

HOUSING COMMISSION OFFICIAL MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2023, 11:30 AM
100 W HOUSTON & VIDEO CONFERENCE

Members Present: Katie Vela Wilson, Chair
Robert Abraham, Member
Pedro Alanis, Member
Kristin Davila, Member
Veronica Ibarra-Escalera for Kammy Horne, Member
Taneka “Nikki” Johnson, Member
Cecilia Garcia Redmond, Member
Crystal Requejo, Member

Members Absent: Michael Reyes, Member

Staff Present: Veronica Garcia, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Mark Carmona, *City Manager’s Office*; Michael Ramsey, *Workforce Development Office*; Veronica Gonzalez, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Juan Valdez, *Mayor’s Office*; Teresa Myers, *Mayor’s Office*; Jameene Williams, *City Attorney’s Office*; Thomas Heydon, *Department of Human Services*; Sara Wamsley Estrada, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Jacob Floyd, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Siboney Diaz-Sánchez, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Marivel Arauza, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; James McKenzie, *Neighborhood & Housing Services*; Jessica Lozano, *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 Vela Wilson, at 11:37 AM.
- **Roll Call** – Jacob Floyd, Housing Policy Manager, called the roll. At the time when roll call was conducted, eight (8) members were present representing a quorum.
- **Public Comments** - Sara Wamsley Estrada, Affordable Housing Administrator, announced there was one (1) resident signed up for public comment. (*Video timestamp 2:15*)
 - 1. **Item #2** - Nina Gallegos, recommended appointee to the Public Engagement and Outreach Subcommittee, shared her feeling of empowerment after reading Laura Salinas-Martinez’s bio to also speak about her experiences. Gallegos noted previously losing hope for the Westside community to be self-sufficient. She stated she felt encouraged after seeing what Salinas-Martinez had done for the community. Gallegos noted she had been a boxer since she was 14 years-old; and by the time she was 27, she had been married with three kids, divorced, and homeless. She survived in the streets to comeback as a professional fighter with her children currently in foster care. Gallegos commented she would want to fight for the underrepresented

communities and be proud of who she stands before, hoping to change and inspire others in her situation that worry about eviction or having their lights shut off.

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.

1. Item #1: Approval of the minutes from the San Antonio Housing Commission meeting on August 23, 2023. (Video timestamp: 13:10)

Commissioner Taneka Nikki Johnson motioned to approve the minutes from the San Antonio Housing Commission meeting on August 23, 2023. Commissioner Pedro Alanis seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Item #2: Briefing and possible action related to the appointment of Commission and non-Commission members of the Public Engagement and Outreach Subcommittee (PEO) of the Housing Commission. (Video timestamp: 13:40)

Vela Wilson requested Siboney Diaz-Sánchez, Community Engagement Administrator, present. Diaz-Sánchez overviewed the PEO's background, application process, and the following appointment recommendation:

Appointee	Type	Term Expiration
Robert Abraham	Commissioner	September 2025
Taneka Nikki Johnson	Commissioner	September 2025
Kristin Davila	Commissioner	September 2025
Michael Miller	Non-Commissioner	September 2025
Nina Gallegos	Non-Commissioner	September 2025
Crystal Requejo	Commissioner	September 2024
Melanie Cawthon	Non-Commissioner	September 2024
Laura Salinas-Martinez	Non-Commissioner	September 2024

Commissioner Pedro Alanis motioned to appoint the Commissioners and non-Housing Commission representatives to the Public Engagement and Outreach Subcommittee for the term lengths recommended by staff. Veronica Ibarra-Escalera seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Item #3: Briefing and possible action related to the appointment of the Dashboard and Annual Report Subcommittee (DAR) members and changing the subcommittee's term cycle. (Video timestamp: 25:42)

Vela Wilson requested Sara Wamsley-Estrada, Affordable Housing Administrator, present. Wamsley-Estrada overviewed the DAR's background, cycle term shift from September to February, and the following appointment recommendation:

Appointee	Term Expiration
Kammy Horne	February 2026
Cecilia Garcia Redmond	February 2026
Pedro Alanis	February 2025

Commissioner Crystal Requejo motioned to appoint the Commissioners to the Dashboard and Annual Report Subcommittee for the term lengths recommended by staff. Commissioner Robert Abraham seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Item #5: Discussion related to Ready to Work and how it is affecting wages and economic growth in San Antonio *(Video timestamp: 28:35)*

Vela Wilson requested Mike Ramsey, Executive Director, to facilitate. Ramsey introduced the following panelists:

- Johnny Vahalik, Assistant Superintendent, San Antonio Independent School District
- Leslie Cantu, Assistant Vice President of Administration, Toyotetsu
- Allie Perez, Founder, Texas Women in Trades
- Andrea Casas, Executive Director, University Health System

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

Commissioner Garcia Redmond left the meeting at 12:51 PM.

5. Item #4: Briefing and discussion on the Home Maintenance Workshops lead by Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC). *(Video timestamp: 01:15:35)*

Vela Wilson requested Lori Hall, Program Officer, present. Hall overviewed the educational need for homeowners that had their homes rehabilitated, workshop materials reviewed, demonstrations, trainings, and reference materials distributed.

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

6. Item #6: Director's Report. *(Video timestamp: 01:41:05)*

Vela Wilson requested Veronica Garcia, Director, present. Garcia overviewed the Property Tax Help summer session recap, affordable housing gap funding, Fiscal Year 2024 budget update, and upcoming meetings.

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

7. Item #7: Commissioner Community Updates.

No items were brought forth from Commissioners.

Closing-

There being no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned without contest at 1:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Sharon Chan
Housing Policy Coordinator