to academic programs that will assist students facing educational challenges. The most impacted demographics among summer school students are African-Americans and Latinos. A city-wide effort to close the achievement gap is a necessity, as no single entity can combat and correct the achievement gap on its own. Community conversations among parents, students, residents of SF, and officials should be an ongoing discussion in order to efficiently tackle this continual problem affecting San Francisco's students, many of whom are ethnic minorities. Among 9<sup>th</sup> graders, there is a 20% failure rate, and summer school programming is being provided for students falling behind in math and science. Pecolia offered the following questions for the BVHP community to consider: what are the challenges to issues of underperformance and falling behind for students? What does it mean to do outreach on the achievement gap and education reform? A revolving, systematic, constant cycle to address these questions should be considered among the community. Pecolia suggested the budget process should be equitable in order to correct disparities in graduation rates among schools in the SFUSD. Considering the \$82 million cut proposed next year in the SFUSD, this conversation is particularly pressing to brace for how students will be impacted.

Fernando from B-MAGIC presented an update on the federal and state budget for the fiscal year. The Obama administration has stated its goal of a \$4 trillion deficit reduction over the next 12 years, which includes the largest single-year reduction in federal government spending (\$38 billion). At the state level, California is facing a \$25 billion deficit, and Governor Jerry Brown has announced a plan to cut \$12.5 billion in spending, including a 10% cut in take-home pay for some state employees and deep reductions in social services. We took a moment to consider how these federal and state reductions will impact us at the local level as service providers to the community.

Yvette asked all in attendance to consider how their respective programs/ services would be impacted and affected through both the federal and state budget deficits and the funding cuts that are imminent. She suggested for service providers to prepare and envision how this will affect programs, clients/community, and to think of alternatives and adjustments that will be need to be made as part of "plan B" efforts and modifications. Most importantly, we need to advocate as the BVHP community through collective goals rather than individual organization goals throughout the upcoming budget adjustments that will greatly impact the BVHP community we serve. As a community, we should ask

ourselves what our priorities and collective goals are for serving the residents, students, families, and youth in BVHP. Yvette asked all in attendance to suggest ideas as a group which we would be willing to advocate for. Some of the responses included: shared operation costs, collective bargaining for materials/resources, a standardized rubric to measure performance/services provided by organizations, and possible mergers/consolidations. Almost all in attendance raised their hands when asked if they would be willing to advocate for BVHP as a community at City Hall, but a consensus was not reached; not all are ready.

Vanessa Bank from Do U Inc. and Lottie Titus from City of Dreams led a Violence Prevention Training exercise which addressed the issues of violence as a social disease. Based on the Omega Boys Club's Dr. Marshall's Violence Prevention Training, Vanessa and Lottie asked the group to consider questions such as "When were you first exposed to violence?", "How have you seen violence affect your community", and other questions in which those in attendance were able to introspectively consider how violence has impacted their personal lives and later discuss this with the other people in their group. All in attendance were given a "Commandments of Violence" card with the negative rules of conduct enforced in the world of violence, with a "Rules for Living" guideline on the other side of the card in order to encourage a break from violence and instead aim for healthy living, free from violence and abuse. Dr. Marshall and the Omega Boys Club will be hosting the Alive & Free Training from May 23-May 25 at 1060 Tennessee, and all are encouraged to apply to attend. Please contact Debra Patterson at 415-826-8673 or [obc@street-soliders.org](mailto:obc@street-soliders.org) to RSVP.

### **3. PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT:**

B-MAGIC's 6<sup>th</sup> annual Literacy is Freedom Book Fair will be taking place on Tuesday, April 26<sup>th</sup> at the Bayview Opera House, serving over 600 children age 2-7 from the community. Children from Charles Drew, Malcolm X, George Washington Carver, Brett Harte, Whitney Young, Burnett, and Frandelja Community Development Center will be in attendance. Rainbow Grocery will provide fresh organic fruits to the participating students, Jumpstart will host arts and crafts activities, the Zoo will be having interactive animal meet-and-greets, and various volunteers from the community and organizations will be assisting through reading circles. Thank you to all volunteers who have generously shared parts of their day to serve the participants in this year's Book Fair.

The Summer Literacy Cohort launch will leverage library services to address the summer learning loss students experience. Prizes will be offered to children who read throughout the summer, as reading hours will be rewarded with prizes in order to celebrate students reading accomplishments during the out-of-school months. Parents and families are encouraged to support their children in maintaining a passion for reading through the summer, as reading is a healthy and fun family activity all can benefit from.

### **4. PRESENTATIONS:**

Mario Yedidia of the SF Youth Commission suggested all present to encourage youth leaders they serve or know to apply for the Youth Policy Advocates program, as those accepted into the program will influence city policy on key issues in their community and represent the voice of San Francisco youth. In the past, the Youth Policy Advocates have played an instrumental role in successes such as MUNI granting free youth Fast Passes. Youth will be able to hold a key role in the budget process and providing suggestions and program. Find out more about the Youth Commission program at

<http://www.sfbos.org/index.aspx?page=5585> or by contacting Mario at [Mario.yedidia@sfgov.org](mailto:Mario.yedidia@sfgov.org) or at 415-554-6254.

Catherine Curtis of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission presented an apprenticeship opportunity through the Wastewater Enterprise 9910 Program. The 9910 Training program is designed to provide high school graduates that live in the 94124 zip code with pre-apprenticeship stationary engineer training. Under this two year Public Service Trainee Program, the Wastewater Enterprise will provide thorough training and work experience in the various fields of work related to sewage treatment. Anyone interested in position should apply, as the seven available positions will fill up quickly. For more information please contact [ccurtis@sflower.org](mailto:ccurtis@sflower.org) or 415-920-4962.

***PLEASE SEE THE BMAGIC COMMUNITY CALENDAR FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS THAT WERE MADE DURING THE MEETING.***

***Meeting Minutes taken by BMAGIC Program/Research Coordinator Fernando Enciso-Marquez. For correction and additions please e-mail [fernando@bayviewmagic.org](mailto:fernando@bayviewmagic.org).***