



City of San Antonio

Agenda Memorandum

File Number:
{{item.tracking_number}}

Agenda Item Number: 2

Agenda Date: February 22, 2023

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 new appointments of the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee

SUMMARY:

The Housing Commissioners that co-chair the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee reviewed applications from the list of previously selected alternates and are recommending Shelia Brown be appointed as a renter representative of the subcommittee and Courtney Rosen be appointed as a property manager representative of the subcommittee

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

On January 26, 2022, the Housing Commission formed the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee (RSS) to 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 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 makes 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 have presided over all meetings since the subcommittee's formal launch in June 2022. The subcommittee members have chosen to meet monthly. The meetings have been open to the public to attend since August 4, 2022.

ISSUE:

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the former renter representative was unable to attend the regularly scheduled meetings. The Commissioners are recommending a new appointment, Shelia Brown, take the position as a new renter representative and member of the subcommittee.

Additionally, a former landlord representative voluntarily stepped down to run for elected office. The Commissioners are recommending a new appointment, Courtney Rosen, take the position as a new property manager representative and member of the subcommittee.

As with the previous selection criteria, 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/or living with a disability. The Commissioners also sought a diverse group of non-commission members to include single family and multi-family apartment renters, members of various ages and ethnicities, survivors of domestic violence, and a mix of genders.

Commissioners Johnson and Davila recommend Shelia Brown and Courtney Rosen to the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee:

1. Renter Representative - Shelia Brown

Shelia is a renter in a multi-family apartment building and lives in Council District 8. In 2002, Shelia had an accident in which she became a quadriplegic. Shelia has been an advocate for those living with a disability for over 20 years. She has worked for the non-profit organization ConnectAbility for nearly 7 years as their Support Group Coordinator and Peer Mentoring Coordinator.

2. Property Manager Representative - Courtney Rosen

Courtney is a property manager for MHN Property Management and manages a portfolio of 100+ single family / duplex style homes. She owns her own home in Council District 8. She has been actively showing up to the RSS meetings and contributing public comments. Courtney volunteers on the Board of Directors at the San Antonio Board of Realtors and has the following designations: Texas Residential Leasing Specialist (TRLS), Texas Residential Property Manager (TRPM), Residential Management Professional (RMP) from the National Association of Residential Property Managers (NARPM), Graduate Realtor Institute (GRI) and Military Relocation Professional (MRP).

FISCAL IMPACT:

There is no fiscal impact.

ALTERNATIVES:

Housing Commission may decide to not approve the recommended appointees.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends Housing Commission approve to appoint new representatives, Shelia Brown, and Courtney Rosen, as non-commission members of the Renters' Solutions Subcommittee.