



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
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Agenda Item Number: 4

Agenda Date: May 22, 2024

In Control: San Antonio Housing Commission Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Veronica Garcia, Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing and possible action related to the approval of five non-commissioner appointees to the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee of the Housing Commission.

SUMMARY:

The co-chairs of the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee reviewed 31 applications and are recommending five non-commission members to the subcommittee. Three of the recommended appointees are renters and two are rental property owners or managers.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On January 26, 2022, the Housing Commission formed the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee (RSS). The subcommittee consists of nine members: two Housing Commissioners, four renters, and three property owners or property managers. The Housing Commission voted to have Commissioners Johnson and Davila serve as the Co-chairs of the RSS.

The RSS is charged with advising the Housing Commission on renter-related issues including, but not limited to emergency rental assistance, tenants' rights & legal aid, education, outreach, & training, and legislative items. The RSS helps fulfill the Housing Commission's renter-related priorities, including encouraging positive relationships and understanding between renters and rental housing providers.

ISSUE:

Thirty-one applications were received during the application period. The co-chairs convened multiple meetings and interviews during the months of April and May 2024. The goal of the Commissioners was to identify subcommittee members with a broad range of lived and technical expertise including experience with evictions, receiving rental assistance, homelessness, and knowledge of legal aid, education, outreach, and training. The Commissioners also sought large and small property owners and managers, professional association memberships, career experiences, networks, and demographics.

The following five individuals are recommended for appointment to the RSS:

Renters

1. Keisha Brown

Keisha is a district ten resident and a renter advocate with various lived experiences. She has volunteer experience with Texas Organizing Project (TOP), community outreach events, and experience speaking at Opportunity Home Board meetings and City Town Hall meetings.

2. André Greene

André is a district five resident and a second-term appointee to RSS. He has also served on the Development Services Department's Proactive Apartment Inspection Taskforce, the San Antonio Airport Disability Access Committee, and the San Antonio Housing Trust's Sustainability and Universal Design Committee.

3. Valerie Rodriguez

Valerie is a district six resident and Bexar County employee. She has volunteer experience with the Southwest Voter Registration Education Project, SAISD, Texas A&M San Antonio, and the SAWS Community Conservation Committee.

Property Owners / Managers

1. Shawn Irwin

Shawn manages several affordable housing communities in San Antonio for Prospera Housing Community Services where he serves as the Vice President of Resident Services. His organizational affiliations include Southwestern Affordable Housing Management Association, the San Antonio Apartment Association, and the Texas Apartment Association. Shawn served in the US Army and is a Disabled American Veterans and Veterans of Foreign Wars member.

2. Daniel Rossiter

Daniel is a district seven resident with a rental portfolio of six to ten properties. He previously served on the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee. He is the president of the Thunderbird Hills Neighborhood Association, Treasurer of the Brooks Development Authority, and a member of the SAMCo Future Mobility Technologies subcommittee.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

ALTERNATIVES:

Housing Commission may choose to approve none or some of the recommended appointees.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Housing Commission approve the list of appointees to the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee.