

Sonoma County Community Development Committee



Human Services Dept. Representative: Oscar Chavez (Chair), Tenant Representatives: Stephanie Hiller, Jessica Vega
1st Dist: Betzy Chavez (Vice Chair) **2nd Dist:** Vacant **3rd Dist:** Karin Davis **4th Dist:** Willie Lamberson **5th Dist:** Linda Garcia
Executive Director: Margaret Van Vliet

Public Meeting Wednesday, January 16, 2019

Minutes

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Oscar Chavez called the meeting to order at 10:03am and roll was called.

CD Committee Members Present: Oscar Chavez, Betzy Chavez, Willie Lamberson, Linda Garcia, Stephanie Hiller

CD Committee Members Absent: Jessica Vega, Karin Davis

CDC Staff Present: Margaret Van Vliet, Executive Director; Felicity Gasser, Federal Funding Administrator; Benjamin Wickham, Affordable Housing Director; Martha Cheever, Housing Authority Manager; Angela Morgan, Affordable Housing Finance Associate; Holly Trujillo, Senior Community Development Specialist; Maria Contreras, Affordable Housing Finance Specialist; Darrin O'Hara, Administrative Aide.

2. Public Comments for Items Not on the Agenda

Duane De Witt, Roseland resident, expressed concerns that the time of the meeting was not accessible for members of the public who have normal working hours. He also expressed concern that the County was not pursuing more funding for the Brownfields Assessment project in Roseland and not enough community engagement happening. He also expressed concern over the delays around the Roseland Village development.

Executive Director, Margaret Van Vliet, responded that the Brownfields project was not a high priority for the department as it does not pertain to housing, though the project was still moving forward and Phase I assessments were being completed and key milestones were being reached with the Roseland Village development project.

3. Approval of Minutes from October 17, 2018 Meeting

Betzy Chavez moved to approve the minutes from the October 17, 2018 meeting. Linda Garcia approved.

Ayes: Oscar Chavez, Willie Lamberson, Stephanie Hiller

Nays: None

Abstain: None

Absent: Jessica Vega, Karin Davis

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4. Action Item: Amend Bylaws

Holly Trujillo, Senior Community Development Specialist, briefly explained the proposed changes to the bylaws. Committee members identified other sections that would need to be updated, particularly around the scope and purview of the Committee.

Public Comment

Duane De Witt, Roseland resident, expressed appreciation that the minutes of these meetings are more complete than other public meetings. He hopes that if the bylaws change, the minutes will continue to be good.

5. Housing Authority Update: Tentative Awards for Project-Based Vouchers

Martha Cheever, Housing Authority Manager, updated Committee members on the recent decision to award 93 project-based vouchers to five projects. In response to Committee questions, she and Margaret explained that these vouchers were not at risk due to the government shutdown.

Public Comment

Duane De Witt, Roseland resident, expressed concern at the state of the Palm's Inn, that the housing was decrepit and compared the owner to a slumlord. He asked that the CDC do more oversight.

Martha Cheever responded that the voucher funding would enable necessary rehabilitation work to be done and have Burbank Housing to assume property management of the Palm's Inn so that Catholic Charities could focus on providing the services, which they are better equipped to do.

6. Affordable Housing Update

Benjamin Wickham, Affordable Housing Director, updated the Committee members on affordable housing projects and initiatives that have recently passed significant milestones including Village Green II, Roseland Village and 2150 West College Ave. A total of 433 units, 338 of which are affordable, have been funded by the Commission and are in various stages of development.

7. Update on Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing (AFH) and Consolidated Planning

Felicity Gasser, Federal Funding Manager, explained the AFH and Consolidated Planning process to preface the CDC's planned activities for each of these in the coming year.

8. Assistant Executive Director's Update

Margaret Van Vliet, Executive Director,

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9. Adjournment