

HOUSING COMMISSION OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2024, 11:30 AM
100 W HOUSTON & VIDEO CONFERENCE

Members Present: Katie Wilson, Chair
Robert Abraham, Member
Pedro Alanis, Member
Kristin Davila, Member
Taneka “Nikki” Johnson, Member
Roderick Sanchez, Member
Crystal Requejo, Member
Michael Reyes, Member

Members Absent: Cecilia Garcia Redmond, Member

Staff Present: Veronica Garcia, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Mark Carmona, *City Manager’s Office*; Veronica Gonzalez, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Jameene Williams, *City Attorney’s Office*; Thomas Heydon, *Department of Human Services*; Sara Wamsley Estrada, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Allison Beaver, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Jacob Floyd, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Siboney Diaz-Sanchez, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Jessica Lozano, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; James McKenzie, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Valentina Fernandez, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Sharon Chan, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*

➤ **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order by Chair, Katie Wilson, at 11:42 AM.

➤ **Roll Call** – Allison Beaver, Senior Housing Policy Manager, called the roll. At the time when roll call was conducted, eight (8) members were present representing a quorum.

1. **Public Comments** – Wilson announced there was zero (0) residents signed up for public comment.

Staff note: The Housing Commission deadline for submitted written comment is 24 hours before the meeting. The reason for this is because it takes 24 hours for comments received in a language other than English to be translated. Speakers can leave a voicemail to be played during the meeting up to three hours before the meeting. Speakers can sign up to speak live during the meeting virtually up to 3 hours before the meeting or to speak during the meeting in person up until the meeting starts. Speakers who call past the deadline are given the opportunity to submit a written comment to be included in the minutes but not read during the meeting, and to sign up in advance for the following meeting.

2. **Item #1: Approval of the minutes from the San Antonio Housing Commission meeting on September 25, 2024.** (Video timestamp: 1:28)

Commissioner Pedro Alanis motioned to approve the minutes from the San Antonio Housing Commission meeting on September 25, 2024. Commissioner Robert Abraham seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Item #2: Briefing and discussion related to the creation of a Community Land Trust (CLT) Designation Policy. (Video timestamp: 1:53)

Wilson requested Sara Wamsley Estrada, Affordable Housing Administrator, present. Wamsley Estrada overviewed CLT homeownership structure; affordability model; Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) alignment; state legislation alignment; designation process and components; and timeline.

The item was for briefing and discussion only. No action was taken.

4. Item #3: Briefing and discussion related to the Rental Engagement & Assistance to Connect with Housing (REACH) Initiative. (Video timestamp: 18:33)

Wilson requested Beaver present. Beaver overviewed the REACH Initiative background, purpose, recommendations, and next steps.

The item was for briefing and discussion only. No action was taken.

5. Item #4: Briefing and discussion on the Housing Commission Subcommittees' ongoing work. (Video timestamp 00:28:36)

Wilson requested the subcommittee representatives Abraham, Johnson, Jacob Floyd (Housing Policy Manager), and Beaver present.

The item was for briefing and discussion only. No action was taken.

6. Item #5: Director's Report. (Video timestamp: 00:42:45)

Wilson requested Veronica Garcia, Director, present. Garcia noted updates regarding the Public Information Campaign and upcoming meetings.

Item was for briefing and discussion only. No action was taken.

7. Item #6: Commissioner reports on items of community interests. (Video timestamp: 00:51:00)

Wilson inquired if Commissioners had any items to note for the Commission and/or public interest.

Commissioner Michael Reyes highlighted that Opportunity Home partnered with the San Antonio Housing Trust and SAMMinistries to provide project-based vouchers to the Commons at Acequia Trails, a permanent supportive housing development.

Reyes noted Opportunity Home hosted a Family Self-Sufficiency Program (FSS) graduation last month. FSS allows participants to earn an escrow check upon program completion to assist in their self-sufficiency. Forty-nine graduates earned a total of \$500,000 to be used on down payment assistance, college tuition, or other expenses.

Reyes noted as of October 14, 2024, the high-rise buildings with elderly tenants, such as Park View, Villa Tranchese, Victoria Plaza, and Fair Avenue will have long term on-site security.

Commissioner Crystal Requejo highlighted that on October 25, 2024, the Mexican American Unity Council (MAUC) partnered with Bexar County Appraisal District to hold an event educating homeowners regarding their property taxes and exemptions.

Requejo noted that on October 26, 2024, MAUC will host twenty-five families at a Transfer-on-Death Deeds (TODD) clinic to assist the families in processing and filing their TODDs. MAUC's goal is to host the TODD clinics twice a year.

Chair Wilson highlighted the Close to Home Board will consider approval of their Fiscal Year 2025 Strategic Plan on October 24, 2024. The Plan contains eight strategies including connecting people to housing and the REACH Initiative. She also noted the Point-in-Time (PIT) Count event is proposed for January 28, 2025.

Item was for briefing and discussion only. No action was taken.

Closing-

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned without contest at 12:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sharon Chan
Housing Policy Coordinator