

City of Fresno

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



Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

5:00 PM

Regular Meeting

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

Housing and Community Development Commission

Chair Barbara Fiske

Vice Chair Bob Reyes

Commissioners:

*Barry Falke, Bob Farrar, Brad Hardie, Marina Harutyunyan, Bob Reyes,
Chong Yang*

Staff:

Jennifer K. Clark, AICP, HDFP, DARM Director

Kelli Furtado, Assistant DARM Director

Thomas Morgan, Housing Manager

Susie Williams, Recording Secretary

A) CALL TO ORDER

Chair Fiske called the meeting to order at 5:03 P.M.

B) ROLL CALL

Commissioner Harutyunyan arrived during approval of the agenda.

Present 6 - Commissioner Bob Farrar, Chairperson Barbara Fiske,
Commissioner Marina Harutyunyan, Vice Chair Bob Reyes,
Commissioner Chong Yang, and Brad Hardie

Absent 1 - Commissioner Barry Falke

C) COMMUNICATIONS

Kelli Furtado, Assistant Director Development and Resource Management (DARM) Department, announced that the Fresno County Economic Opportunities Commission has offered to provide interested HCDC members a tour of their programs and facilities on May 29th or May 31st. Ms. Furtado indicated that City staff would follow up with details on the invitation and assist in making arrangements for those interested.

D) APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Commissioner Farrar, seconded by Commissioner Reyes, that the agenda be approved. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

E) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ID18-0544 Approval of Minutes for March 28, 2018

Upon consent of the Commission, the HCDC meeting minutes of March 28, 2018, were continued due to lack of a quorum of Commissioners present at the March meeting.

continued

F) GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

[ID18-0527](#) HEARING to obtain public comments regarding implementation of the City's proposed activities with federal grant funding

pertaining to the City of Fresno 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan

Ms. Furtado indicated that the Draft 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan was made available for public comment March 23, 2018, through April 23, 2018. She stated that the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) had not yet announced the City of Fresno's annual allocation. Ms. Furtado advised that a summary of the draft plan was included in the staff report and that the item is not actionable.

Chair Fiske opened the Public Hearing at 5:09 P.M. Upon call for public comments, comments were stated by the public and considered by the HCDC. All public comments will be addressed in the final plan submitted to HUD and available on the City's website. Public comments were made by two individuals, ending at 5:17 P.M.

Patience Milrod, Central California Legal Services (CCLS): Ms. Milrod indicated that her comments have also been submitted in writing as part of the public review process. She questioned the HCDC related to the purpose of holding a public hearing if it was not part of a recommendation. Ms. Milrod raised concerns related to spending CDBG funds all over the city instead of concentrating it where it could do more good. She indicated that her clients are confused about why that policy decision was made and requested that the HCDC look into changing that decision. She also commented on her clients need for CDBG funds to go towards code enforcement efforts. Ms. Milrod questioned why the City hasn't addressed efforts about de-concentration of racial segregation in housing in the Annual Action Plan. Ms. Milrod offered to assist with outreach efforts in the future.

Lucianna Ventresca, Marjaree Mason Center: Ms. Ventresca spoke about her consideration of the plan and addressed the needs that exist for the population served by the Marjaree Mason Center. She appreciated the funding recommendations for rehabilitation and emergency shelter operations, and stated that they remain in need of the funding.

Chair Fiske closed the Public Hearing at 5:17 P.M.

Upon call for Commissioner comments, Commissioner Harutyunyan

addressed some of Ms. Milrod and Ms. Ventresca's concerns.

Commissioner Harutyunyan suggested that CCLS clients consider attending and voicing their needs at the next Public Needs Hearing, and spoke to the process for listening to the needs brought to the HCDC in order to inform the drafting of the plan. She indicated that needs addressed at the hearing also impacted the ranking of applications for funding.

Questions and answers continued among Commissioners, staff and the public speakers regarding CDBG funding. Ms. Furtado responded that the Draft 2018-2019 Annual Action Plan reflects both the comments at the Public Needs Hearing and the recommendations previously made by the HCDC. She indicated that the City no longer funds code enforcement activities with CDBG due in part to a recommendation by HUD. Ms. Furtado also advised the HCDC that the City addresses public comments as part of the annual action planning process that is submitted to HUD, and that the report on performance for HUD programs, including the Analysis of Impediments, is prepared after the end of the program year, then released to the public for review and comment approximately August of each year.

Commissioner Reyes discussed additional low-, and/or no-cost outreach opportunities and the benefits of holding more workshops and meetings in the community. Jennifer Clark, DARM Director, reminded the HCDC that the City will begin its five-year consolidated planning process shortly, and that process involves significant engagement. Commissioners indicated their desire to know how funds are being allocated, and especially for projects the Commission does not see again. Commissioner Reyes specifically recalled recent input from H. Spees with the Mayor's Office related to homelessness activities. Chair Fiske stated that the City's Code Enforcement is raising the bar and staff is addressing issues, but she wants to know how projects are addressed that are not on the HCDC agenda. Ms. Furtado explained that the City's ability to implement projects are presented in the Mayor's proposed budget, which is typically released in May of each year, with Council hearings scheduled for June.

G) INFORMATIONAL REPORTS

None.

H) COMMISSIONER ITEMS

None.

I) UNSCHEDULED ORAL COMMUNICATION

None.

J) ADJOURNMENT

Chair Fiske adjourned the meeting at 5:55 P.M.

The next scheduled HCDC meeting is May 9, 2018.