

CITY OF SANTA FE SPRINGS  
FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
GUS VELASCO NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER  
**MINUTES**

Wednesday, March 20, 2013

**I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**II. INVOCATION**

**III. ROLL CALL**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Lydia Gonzalez  
Margaret Bustos  
Ted Radoumis  
Manny Zevallos  
Gilbert Aguirre  
Brandy Ordway-Roach  
Gloria Duran (excused)  
Janie Aguirre  
Annette Rodriguez  
Angelica Miranda  
Josephine Santa-Anna

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mercedes Diaz  
Dolores Romero (excused)  
Alicia Mora

STAFF

Maricela Balderas, Director of Community Services  
Judi Manalisay, Children's Services Administrator  
Yvonne Peraza-Mendoza, Case Worker  
Marsha Chavez, Support Services Supervisor

COUNCIL LIAISON

Councilmember Laurie Rios, Council Liaison

**IV. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 20, 2013**

The minutes were approved & accepted as submitted.

**V. COUNCIL LIAISON/COUNCILMEMBER REPORT**

Councilmember Laurie Rios reported on the following:

- Councilmember Rios announced that the City of Norwalk recently re-elected Mike Mendez, as well as Cheri Kelly.
- Councilmember Rios discussed the Diversity Summit which began this week with assemblies being held at Santa Fe Springs Christian School, Santa Fe High, and St. Paul High School.
- Councilmember Rios announced the Egg Decoration event which will be taking place later this month.
- Councilmember Rios invited everyone to attend the Annual Easter Egg Hunt at Los Nietos Park at 10:00 a.m., and to be sure and stop by the pancake breakfast hosted by the Sister Cities Committee.

- Councilmember Rios announced the Annual Cesar Chavez Day of Service, which is scheduled for Wednesday, April 3, 2013. There are currently 90 students set to participate.
- Councilmember Rios announced a petting zoo event at the City's Main Library Garden on April 4, 2013.
- Councilmember Rios advised that tax preparation assistance is available for low-income residents at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center, by appointment only.
- Councilmember Rios announced that the SFS Art Fest will be held on May 30, 2013, and this event has been the first ever coordinated effort between the Heritage Arts Advisory Committee and the City Council.

## VI. **EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT**

Judi Manalisay reported on the following:

**Utility Assistance Programs/Overview – Yvonne Peraza-Mendoza** – Judi Manalisay introduced Yvonne Peraza-Mendoza as one of the City's case workers. Yvonne Peraza-Mendoza distributed information related to income qualification and guidelines for various programs offered at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center through various outside funding sources.

Janie Aguirre asked if the food pantry is only for residents. Maricela Balderas noted that the people who are served live in various local communities, but this is done on a selective, case-by-case basis, with the focus of this service being provided to residents of Santa Fe Springs.

**Introduction of New Staff – Manuel Cantu** – Maricela Balderas introduced Manuel Cantu and provided information on family and human services he will be working on. Manuel Cantu gave an overview of his experience with the City and the types of programs he will be focusing on.

**FHSAC Update Member Roster** – Maricela Balderas distributed an updated member roster.

**City Budget Update** – Maricela Balderas announced that the next Family & Human Services Advisory Committee meeting is in conflict with the City Council's town hall meeting. Committee members decided to cancel the April meeting.

Maricela Balderas announced that the City Manager would be making presentations at all advisory committees in the near future related to the City's budget.

## VII. **CONTINUING BUSINESS**

Judi Manalisay reported on the following:

- **Farmers Market Update** – Judi Manalisay announced that the Farmer's Market will take place on a bi-weekly basis (to start and then weekly) on Thursdays from 12:00 noon through 5:00 p.m. Judi Manalisay also announced that the location will likely be at the Aquatic Center or the Town Center Plaza.
- **FAFSA Workshop – February 23, 2013** – Judi Manalisay reported that two students were assisted in applying for college at this workshop, as well as several students provided with information on applying for federal aid for college.

- **“Promotores” Promoters of Mental Health – Judi Manalisay** reported that the first Mental Health Workshop was held on depression and it was well received. Margaret Bustos noted that she attended the workshop and received feedback from a neighbor who found it very beneficial.

## VIII.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Family and Human Services Section – Judi Manalisay**

Judi Manalisay reported/updated on the following:

**Belle of The Ball Donations** – Judi Manalisay noted that prom-like dresses are being accepted as donations through this organization, which redistributes the clothing to high school-aged girls. Donations are asked to be within the most recent several years and in good condition. Judi Manalisay also noted that Ed Ramirez is working to make the clothing donation program at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center inclusive of clothing for young men as well. Maricela Balderas confirmed that the City has already received a few donations.

#### **Child Care and Development Section – Judi Manalisay**

Judi Manalisay reported/updated on the following:

- **Child Care Update** – Judi Manalisay announced upcoming programming, including the celebration of Week of the Young Child, noting that the culmination of the week-long celebration will entail a family evening May 5, 2013. Judi Manalisay announced that plans for an intergenerational garden are underway, which will include flowers as well as vegetables.
- **Intergenerational Efforts – Kids Parade** – Judi Manalisay announced that events are currently being coordinated to intertwine the pre-school program with senior programming. Judi Manalisay reported that in celebration of Dr. Seuss’ birthday, the children paraded around the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center and through the seniors’ ongoing bingo game. Judi Manalisay noted that both the children and adults enjoyed the interaction.

## IX.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Judi Manalisay announced the following:

- Orange County Food Distribution – March 20, 2013 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.
- Price That Item Game Show – March 15, 2013 9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
- Free Mental Health Symposium – March 28, 2013 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon.
- Healthy Tip Handouts

Maricela Balderas announced that the California Parks and Recreation Society’s Aging Services will be having a symposium at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center on April 24, 2013.

**X. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

Ted Radoumis discussed a power outage at Cedardale Avenue between the riverbed and I-605 Freeway. Ted Radoumis noted that this outage affected 91 houses. The power was out reportedly until 7:00 a.m. the next morning.

Manny Zevallos discussed the Sister Cities Committee and their upcoming pancake breakfast. Manny Zevallos also noted what the monies will fund, such as foreign exchange programs. Ted Radoumis also provided details about the foreign exchange program.

Angelica Miranda wished everyone a Happy Easter. Annette Rodriguez also wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Brandy Ordway-Roach suggested adding QR codes to our fliers and wished everyone a nice Easter as well.

Janie Aguirre wished everyone a Happy Easter.

**XI. ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p.m.