



**Social Services Commission Meeting
Minutes
Monday, February 26, 2024**

1. Call to Order & Roll Call

Members Present: Rachael Fulp-Cooke, Judy Ennis, Deanna Sverdlov, Justine Villanueva

Members Absent: Judy Wong-Chen

Others Present: Kelly Stachowicz, Assistant City Manager; Iris Grace, Affordable Housing Manager; Jennifer Block, Management Analyst

Chair Rachael Fulp-Cooke called the meeting to order at 7:03 pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Approval of the agenda was moved by Sverdlov, with a second by Villanueva.

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Fulp-Cooke, Ennis, Sverdlov, Villanueva

NOES: None

ABSENT: Wong-Chen

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Council Liaisons

Dana Bailey will not be attending tonight's meeting due to a family emergency.

Aaron Wedra has resigned from the commission.

4. Public Comment

There was one email public comment which was received in error. The sender was notified and no further action is needed.

5. Consent Calendar

A. Approval of the January 22, 2024 Commission Minutes

Approval of the minutes was moved by Fulp-Cooke, seconded by Villanueva .

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Fulp-Cooke, Ennis, Sverdlov, Villanueva

NOES: None

ABSENT: Wong-Chen

6. Regular Items

A. Informational Item – Respite Center Update

Kelly Stachowicz gave a brief update on the Respite Center. Downtown Streets Team (DST) has been chosen as new provider for the center and they will be onsite once their contract is finalized. Services that DST will be able to provide

includes case management, housing navigation, connection services. The City is also working with other providers to be available at the respite center including mobile medicine. The City is also looking to ramp up the volunteer program.

Public Comment:
None

Discussion:

Villanueva: There is no medical onsite with Downtown Streets Team? (No, but the Respite Center will continue to have Mobile Medicine staff at scheduled times to provide services).

What are the ARP dollars being used for? (A beautification of the L Street façade and other ARP dollars have been uses in the past to fund the provider services at the Respite Center.

Can you provide more information on the volunteer program? (The City initially envisioned a robust volunteer program at the respite center. The respite center first doors in February 2020 and due to Covid the volunteer program never took off. Volunteers would assist providers as needed. Any commission members who would like to come by to see the center are welcome to make an appointment).

B. FY23-24 Planning and Long-range Calendar

Commission members reviewed and added the following items to the Planning and Long-range Calendar:

- Moved Sverdlov’s CDBG Liaison Update to April
- A Tenant Protections update was added to April
- A Housing Trust Fund update was added to June

It was decided that the commission would recess during the month of August.

The following items were requested and need to be agenized:

- Presentation by the Yolo County Office of Education
- Update on Bretton Woods
- Affordability and Seniors

Public Comment:
None

7. Liaison Reports

A. Empower Yolo – Ennis

Commission Member Judy Ennis gave an overview of Empower Yolo and shared information that she learned on her CDBG grantee site visit. Empower Yolo operates two shelters, one is West Sacramento and one in Davis. They work with many other non-profits and provide a wide range of services including food distribution, vouchers, eviction prevention and rapid rehousing. Their funding comes from many different sources including the CDBG funding through the City.

Discussion:

How many staff does Empower Yolo have and how many people/families do they serve? (Ennis – Not sure, but will include these with follow-up questions.)

B. Short Term Emergency Action Committee (STEAC) – Fulp-Cooke

Commission Chair Rachael Fulp-Cooke gave an overview of the two STEAC programs that are subsidized with CDBG funding through the City.

The eviction prevention program provides up to \$1,000 to low-income individuals who are facing eviction. Individuals are referred to STEAC from other agencies in the county. For the current year CDBG funds from the City provide \$7,000 in funding towards the program.

The food pantry program provides groceries to low-income individuals and families in Davis. Groceries always include meat, dairy, fresh produce and shelf stabled items. For the current year CDBG funds from the City provide \$7,000 in funding towards the program.

Do families/individuals have to qualify? (CDBG Funded projects have income caps and have to income individuals have to income qualify).

Public Comment:

None

8. Commission and Staff Communications

A. Development Projects and Affordable Housing Properties Update

Iris Grace provided the following housing updates:

There are currently no new housing developments.

Last week the City issued a press release on the Dream for All which is a first-time homebuyers equity share program. Program packets are available at City Hall.

Over the past few months City staff have sent out monitoring questionnaires to the affordable for sale property occupants. The City currently has eight properties for sale.

Discussion:

Sverdlov: Can we get an update on the tenant forums that were held? (The first session had a handful of people and a couple of landlords. The second forum had scheduled timeslots and had ten individuals show up. The general theme of complaints was the early resigning for lease requests, where leases run from August 1 through September 30 and landlords are asking about lease renewals in January. Another concern was rent prices, especially for individuals of retirement age. City staff are hoping to hold another session held as an open forum where people can speak freely.

Public Comment:

None

B. Social Services and Housing Department Update

No updates

9. Adjournment

The next meeting will be on March 18, 2024.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23pm.