



APPROVED MINUTES

SUNNYVALE HOUSING AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 2011

The Housing & Human Services Commission met in a regular session in the Neighborhood Room, at 550 East Remington Drive, Sunnyvale Community Center, Sunnyvale, CA 94087 on June 22, 2011 at 7:05 p.m. with Chair Anderson presiding.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

ROLL CALL

Commission Members Present: Eric Anderson, Hannalore Dietrich, Fred Fowler, Younil Jeong, Anna Ko, and Mathieu Pham.

Commission Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Suzanne Isé, Housing Officer and Edith Alanis, Housing Programs Technician.

Others Present: Mayor Melinda Hamilton and Vice Mayor Jim Griffith.

Chair Anderson welcomed Mayor Hamilton and Vice Mayor Griffith. He also expressed that the Commission will miss former Commissioner Hailu who had to resign because she moved out of the City.

SCHEDULED PRESENTATION

Recognition of Service.

Mayor Hamilton shared that generally she would be presenting a certificate to Commissioners who were terming out, however since everyone in this Commission is fairly new, she attended mainly to express gratitude to the commissioners for their service, time and effort.

Chair Anderson appreciated her comments and thanked the City Council for their good work during the challenging period that just ended. He also welcomed any input from the Council to better understand the mission of the Commission.

PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. A. Approval of Draft Minutes of April 27, 2011.

Chair Anderson asked for a motion to approve the consent calendar.

Commissioner Ko moved and Vice Chair Pham seconded to approve the draft minutes of April 27, 2011 as presented with minor corrections provided to staff.

Motion passed unanimously 6-0-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS/GENERAL BUSINESS

2. Public Hearing: Review and Comment on Sunnyvale Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing

Housing Officer Isé gave a brief report on the purpose, implementation, and requirements for the Analysis of Impediments to Fair Housing (AI), which is an administrative document that is part of the City's HUD Consolidated Plan.

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) requires the AI of its Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME funds grantees to ensure their activities support fair access to housing.

The AI that was included in their packets was developed in 2006. Ideally it is updated at the same time as the Consolidated Plan, however, it was not updated last year because the 2010 Census data was not available yet.

She pointed out that staff is looking for input from the Commissioners and the community on the current AI to verify if the fair housing issues noted in the 2006 AI are still valid, and/or if there are other new and emerging issues that should be included.

Mayor Hamilton advised that if any of the report involved homeless issues, the homeless count was taking place this week, in case that data could be useful.

Commissioner Dietrich expressed concern on how this report did not seem to address fair housing for middle class renters.

Officer Isé explained that this report focuses on unlawful discrimination against protected classes, such as race/ethnicity, age, gender, marital status, etc., rather than on strictly economic housing issues.

Commissioner Dietrich also inquired about the possibility of rent control.

Commissioner Fowler shared that he learned from a Tri-Counties Apartment Association representative that large corporations such as Google and Apple are signing very favorable long-term leases for blocks of apartments for their workforce, and that it could affect the supply of affordable rental units for the lower income residents. Additionally, he asked if the Commissioners were interested in inviting Mr. Spears or another speaker to do a presentation on corporate leasing.

Chair Anderson left it up to staff to include it in a future agenda.

Commissioner Fowler asked if the goal was to simply update or to rewrite the whole AI.

After further review of the actual document and its content, Chair Anderson suggested keeping the general format, letting staff update it, and bring it back in September for an additional public hearing opportunity.

3. Commission Comments on Recommended FY 2011-12 Budget.

Housing Officer Isé gave a brief report and reviewed the materials that were included in the Commissioner's packets.

She advised that it was City policy to ask all boards and commissions for input on the portion of the budget within their purview before taking it to Council for final adoption. She also pointed out that they had access to all the recommended budget documents online if they desired to review them as well.

Chair Anderson asked that the language that addresses the Outside Group Funding be modified to reflect City Council's revised direction with regards to the General Fund Supplement.

There was some discussion about the best approach to avoid the recent challenges with the Human Services allocations.

Commissioner Fowler asked if any of the "Level 1" or "Level 2" cuts had become budget supplements. Vice Mayor Griffith explained that "Level 1" and "Level 2" cuts are ongoing reductions to reduce the service level that is expected, whereas budget supplements are usually one-time only increases for new or unexpected expenses during the coming fiscal year.

Vice Chair Pham asked for a quick overview of the budget materials.

Officer Isé explained some details of the operating budget for Housing and noted that there are different funding sources for Housing activities. She also noted that the mediation program, which is listed in the operating budget, is one of the "Level 1" cuts and may be cut out of the operating budget.

Commissioner Fowler inquired about the Onizuka project. Officer Isé provided a brief explanation of the current Armory proposal. Vice Mayor Griffith also provided a brief update on the different scenarios that are being considered.

Commissioner Fowler offered to do a 45-minute "Budget 101" presentation for the Commission if they were interested in learning more how to understand the City's budget.

Vice Mayor Griffith advised that it was not appropriate to add items that are not already in the work plan that was approved by Council. He also added that if the Commissioners felt that they needed more information on any topic that Council has directed them to consider, any necessary information would be provided by staff.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS AND COMMENTS

- BOARDMEMBERS OR COMMISSIONERS ORAL COMMENTS

Chair Anderson briefly reviewed the letter that they received from the Mayor addressing the formation of subcommittees, and determined that at this time the subcommittees had been dissolved because they had completed their tasks. He noted that they understood not to form another one unless it was directed by Council or requested by staff.

Vice Mayor Griffith advised the Commissioners to follow the study issues process to suggest items to Council and reminded them that they could propose them anytime until September. He explained that it was not necessary for the Commissioners to do any research on any item in order to propose a study issue.

Chair Anderson asked that staff list the items that had been previously proposed to be added to the work plan so that they could be considered instead as potential study issues in September, consistent with the standard study issue process.

- STAFF ORAL COMMENTS

None

INFORMATION ONLY ITEMS

Letter from Mayor Hamilton

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Suzanne Isé
Housing Officer