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

Minutes of the 6th Meeting of the Executive Committee for 2020/21 held on Monday, 27 September 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in Room 201, 2/F., Duke of Windsor Social Service Building, 15 Hennessy Road, Wanchai, Hong Kong (*Zoom was available upon request by Members who were not able to join in person*).

<u>Present</u>: The Hon. Bernard Chan (Chairperson)

Ms. Yvonne Chak Mr. Charles Chan Ms. Karrie Chan Ms. Queenie Chan Mr. Francis Chau Ms. Susan Chan 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 Mr. Joseph Man Prof. Terry Lum Ms. Bonnie So Mr. Shiu Ka Chun Ms. Kathy Wong Ms. Wong Sau Wa Ms. Noel Yeung Ms. Yvonne Yeung

<u>In-Attendance</u>: 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, Director (Finance & Building Management)

<u>Apologies</u>: Mr. Stephen Wong

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

1. Minutes of the last meeting dated 26 July 2021 were confirmed with no amendment.

MATTERS ARISING

- 2. Mr. Chua referred Members to paragraph 9: Follow up on the "Improving Electoral System Bill 2021" of the last meeting minutes, that having consulted the legal advisor, a post-meeting note had provided revised wordings for the guidelines of the Chairperson and the Chief Executive in performing their roles respectively as a member of the Election Committee and a registered voter in upcoming elections. Members noted and endorsed with no further enquiries raised.
- 3. Mr. Chua updated that the joint petition had been shelved as the number of participating agencies did not reach the target majority, and the Council had been continuing to urge clarification with SWD to achieve better consensus on issues which NGOs having different views and concerns in the LSG Review Report.
- 4. Mr. Chua reported that the 74th AGM of the Council was scheduled to be held on 12 November. Prof. Sophia Chan Siu-chee, Secretary for Food and Health, was invited to be the officiating guest and to give a keynote speech on the development of primary healthcare blueprint in Hong Kong through district-based primary healthcare services, and

to enhance medical-social collaboration at the community level. Besides, a sharing would be given by Ms. Vivian Lau Wai Yan (Boccia) and Mr. Benny Cheung Wai Leung (Wheelchair Fencing), representing two generations of athletes of Paralympic Games.

MATTERS FOR INFORMATION AND APPROVAL

To note the Chief Executive's Progress Report

- 5. Members noted the Chief Executive's Progress Report and Mr. Chua provided supplementary information on below issues.
 - Gerontech Expo cum Summit (GIES) 2021

Mr. Chua highlighted that GIES was scheduled to be held from 2-6 November at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre, the Summit would be kickstarted on 2 November, followed by the Expo starting from 3 November for four days until 6 November.

- Jockey Club "age at home" Gerontech Education and Rental Service (JCAGERS)
 Mr. Chua reported that the launching ceremony of the JCAGERS project would be held on 12 October and the Chief Executive of the HKSAR was invited to be the officiating guest. The project aimed to promote ageing-in-place by offering different innovative options of assistive equipments and services to help people with long-term care needs. Guided tours to the Centre were organized for funders, partners, stakeholders and members of the Council's governing committees to introduce and enhance understanding of the Centre's operation.
- Proposed 1% Cut on Welfare Subventions from 2022 to 2023
 On the proposed 1% cut on the government subvention, Mr. Chua reported that at the Standing Committee on Sector Capacity & Development and Agency Heads meetings, initially there were suggestions to seek legal advice to study if the government could cut subvention without subvented NGOs' agreement. The Council would continue to engage committees concerned for advice on the follow up actions, whether a joint petition with agencies or the Council would write to the government expressing the sector's views. Members of ExCo would be updated on the latest development.

To note the Position of Funds

6. The Position of Funds was noted and received by Members.

To note and approve Application of Agency Membership

- 7. Members noted and approved below agency membership applications:
 - Gideon Ministries Limited 基甸事工有限公司
 - Evangelical Free Church of China Social Service Limited 中國基督教播道會社會服務 有限公司

Mr. Lai Wing Hoi declared interests and refrain from discussion in relation to the membership application of Evangelical Free Church of China Social Service Limited.

To note and approve Membership Withdrawal of Agency Member

- 8. Members noted and approved the membership withdrawal of below agency member:
 - The Association of Evangelical Free Churches of Hong Kong 香港基督教播道會聯會

It was noted that having undergone organizational restructuring, the Association of Evangelical Free Churches of Hong Kong had been dissolved and its social service unit was taken over by the new entity named, Evangelical Free Church of China Social Service Limited, its membership application being approved by ExCo. In light of the change, Mr. Chau Yin Ming, Francis, being incumbent elected member of ExCo from the former agency, had to resign from ExCo but failed to stand for the Council's annual election which had

already been closed on 24 September.

Based on aforesaid considerations, Mr. Chua therefore sought for Members' consent that Mr. Chau be co-opted to ExCo, representing Evangelical Free Church of China Social Service Limited, being a new agency member of HKCSS. It was further noted that Mr. Chau would continue to serve on ExCo until the next election in 2022. With no further questions, Mr. Chau was co-opted to ExCo with immediate effect.

To note and approve the Change of Name of Agency Member

- 9. Members noted and approved the change of name of below agency member:
 - Healthy Seed Limited 慈慧幼苗有限公司

To note the Election Results of the Four Specialized Committees for 2021-2023

10. Members noted the election results of the four Specialized Committees for 2021-2023 announced on 20 September 2021, and the nomination for election of the Executive Committee & Standing Committees that had been closed on 24 September 2021.

On behalf of ExCo, the Chairperson appreciated and thanked outgoing Members, namely, Mr. Kwok Lit Tung, Mr. Shiu Ka Chun, Ms. Bonnie So, Ms. Kathy Wong, Ms. Noel Yeung, and Ms. Yvonne Yeung, for their dedication and invaluable services rendered to the board in the past years.

<u>To note and approve the Council's Submission of The Best Practice Manual Self-assessment</u> Checklist to SWD

11. Mr. Chua reported that the Council had completed reviewing the implementation of items in the Best Practice Manual for the period of April 2020 - March 2021. Members were invited to note that relevant policies and measures had been duly implemented and reviewed in accordance with the requirements. Details were reported in the Self-Assessment Checklist submitted to ExCo for endorsement. Members noted and endorsed the checklist, which would then be submitted by the management to SWD by 30 October 2021.

To note and approve the Annual Financial Report of HKCSS for the Year Ended 31st March 2021

12. Ms. Elizabeth Law, Hon. Treasurer, reported on Audited Financial Report of the Council as at 31st March 2021 and highlighted the consolidated positions of income, expenditure and cash flow positions, including the subsidiaries namely, WiseGiving, and ITRC. Due to the pandemic, a budget surplus was resulted from reduced expenses of overall service programs and overseas events. All in all, the Report had presented a true and fair view of the Council's financial position. With no further enquiries noted, the Report was received and endorsed.

<u>To consider the Management of Lump Sum Grant (LSG) Reserve and Provident Fund (PF) Reserve for Non-Snapshot Staff</u>

13. Ms. Elizabeth Law, Hon. Treasurer, reported on positions of Lump Sum Grant (LSG) Reserve and Provident Fund (PF) Reserve for Non-Snapshot Staff, and sought for Members' advice on utilization of the Reserves. After deliberation, Members noted that the LSG and PF reserves would be utilized for the Council's future development plan and enhancement of PF contribution to staff. The status and utilization of the reserves would be disseminated to staff, agency members and public through channels, including staff administrative update and AGM. Members noted and endorsed.

To note and approve the Extension of Signing Authority of Office-Bearers

14. Members noted and approved to extend the signing authority of incumbent office-bearers of ExCo to the date of completion of the change in signing authority arising from any change of such office-bearing positions in the new governance term of office for 2021/2022.

To note and approve Delegation to the Chief Executive with Signing Authorization for Tenancy Agreement entered into by Council with Urban Renewal Authority (URA)

15. Members noted and resolved that the Chief Executive was authorized by ExCo to sign the tenancy agreement with URA for the 4 units at Shun Sing Mansion (18C, 19D, 21D & 24D), 466 Des Voeux Road West and No.1 Cheung Kan Lane, Hong Kong.

To note and approve the Co-option of Members to the Executive Committee

16. Members noted the management's recommendation and endorsed to re-appoint Mr. Larry Kwok, Ms Elizabeth Law, and Mr. Kennedy Liu, as Co-opted member for two years from 2021 to 2023, and to extend invitation of Co-option to Ms. Melissa Pang. Mr. Chua would follow up on the invitation accordingly.

<u>To note the Proposed Increase in Maintenance Fee of Duke of Windsor Social Service Building (DWSSB)</u>

17. Matters noted by Members and resolution reached after discussion.

To note Commemoration Activities planned for the 75th Anniversary of HKCSS

18. Mr. Chua reported on the programs proposed by different teams in commemoration of the Council's 75th anniversary. It was further noted that the Chief Executive of HKSAR, Mrs. Carrie Lam, had consented to be the officiating guest of HKCSS Convention to be held on 19 May 2022. More details would be released to agency members once available.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

19. The HKCSS 74th Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The Council's 74th AGM and election of the Executive Committee and Standing Committees (2021-2023) would be held on 12 November 2021 (Friday) at the Auditorium, 1/F, Duke of Windsor Social Service Building. Members were invited to attend and more details would be provided to agency members.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:50 p.m.