

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE
Executive Committee 2020/21

Minutes of the 3rd Meeting of the Executive Committee for 2020/21 held on Monday, 29 March, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 1304, 13/F., Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong and due to the pandemic, the meeting was also available for Members to join online via zoom.

Present : The Hon. Bernard Chan (Chairperson)
Ms. Yvonne Chak Mr. Charles Chan
Ms. Karrie Chan Ms. Queenie Chan
Ms. Susan Chan Mr. Francis Chau
Mr. Benny Cheung Mr. Raymond Chiu
Mr. Larry Kwok Mr. Kwok Lit Tung
Mr. Lai Wing Hoi Dr. Lam Ching Choi
Ms. Elizabeth Law Ms. Josephine Lee
Dr Edward Leung Mr. Kennedy Liu
Dr. Annissa Lui Dr. CC Luk
Prof. Terry Lum Mr. Joseph Man
Mr. Shiu Ka Chun Ms. Bonnie So
Ms. Kathy Wong Ms. Wong Sau Wa
Mr. Stephen Wong Ms. Noel Yeung
Ms. Yvonne Yeung

In-Attendance : Mr. Chua Hoi Wai, Chief Executive
Ms. Grace Chan, Business Director
Mr. Cliff Choi, Business Director
Mr. Raymond Lai, Business Director
Mr. Anthony Wong, Business Director
Ms. Cynthia Lee, Dir (Finance and Building Management)

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

1. Minutes of the last meeting dated 25 January 2021 were confirmed with no amendment.

MATTERS ARISING

2. No matters arising were noted from minutes of the last meeting.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND APPROVAL

To note the Chief Executive's Progress Report

3. Members noted the Chief Executive's Progress Report and Mr. Chua provided supplementary information on below issues.

- Time To Heal (港講訴) Project

Mr. Chua highlighted that an additional donation of \$10 million had been received to support services in addressing mental health needs of the public. By the end of February, the project had already approved 1,733 applications providing emergency psychological support.

- Modular Housing Project: Yen Chow Street Site

Mock-up MIC units had been transported to the site and was expected to complete in mid-March. Members of ExCo were invited to join a site visit on 1 April.

- NGO Governance Project
With funding support from The Hong Kong Jockey Club, the Council had been working with GAME and HKU to launch a two-year NGO Governance Health Program. The program provided governance health check services for participating organizations, and individual consultation for selected agencies.
- Gerontech Expo cum Summit (GIES) 2021
GIES would be held from 3-6 November 2021 at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC). Funding proposals to the Innovation and Technology Commission and China Merchants Foundation were supported in principle.
- Prelude to 20th Anniversary of Caring Company
A launching ceremony of “Community Recovery”, as prelude to the 20th Anniversary of Caring Company was scheduled to be organized on 18 May 2021 at the Auditorium of the Council and the Secretary for Labour and Welfare was invited as the officiating guest.

To note the Position of Funds

4. The Position of Funds was noted and received by Members. Mr. Chua supplemented that due to COVID-19, many activities planned were either postponed or scaled down causing under-spent program expenses and reduced total expenditure. Overseas events that were being halted due to travel restrictions would be replaced by proposals incorporating elements of overseas learning experiences, and related funders had been consulted and approved the revised plan.

To note and approve Temporary Membership Suspension of Non-compliant Agency Members

5. The management reported on agency members for their non-compliance with the submission of membership fee, annual report and/or financial report as required. After discussion, Members noted and approved the membership unit to proceed with temporary suspension of non-compliant agency members and subsequent termination of their membership, as appropriate, for failure to submit before the deadline of 1 July 2021.

