

THE HONG KONG COUNCIL OF SOCIAL SERVICE
Standing Committee on Public Engagement and Partnership
Minutes of the 2nd Meeting for the Year 2021/22

Date: 25 March 2022 (Friday)

Time: 10:00a.m. – 12:00noon

Format: Zoom Video Conference

Present:

Ms Ng Suk Ling, Angel	The Boys' Brigade, Hong Kong
Ms Chan Ching Yee, Susan	Hong Kong Association of Gerontology
Ms Chan Fung Man, Angel	Christian Family Service Centre
Mr CHU Sai Ming, Thomas	New Life Psychiatric Rehabilitation Association
Ms LING Ching Yin, Alice	Hong Kong Red Cross
Ms Ng Man Yin, Connie	St. James' Settlement
Ms Tong Yee Lai, Andy	Hong Kong Christian Service
Mr Wong Chi Kit, Schwinger	Evangelical Lutheran Church Social Service - Hong Kong
Ms Wong Sau Yee, Carrie	The Hong Kong Federation of Youth Groups
Mr Li Man Chiu, Justin	Airport Authority Hong Kong
Ms Joyce Leung	Fimmick Limited
Ms Hui Ching Man, Jasmine	Kai Tak Sports Park Limited
Mr Lee Pui Tak, Peter	Kerry Holdings Limited

In Attendance:

Mr Cliff Choi	Business Director, HKCSS
Ms Wendy Luk	Senior Manager, Caring Company Scheme
Ms Christine Kwan	Senior Manager, WiseGiving
Mr Eddie Tsang	Senior Manager, Corporate Communications

1. Welcome co-opted members

Ms Angel Ng welcomed co-opted members to the Public Engagement and Partnership (PEP) Standing Committee.

2. Endorsement of minutes of the last meeting held on Dec 3, 2021

The minutes of the last meeting held on 3 December 2021 was adopted with two amendments:

- At item 3.1, after coordination with Ms Angel Ng, Ms Susan Chan would be the representative to the HKCSS Executive Committee.
- Item 3.5 should read “Ms Andy Tong was appointed as representative to the Assessment

Committee on Membership Application.”

3. Matters arising

Cliff reported that Directory of Agency Members of the Hong Kong Council of Social Service was launched. Data showed that the online directory performed well with good pageviews. Also, it allowed NGOs to become more easier and faster to keep their information up-to-date. HKCSS originally planned to organise a kick-off event for the directory alongside the release of social service big data in February or May during the HKCSS convention. However, the event was postponed due to the 5th wave of the COVID-19 outbreak.

4. Discussion

4.1 Follow up of the HKCSS consultancy study and strategic review

- Cliff reported that the consultancy study and strategic review was completed. The study insights would be presented in the Ex-Co meeting at the end of March to seek endorsement of Ex-Co.
- Cliff summarised the key changes of HKCSS, which included:
 - Vision statement changed to focus more on impact-driven, co-creation and innovative.
 - Positioning statement changed to clearly state that HKCSS would serve as a collaboration and co-creation platform.
 - Proposed “1+3” strategic blueprint for HKCSS for the next 5-10 years, that’s to instill an impact-driven culture through 3 strategic pillars: co-creation, tech enablement and talent.
- After receiving endorsement from Ex-Co, Cliff reported that the next step would be review the structures of committees and staff to complement HKCSS’s strategic shift. Since the restructure of committees would affect the election of members of the Ex-Co and Standing Committees, Cliff initially plan to complete the review of committee restructure before September.
- Members concerned the timeline of restructuring committees was too tight that there will be insufficient time to consult the sector about the changes. But members admired that the strategic shift of HKCSS could drive more interaction between subvented and non-subvented organisations in the future.
- Cliff emphasised that it is not a must to complete the restructure of committees within this year and would allow enough time for discussion.

4.2 Postponement of Caring Company Expo, HKCSS 75th Anniversary Ceremony and HKCSS Convention

- Cliff reported that the three-in-one event: Caring Company Expo, HKCSS 75th

Anniversary Ceremony and HKCSS Convention was postponed until January 2023.

- Members concerned the event would once again be affected by the epidemic cycle and NGOs might not have enough preparatory time to join Caring Company Expo. Some suggested cancelling the event as both social service and business sector still not recovered from the epidemic. But other member mentioned that the event could be an opportunity for more corporates to provide support for NGOs and boosting positive energy in society.
- Wendy understood members' concerns and would keep NGOs posted on the matter. Cliff noted that the date of event was better to align with the timing of the Government's Resource Allocation Exercise and budget planning.

