



City of Fresno

2600 Fresno Street
Fresno, CA 93721
www.fresno.gov

Meeting Minutes - Final Housing and Community Development Commission

Chair Barbara Fiske

Vice Chair Brad Hardie

Commissioners:

*Barry Falke, Bob Farrar, Marina Harutyunyan, Bob
Reyes*

Staff:

*Jennifer K. Clark, AICP, HDFP, DARM Director; Kelli
Furtado, Assistant DARM Director; Susie Williams,
Recording Secretary*

Wednesday, June 14, 2017

5:00 PM

Fresno City Hall, 2nd Floor
Room 2165N (Conference
Room A)

Regular Session

A) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fiske called the meeting to order at 5:15PM.

B) ROLL CALL

Present 4 - Commissioner Bob Farrar, Chairperson Barbara Fiske, Vice
Chair Brad Hardie, and Commissioner Marina Harutyunyan

Absent 2 - Commissioner Barry Falke, and Commissioner Bob Reyes

Commissioner McKenzie entered the meeting room at 5:49PM.

C) COMMUNICATIONS

None

D) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

By consensus of the Commission the Agenda was approved.

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Farrar, Chairperson Fiske, Vice Chair Hardie
and Commissioner Harutyunyan

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Falke, McKenzie and Commissioner Reyes

E) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

[ID17-869](#) Approval of the minutes for February 8, 2017

On motion of Commissioner Harutyunyan, seconded by Commissioner Farrar, that the above Minutes be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Farrar, Chairperson Fiske, Vice Chair Hardie and Commissioner Harutyunyan

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Falke, McKenzie and Commissioner Reyes

[ID17-870](#) Approval of the minutes of February 22, 2017

On motion of Commissioner Farrar, seconded by Vice Chair Hardie, that the above Action Item be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Farrar, Chairperson Fiske, Vice Chair Hardie and Commissioner Harutyunyan

Absent: 3 - Commissioner Falke, McKenzie and Commissioner Reyes

F) GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

[ID17-847](#) Actions pertaining to Substantial Amendment 2017-02 to the FY 2016-2017 (FY 2017) Annual Action Plan:

1. HEARING to obtain public comments regarding the implementation of proposed Substantial Amendment 2017-02; and
2. Recommend Adoption of Substantial Amendment No. 2017-02 to the FY 2017 Annual Action Plan; and submission to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for reprogramming \$1,054,879 of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program funds.

Kelli Furtado, Assistant Director DARM, provided a brief introduction pertaining to Substantial Amendment 2017-02. The comment period ranged from May 12, 2017 through June 12, 2017, no comments were received by mail, e-mail, fax, or telephone. Thomas Morgan, Housing Manager

reviewed the outreach process and presented a PowerPoint. All related materials were made available for those in attendance. Mr. Morgan stated that the reprogramming of cancelled activities, or activity savings was separate from the 2017-2018 Annual Action Planning process currently under way. Ms. Furtado further reviewed the source and use charts identified in the staff report.

Chair Fiske opened the Public Hearing for comments at 5:29 p.m. Comments and questions were stated by the public and considered by the HCDC. Public comments were made by three individuals, ending at 5:38 p.m.

1. Diane Smith, Hope, Effort, Appropriately Thriving (H.E.A.T.): Ms. Smith indicated her confusion and stated that she knows there are several amendments being publicized. She requested clarification related to 2017-02, if it was an ongoing amendment or if it was separate, and whether or not HEATS letter related to the prior Substantial Amendment #1 was received.

2. Brunette Harris, H.E.A.T.: Ms. Harris relayed her confusion and spoke about the need to have the HCDC read HUD federal guidelines indicating that there is a requirement to have community meetings prior to coming up with an amendment. She reiterated that she would have to continue doing this and asked when the HCDC would have community meetings, and when they would begin to hold the City accountable. Ms. Harris went on to object, stating that if they are out of order, and it doesn't make any sense. Again she objected and asked when the HCDC would do what it is supposed to do and come to the community.

3. George Hostetter: Mr. Hostetter stated that he didn't find the substantial amendment document to include sufficient context for members of the public to easily understand the proposal. He went on to explain that he had difficulty tracking down the different community centers until he was able to speak to the right individual at the Highway Center about the cancelled project, but eventually learned that the agency declined an award due to the impact prevailing wage would have had. Mr. Hostetter questioned why the issue wasn't identified earlier in the process. He also stated his confusion

about the loan repayment and requested clarification on how the City did not know nine months ago that there would be a loan payment due in August if it was an annual repayment.