To note and approve Membership Termination / Withdrawal of Agency Member

6. Members noted and approved the membership termination of Lo Yau Fong Compuserv Charity Limited.

MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION

HKCSS Budget 2021-22 and 10-Year Financial Projection

7. Ms. Elizabeth Law, Hon. Treasurer, presented the budget 2021-22, and highlighted the total income and expenditure, the projected deficit of around HK\$0.36million and the reserves. Regarding the 10-year funding projection from 2021/22 to 2030/31, Mr. Chua explained that the projections and assumptions made were based on parameters adopted in the past years and noted that the Council would have operating deficits and facing declining reserves in upcoming years. Members noted and in summary, they generally opined that in light of changing circumstances such as the ageing staff structure, the existing parameters adopted should be reviewed in order that a fair reflection of financial positions of the Council could be better presented and the management was also suggested to try implementing a more proactive income generation strategy in tackling deficits so that sufficient financial reserves could be sustained. There was also a suggestion to include project funding in the 10-year projection.

Mr. Chua thanked Members for the comments and that the parameters would be carefully reviewed. Mr. Chua also reported that in response to staff's requests, the management was exploring the financial feasibility of an extended-age retirement plan and would keep Members informed of further updates. With no further enquiries, the HKCSS Budget 2021-22 and 10-year funding projection were noted and endorsed.

HKCSS Business Plan 2021-22

8. Mr. Chua Hoi Wai, Chief Executive, reported on the HKCSS Core Business Plan 2021-22 which had incorporated suggestions collected from committees of governance and at the Extended Governance meeting held on 25 January 2021. Following the past year's framework, the Plan provided key social development agendas, objectives, deliverables and impact under four core strategic areas which were (b) agenda setting, (c) innovation and technology, (d) sector capacity building, and (e) effecting changes.

Mr. Chua highlighted that two new core strategic areas were also included in the Plan for 2021-22. They were (a) post-pandemic community recovery, where NGOs, cross-sectoral and community efforts were mobilised to restore community strength and mutual help network, and to advocate for policy response to social needs arising from the pandemic. And (f) initially planned programmes for 75th Anniversary of HKCSS, with objectives to engage social welfare sector and stakeholders in identifying key social agenda for future social welfare development in Hong Kong, and to showcase and deliberate innovative service ideas, interventions and social impact. The Programmes initially planned were namely, Social Welfare Convention to be held in conjunction with the Caring Company Partnership Expo, commemorative publication, consultancy study, social well-being index, release of welfare sector's key contribution, GIES 2021, pilot project of tele-practice, public engagement events on care food and International Day of Disabled Persons' 30th Anniversary Celebration.

Regarding those core activities planned for the 75th Anniversary of HKCSS, including the consultancy study, TV documentary, radio programme and commemorative publication, they were presented for seeking Members' endorsement for tender exemption. Mr Kennedy Liu declared interests and requested to be exempted from participating in the deliberation.

Members noted and a summary of their views shared was reported as follows.

- Regarding the consultancy study, Members suggested that supporting factors such as the proposed scope, objectives, deliverables and consultants' background and qualifications should be provided in more details in order that the deliberation could be better facilitated.
- There was also a suggestion that a steering committee for the consultancy study should be formed and office-bearers and Members of Exco were invited to join and help overseeing and advising on the study.
- There was an opinion echoed by Members that the formal procurement procedures in tendering and quotations should be adopted in order to ensure fair competition and to demonstrate best practice of corporate governance, such that it could help facilitate Members in making decisions.

Mr. Chua thanked Members for sharing views which were very useful and the management would proceed to follow up and keep Members informed of the latest update.

On the overall HKCSS Business Plan 2021-22, with no further comments received, the Plan was noted and endorsed. Mr. Chua thanked Members again for their support and valuable feedback.

2021 Welfare Agenda and Priorities Setting (WAPs)

9. Mr. Raymond Lai, Business Director, reported that the 2021 welfare agenda and priorities setting exercise would be held on 14 May 2021 and the preparation work has been progressing on schedule. Mr. Lai presented the WAPs priority list which had provided key

service concerns with views consolidated and collected from Standing Committee on Service Development and Specialized Committees of different services.

Mr. Lai further noted that to ensure proper social distancing and avoiding crowd gathering, WAPs would be conducted on-line via Zoom and participants would be informed of details in due course.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

10. The next meeting was scheduled for 31 May 2021 at 5:00 p.m.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 p.m.