CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lopez called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Committee Member Gaviña led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT:  Leticia Lopez, Chair
         Juliet Goff, Vice Chair
         Steven Froberg, Committee Member
         Michael Gaviña, Committee Member
         Mark Gonzalez, Committee Member

ABSENT:  James Chang, Committee Member

STAFF PRESENT:
         Diana Figueroa, Administrative Analyst
         Zaynah Moussa, Senior Deputy City Attorney
         Lisa Pope, City Clerk
         Frances Jemmott, City Consultant
         James Hull, City Consultant

CHANGES TO THE AGENDA

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.
PRESENTATION

1. **City Administration**
   Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grantee Presentation – Echo Center for Non-Violent Education and Parenting
   Recommendation:
   No action required by the Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee. This item is a presentation only.

   Sofia Peodoro, Program Manager, Echo Center Representative presented a PowerPoint highlighting the program *Trauma – Informed Non-Violent Parenting*. She discussed the program goal, ECHO Team, services, classes, outcomes, participant reflection and challenges and successes.

CONSENT CALENDAR

MOTION

Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Gonzalez seconded a motion to approve the Consent Calendar. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

The Consent Calendar consisted of the following item:

2. **City Clerk**
   Approval of Minutes
   Recommendation:
   Approve minutes for the November 20, 2019 Regular Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee Meeting and the December 3, 2019 Special Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee Meeting.

GRANT AWARDING

3. **City Administration**
   Award of Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II Vernon CommUNITY Fund Direct Service Grants
   Recommendation:
   A. Find that the award of the grants proposed is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it is a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a "project" as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a "project," it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
   B. Award Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II direct service grants totaling $74,400 to the three (3) applicants identified below at the amounts recommended:
   1) Applicant: Boyle Heights Youth Football and Cheer Program
Original Amount Requested: $20,000  
Amount Recommended: $14,400  
Proposed Term: 1 year  

2) Applicant: LA Family Housing*  
   Original Amount Requested: $75,000  
   Amount Recommended: $45,000  
   Proposed Term: 1 year  
   *Returning Grantee  

3) Applicant: Libros Schmibros*  
   Original Amount Requested: $35,000  
   Amount Recommended: $15,000  
   Proposed Term: 1 year  
   *Returning Grantee

Fran Jemmott, Jemmott-Rollins Group, summarized the applicants, requested grant amount and recommendation.

MOTION  
Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Gonzalez seconded a motion to: A. Find that the award of the grants proposed is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it is a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a "project" as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a "project," it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and B. Award a Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II direct service grant to Boyle Heights Youth Football and Cheer Program in the amount of $14,400. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION  
Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Gonzalez seconded a motion to: A. Find that the award of the grants proposed is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it is a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a "project" as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a "project," it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and B. Award a Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II direct service grant to LA Family Housing in the amount of $45,000. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

MOTION  
Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Froberg seconded a motion to: A. Find that the award of the grants proposed is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") because it is a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a "project"
as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a “project,” it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and B. Award a Fiscal Year 2019/2020 Docket II direct service grant to Libros Schmibros in the amount of $15,000. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

James Hull, Jemmott-Rollins Group, reviewed the transmittal report.

In response to Committee questions, Mr. Hull and Ms. Jemmott explained the applicant pool and rolling application date.

NEW BUSINESS

4. City Administration

Vernon CommUNITY Fund Temporary Advisory Committee Grantmaking Program Recommendations

Recommendation:
A. Find that adopting recommendations of the Vernon CommUNITY Fund Temporary Advisory Committee for Grantmaking is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) because a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a “project” as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a “project,” it would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
B. Discuss the recommended modifications for the Vernon CommUNITY Fund grantmaking program to be effective in Fiscal Year 2020/2021, as proposed by the Vernon CommUNITY Fund Grant Committee Temporary Advisory Committee, and authorize staff to propose the following changes to the Vernon City Council for review and approval: 1) Elimination of Capital Grants; 2) Two meetings per year (vs. four); and 3) Specified grant application deadlines.

Administrative Analyst Figueroa presented the staff report.

In response to Committee questions, Administrative Analyst Figueroa explained the reasoning for proposing to eliminate the capital grants and discussed efforts of obtaining grants for projects within the City, such as Community Development Block Grant funds.

MOTION

Vice Chair Goff moved and Committee Member Gaviña seconded a motion to: A. Find that adopting recommendations of the Vernon CommUNITY Fund Temporary Advisory Committee for Grantmaking is exempt under the California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) because a government fiscal activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a “project” as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378. And even if such action were a “project,” it
would be exempt from CEQA review in accordance with Section 15061(b)(3), the general rule that CEQA only applies to projects that may have an effect on the environment; and
B. Directed staff to present to the City Council the proposed modifications to the Vernon CommUNITY Fund grantmaking program to be effective in Fiscal Year 2020/2021: 1) Elimination of Capital Grants; 2) Two meetings per year (vs. four); and 3) Specified grant application deadlines. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

ORAL REPORTS

Ms. Jemmott provided an update on the Capital Grant Funds, which would be presented to the Committee on May 20, 2020.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Lopez adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m.

LETTICIA LOPEZ, Chair

ATTEST:

LISA POPE, City Clerk
(seal)