

HOUSING COMMISSION OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2025, 4:00 PM
2222 N ALAMO & VIDEO CONFERENCE

Members Present: Pedro Alanis, Member
Robert Abraham, Member
Kristin Davila, Member
Taneka “Nikki” Johnson, Member
Roderick Sanchez, Member
Cecilia Garcia Redmond, Member
Crystal Requejo, Member
Michael Reyes, Member

Members Absent: Katie Wilson, Chair

Staff Present: Ian Benavidez, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Veronica Gonzalez, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Jameene Williams, *City Attorney’s Office*; Victoria Gonzalez-Gerlach, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Sara Wamsley Estrada, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Allison Beaver, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Jacob Floyd, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Siboney Diaz-Sanchez, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Gary Cooper, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Jessica Abbosey, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; James McKenzie, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Joyce Palmer, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Sharon Chan, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*

- **Call to Order** - The meeting was called to order by Sara Wamsley Estrada, Housing Policy Administrator, at 4:26 PM.
- **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. Item #2: Briefing and possible action regarding Housing Commission’s presiding officer.

Wamsley Estrada introduced the item stating that Chair Katie Wilson was on leave.

Commissioner Kristin Davila motioned for the approval of Commissioner Pedro Alanis as the presiding officer for the February 2025 Housing Commission meeting. Commissioner Robert Abraham seconded. Motioned passed unanimously.

2. Item #1: Approval of the minutes from the San Antonio Housing Commission meeting on January 22, 2025.

Commissioner Michael Reyes motioned to approve the minutes from the San Antonio Housing Commission meeting on January 22, 2025. Commissioner Cecilia Garcia Redmond seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. **Points of Personal Privilege** – Commissioner Nikki Johnson, wished Sharon Chan, Housing Commission Board Liaison, a happy birthday.

Commissioner Cecilia Garcia Redmond highlighted she has been cancer-free for 5 years and urged women to remember to schedule their mammograms for early detection.

4. **Public Comments** – Commissioner Alanis announced there were three (3) residents signed up for public comment.

Voicemail

1. **Item 6** - Leticia Sanchez, representative for the Historic Westside Residents Association and Coalition for Dignified Housing, noted the difficulty in awarding developments concentrating on deeply affordable housing units. Sanchez also noted the process for rental housing assistance should be improved.

In-person

2. **General** - Rene Gonzalez, general manager for the Esperanza Community Land Trust (CLT), urged the Housing Commission to further explore funding opportunities for CLTs.
3. **General - Caroline Flores** – *Did not appear when called.*

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.

5. **Item #3: Briefing and possible action related to the approval of recommended appointees to the Removing Barriers to Affordable Housing Development & Preservation Subcommittee (RBSC) of the Housing Commission.**

Alanis requested Jacob Floyd, Housing Policy Manager, present. Floyd overviewed the appointee status of the RBSC, recommended appointees, and proposed terms as follows:

3-Year Term	
Isabel Galvan	Seema Kairam

2-Year Term	
Ryan Baldwin	Meredith Siegel
Melanie Cawthon	Michael Taylor
David Morin	

Commissioner Kristin Davila motioned to approve the recommended appointees to the Removing Barriers Subcommittee. Commissioner Michael Reyes seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

6. **Item #4: Briefing and discussion on the Public Information Campaign Phase 1 with K Harvey and department-led affordable housing engagement initiatives.**

Alanis requested Siboney Diaz Sanchez, Community Engagement Administrator, present. Diaz-Sanchez summarized the intention of the Public Information Campaign (PIC) as a

Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) strategy and the PIC's current components. David Alegria, Senior Account Executive for Public Affairs at K Harvey, overviewed Phase 1's discovery and learning for defining affordable housing in San Antonio. Alegria described the assessment of community needs, project phases, and next steps. Diaz-Sanchez presented the first video in a series regarding Permanent Supportive Housing and next steps for the series.

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

7. Item #5: Briefing and discussion on the Housing Commission Subcommittees' ongoing work.

Alanis, Abraham, Davila, and Requejo presented for their respective subcommittees.

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

8. Item #6: Director's Report.

Alanis requested Veronica Gonzalez, Assistant Director, present. Gonzalez overviewed a recap of Strategic Housing Implementation Plan (SHIP) Event: Housing in San Antonio, Housing Bond update, and upcoming meetings.

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

9. Item #7: Commissioner reports on items of community interests.

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

Reyes, Requejo, and Abraham highlighted point of interest.

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

Closing-

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned without contest at 6:25 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

**Sharon Chan
Housing Policy Coordinator**