



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

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Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: May 25, 2022

In Control: San Antonio Housing Commission Meeting

DEPARTMENT: Neighborhood and Housing Services

DEPARTMENT HEAD: Veronica Garcia, Interim Director

COUNCIL DISTRICTS IMPACTED: Citywide

SUBJECT:

Briefing, deliberation, and possible action related to appointments to the Renters' Issues Subcommittee of the Housing Commission.

SUMMARY:

The Housing Commissioners appointed to the Renters' Issues Subcommittee reviewed applications and are recommending seven non-commission members of the subcommittee. Four of the recommendations are renters and three are property owners or managers.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On January 26, 2022, the Housing Commission formed the Renters' Issues Subcommittee (RIS). The subcommittee will consist 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 Commissioner representatives on the RIS.

The RIS 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 RIS will make recommendations to the Housing Commission on renter-related issues that are part of commission conversations and encourage the development of relationships and understanding between rental property owners, managers, and renters.

Commissioners Johnson and Davila were asked to develop a recruitment plan and application for the non-commission subcommittee members which was approved by the commission in February 2022. The applications for non-commission members were open from March 2nd-April 4th.

The Housing Commission's approved recruitment and outreach plan was developed by Commissioners Johnson and Davila and the Public Engagement & Outreach subcommittee. It included:

- Seeking a diverse applicant pool with a range of lived experiences and representing various populations such as:

Residents living in, managing, or owning a variety of property types including mobile home parks, single family homes, duplex-quadplex, and apartments.

Individuals with various experiences including veterans, older and younger adults, people with disabilities, survivors of domestic violence, experience with homelessness, evictions, applying for rental assistance, credit issues, living in public housing or using a Housing Choice Vouchers.

Representation from different kinds of landlords and property managers.

- Disseminating information about the RIS's application included paper and electronic versions in Spanish and English in the following ways:
 - Links distributed by social media and placed on the RIS webpage.
 - Interviews with local TV news stations to share by web article and TV. This included News4 San Antonio for a story written by Darian Trotter on March 9, 2022.
 - Invitations sent to all landlords & tenants who participated in the Emergency Housing Assistance Program.
 - NHSD Department Newsletter.
- Disseminating information through the networks of the following partners:
 - Property Owners/Managers & Affiliates
 - San Antonio Board of Realtors (SABOR)
 - San Antonio Apartment Association (SAAA)
 - San Antonio Property Owners Alliance (SAPOA)
 - DSD's Mobile Living Communities Registry
 - Real Estate Council of San Antonio (RECSA)
 - United Homeowners Improvement Association
 - South San Antonio Chamber of Commerce
 - San Antonio Economic Development Foundation
 - San Antonio Housing Authority (SAHA) Managed Properties
 - Renters & Advocates
 - Texas Housers
 - Texas RioGrande Legal Aid (TRLA)
 - Tier 1 Neighborhood Coalition
 - Big Mama's Safe House
 - My City is My Home (MCMH)

San Antonio Legal Services Association (SALSA)
The Historic Westside Residents Association
Housing First Communitas
Domesticas Unidas

○ Other Groups

- San Antonio Financial Empowerment Center
Bexar Necessities
San Antonio School Districts
San Antonio Metropolitan Ministry (SAMM)
DisabilitySA
Empower House SA
Esperanza Peace & Justice Center
All San Antonio Senior Centers
Various San Antonio Community, Neighborhood, and Homeowner Associations
The Joint City/County Commission on Elderly Affairs
Alamo Area Asian Chamber of Commerce
The Center for Health Care Services (CHCS)
Haven for Hope
Council District Offices 1-10 and the Mayor's Office
Alamo City Black Chamber of Commerce
San Antonio Hispanic Chamber of Commerce
National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)
South Alamo Regional Alliance for the Homeless (SARAH)
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)
Pride Center of San Antonio
Bexar County Office of Criminal Justice
YWCA: Young Women's Christian Association SA
St Vincent de Paul
San Antonio Gender Association
Family Endeavors
Fair Housing Council of Greater San Antonio
Catholic Charities
Merced Housing Texas

○ Paper applications were available at the following locations:

- Neighborhood and Housing Services: 1400 S Flores St, 78204 (District 5)
San Antonio Housing Authority Lobby: 818 S Flores St, 78204 (District 5)
Carver Library Branch: 3350 E Commerce St, 78220 (District 2)
Las Palmas Library Branch: 515 Castroville Rd, 78237 (District 5)
Igo Library Branch: 13330 Kyle Seale Pkwy, 78249 (District 8)
BiblioTech West Library: 2003 S. Zarzamora St, 78207 (District 5)
BiblioTech East Library: 1203 N. Walters St, 78202 (District 2)
BiblioTech South Library: 3505 Pleasanton Rd 78221 (District 3)
All City Council District Offices
All Justice of the Peace (JP) Court Locations
San Antonio Senior Centers

Bob Ross Senior Center - 2219 Babcock Rd, 78229 (District 8)
Willie Cortez Senior Center - 5512 SW Military Dr, 78242 (District 4)
District 2 Senior Center - 1751 South W.W. White Rd, 78220
District 5 Senior Center - 2701 S Presa, 78210
Doris Griffin Senior Center - 6157 NW Loop 410, 78238 (District 7)
Alicia Trevino Senior Center - 8353 Culebra Rd, 78251 (District 6)
Normoyle Senior Center - 700 Culberson, 78225 (District 5)
Northeast Senior Center - 4135 Thousand Oaks, 78225 (District 10)
South Side Lions Senior Center - 3303 Pecan Valley Dr, 78210 (District 3)
West End Senior Center - 1226 NW 18th St, 78207 (District 1)

ISSUE:

Fifty-eight eligible applications were received during the application period. Commissioners Johnson, Davila, and Chair Gonzales convened multiple meetings to review applicants. 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 experience, homelessness, and using a voucher. The Commissioners also sought a diverse group of non-commission members to include large and small property owners and managers, individuals living with disabilities, various ages, survivors of domestic violence, and a mix of genders.

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact at this time.

ALTERNATIVES:

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

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Housing Commission approve the list of recommended appointees for the non-commission members of the Renters' Issues Subcommittee.