4.3 Anti-epidemic efforts by HKCSS and NGOs

- Cliff reported that HKCSS carried out different anti-epidemic projects in responding to the society. 5 main areas of anti-epidemic projects were highlighted:
 - Purchased and distributed anti-epidemic supplies to social service units and needy people.
 - Recruited students from healthcare-related programmes to serve at residential care home to help ease the manpower shortage.
 - Launched Door-to-door Vaccination Programme to provide inoculation service of Covid-19 vaccine for around 10,000 home-bound elderly people and persons with disabilities at home. A hotline was set up for the people in need to enrol and mobilise corporate volunteers to help handle the calls.
 - Shared useful anti-epidemic information to the public.
 - Launched mental health support programme that the operation mode was similar to that of Time to Heal.
- Members shared their anti-epidemic efforts and experiences during the dire situation of the 5th wave Covid-19.
 - Schwinger and Angel Chan mentioned that around 300 staff of their residential care homes got COVID-19 infection which severely affect the operation. Many nursing homes including private homes were suffering and demanded supporting measures.
 - Angel Chan added that her organisation had set up hotline to aid with the elderly living in Kowloon East and launched door to door service to support the elderly who got Covid-19 infection. She believed NGOs was learning from experiences and giving swift responses to address the community's needs.
 - Connie shared that her organisation had 9 residential care homes and around 20 to 30% of the staff were infected. Staff from day care service units were mobilised to assist the residential care homes. SJS also carried out several

- emergent and large-scale food assistances to people in need.
- Thomas and Andy shared that residential care homes for persons with disabilities were also badly affected by the outbreak but lack of medical support.
 - Carrie said that HKYFG launched services that cover emotional support, donation of anti-epidemic supplies and short-stay accommodation which benefited the elderly, disadvantaged families, DSE students and unemployed youth.
 - Alice shared that different anti-epidemic projects were carried out including providing emotional support and practical information to families going through sudden bereavement and providing N95 mask fit testing for private homes and small NGOs.
 - Angel Ng shared that many uniformed groups and other sectors were helping the Government to deliver anti-epidemic supplies to Hong Kong people in April.
 - Susan suggested to demand accountability for the outbreaks and tragedies in residential care home

5. Progress Report

5.1 Caring Company Scheme

- Given the fact that Hong Kong was suffering severely from the epidemic in recent years, Wendy reported that the number of awardees of Caring Company Scheme 21/22 was 4119, slightly lower than last year.
- Since this year marks the 20th Anniversary of Caring Company, Wendy reported that there were 101 companies had been awarded for 20 consecutive years. Media coverage would be produced to depict their proactive support and CSR to the community.
- Two funding schemes were opened for NGOs to apply:
 - Link Together Initiatives: this scheme supports NGOs to implement innovative projects across three focus areas: youth empowerment, active ageing and resource management.
 - Hang Seng Future Skills Fund: The Fund supports non-subvented organisations to run community projects focusing on the future skills development.

5.2 WiseGiving

- Christine reported that a wide variety of anti-epidemic projects were launched with tremendous support from donors.
 - HSBC donated HKD36 million to support NGOs projects to lead the post-pandemic recovery. The programme was planned to kick off in September.
 - Supported by HSBC, Door-to-door Vaccination Programme were launched to

provide Covid-19 vaccination directly to home-bound elderly and PWDs. And Emergency Support Programme were also launched to ease the burdens of care homes.

- With support from a private donor, a programme was launched to provide temporary workers for care homes to alleviate the manpower shortage.
- HKCSS helped connect an NGO with Lui Che Woo Foundation to roll out support for carer.
- Foodpanda donated food vouchers for people in need including grass-roots families, cleaning workers and single parent families.
- With a growing concern of mental health issues amid the epidemic, a psychological support programme was launched for people who experienced emotional disturbance due to the outbreak.

5.3 Corporate Communications

- Eddie reported that HKCSS had launched more than 30 anti-epidemic projects since the 5th wave of Covid-19 in late January. A wide range of promotion and sharing useful information on combating the epidemic had been made.
- Door-to-door Vaccination Programme was well received and being promoted by LegCo members and DC members.

6. **Any other business**

No any other business.

7. **Date of next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 24 June 2022 at 10:00a.m.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50a.m.