Chair Fiske encouraged HCDC comments and questions and addressed public comments as described below:

1. Chair Fiske clarified the amendment process and asked staff to elaborate on public comments made by Ms. Smith. Ms. Furtado stated that Substantial Amendment 2017-02 was a distinct and separate amendment to the 2016-2017 Annual Action Plan. The previous Substantial Amendment, 2017-01, was related to the HOME program. Although staff was unable to confirm receipt of a letter from H.E.A.T. related to Substantial Amendment 2017-01 in 2016 at the meeting, it would be researched.

2. Chair Fiske asked staff to address comments made by Ms. Harris. Ms. Furtado stated that the City followed HUD regulations related to reprogramming through a Substantial Amendment process, the steps required through the City's Citizen Participation Plan, in addition to other low and no-cost efforts.

3. Chair Fiske asked staff to address comments related to Mr. Hostetters public comments. Ms. Furtado responded that the City included information related to the sources of reprogrammed funds as well as the uses of reprogrammed funds including details for each activity being proposed, and while the staff report includes additional background, the City will consider options for including additional context in future Substantial Amendment documents. She went on to state that the Highway City activity was considered for cancellation because the potential award was declined by the applicant prior to entering into an agreement. The applicant went through the CDBG application process in response to a Notice of Funding Availability, which outlined all of requirements and regulations. After completing additional due diligence in collaboration with the City, the applicant made a sound business decision to decline the award due to the impact that prevailing wage requirements would have made on the overall project, in which CDBG funds represented only a small portion. Ms. Furtado

also clarified that the City was aware of the upcoming Section 108 loan payments, and had originally included it in the 2017-2018 Annual Action Planning process. However, given the uncertainty of the federal budget process and the delay in allocation announcements to entitlement jurisdictions, the City instead included the activity in Substantial Amendment 2017-02 given that the payment due date is August 1, 2017.

Chair Fiske closed the Public Hearing at 5:54 p.m.

On motion of Commissioner Farrar, seconded by Vice Chair Hardie, that the above Action Item be recommended for approval. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 4 - Commissioner Farrar, Chairperson Fiske, Vice Chair Hardie and Commissioner Harutyunyan

Absent: 2 - Commissioner Falke and Commissioner Reyes

Recused: 1 - McKenzie

G) INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

Jennifer Clark, DARM Director sated that staff anticipates that the next HCDC meeting will be on July 12, 2017 to consider the 2017-2018 Annual Action Plan.

H) COMMISSIONER ITEMS

Chair Fiske reviewed a prior project considered by the HCDC related to the Lowell neighborhood, a partnership between the Housing Authority and the Lowell Community Development Corporation. She updated the HCDC indicating that an apartment complex at 250 N. Calavaras has been rehabilitated as an infill project. She invited the public and commissioners to attend an open house on Wednesday, June 21, 2017 from 4:30 through 6:30 PM.

I) UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATION

Ms. Smith stated that she has an issue with going online and trying to find the HCDC minutes. She would like for the community to have access to those minutes, they are crucial to keeping up with what has happened.

Chair Fiske confirmed that having minutes available is important. Ms. Furtado acknowledged the concern, and indicated that staff continues to work to post minutes in a timely manner once they have been approved by the HCDC.

Ms. Harris stated "it is a shame, this is a pitiful board." She went on to say that the HCDC "haven't set foot in west Fresno to hold community meetings, not in west Fresno. This is what we get from the City, lies to you and you say yes but have yet to set foot in west Fresno. But, you come here and allow 3 minutes of comment with junk. It's a shame; but it's pitiful. It's a shame, but you will never be shamed." Ms. Harris concluded by stating that "one of these days the same thing that is happening to west Fresno is going to happen to you, and it's going to be sooner than you think because it's a shame for you guys to sit up there and talk about that you are a community. But you're not, you're selfish, and it's a disgrace."

Chair Fiske thanks the staff and the public for their input. Although she did not appreciate the verbally abusive comments made by Ms. Harris, Chair Fiske took the opportunity to thank the commissioners, staff and the public for their involvement and went on to state that she is aware of the good work being done in the Fresno community and she is proud to have the opportunity to be a part of the amazing work under way.

J) ADJOURNMENT

Meeting was adjourned at 5:55PM.

The next scheduled Commission meeting is June 28, 2017 at 5:00 P.M.