



**FAMILY & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
**GUS VELASCO NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER**  
Wednesday, January 16, 2019  
5:45 p.m.

**MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Janie Aguirre called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Martha Villanueva

3. ROLL CALL

*Members Present:* Gilbert Aguirre, Janie Aguirre, Tina Delgado, Bonnie Fox, Gaby Garcia, Miriam Herrera (*arrived 5:58 p.m.*), Peggy Radoumis, Laurie Rios, Dr. Linda Vallejo, Martha Villanueva, and Hilda Zamora

*Excused:* None.

*Members Absent:* Margaret Bustos, Dolores Romero

*Council Liaison:* None.

*Staff:* Ed Ramirez, Family and Human Services Manager/  
Executive Secretary  
Carlos Mendoza, Community Services Supervisor (Excused)

*Agency Representative:* None.

*Guest:* Christa King, Fire & Environmental Inspector II

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Laurie Rios and seconded by Martha Villanueva to approve the Minutes of November 14, 2018. The motion was carried unanimously.

6. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

None.

## 7. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

Mr. Ramirez reported on the following:

- a) **Fire Prevention Presentation** – Mr. Ramirez introduced Christa King, of the Department of Fire-Rescue who gave a presentation on fire safety and smoke detectors. Ms. King discussed the importance of having a smoke detector mounted on the ceilings of every bedroom and hallway in the home and testing them on a monthly basis. Ms. King also informed the committee that smoke detectors are available to residents at no charge; one per household at the Headquarters Fire Department, a valid ID is required.

In addition, she encouraged committee members to develop an escape plan with their families, and recommended to always keep hallways and bedroom entrances free of furniture in the event that an emergency situation occur.

## 8. DIVISION PROGRAM/PROJECT UPDATES

### a. **FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES SECTION – Ed Ramirez**

- 1) **Holiday Basket Programs Recap** – Mr. Ramirez showed a presentation and gave an overview of the 2018 Holiday Programs reporting that approximately 110 food boxes were distributed at the Thankful Neighbor event, and 153 food boxes were distributed at the Neighborly Elf event. In addition, children under the age of 12 years old received a toy, and teens between 13 and 18 years of age received a \$20.00 gift card.

After finalizing the report, approximately \$12,000.00 in monetary donations were received; Assemblyman Ian Calderon's office and Walmart donated over 120 turkeys, and the Cub Scouts offered their support by donating canned foods. Mr. Ramirez thanked the Committee for their participation.

The Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center donated the remaining food boxes and toys to the Local School District.

- 2) **Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program** – Mr. Ramirez reported that appointments for the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program began on Monday, January 14, 2019 for residents and on January 22, 2019 for all other taxpayers. This program is available individuals who have made \$54,000 or less during 2018.

### b. **HERITAGE PARK AND CLARKE ESTATE PROGRAMS – Ed Ramirez**

- 1) **Las Posadas Event Recap** – Mr. Ramirez gave an overview on Las Posadas, which was held at Heritage Park on Friday, December 14, 2018, the event included a procession, entertainment by Carolina Russek, food vendors, and free pan Dulce

and hot chocolate. Approximately 300 – 400 participants enjoyed the annual event that depicts the biblical journey of Mary and Joseph. The décor of the park included lighted garland and poinsettias that the Heritage Park staff created.

- 2) **2019 Movie and Concert Series** – Staff is currently planning the 2019 Movie and Concert Series that will take place at Heritage Park this summer. Staff will also be attending a concert share at the end of the month where 150 bands will get together to showcase their music. In addition, staff will be developing a community survey that will be accessible online for residents who would like suggest ideas for this upcoming series.

- 3) **Announcements -**

- a. **The Orange County Food Distribution** – The next food distribution is scheduled for Wednesday, February 20, 2019, at 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

- b. **Healthy Tip Handout** – “Happy Holidays Healthy Tip”

9. OLD BUSINESS

- a. FHSAC By-Laws Amendments Update – At the previous meeting, a discussion took place regarding the amendments to the By-Laws. The City Clerk has received the recommendations that the committee has made, and an update will be provided.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Ed Ramirez reported on the following:

- a. The Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center received a donation of Sharp containers, which are for the disposal of needles and medications, and are available while supplies last. To receive a container a valid ID and list of medications must be provided.

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- a. Presentations to present to the committee.
  - b. Update on homeless count

12. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS – JANIE AGUIRRE

Committee Member Gilbert Aguirre made a comment Come and signing in for registrations

Committee Member dr. Linda Vallejo made a comment

Committee Member Janie Aguirre made a comment on the use of handicap stalls.

Committee Member Gaby Garcia made a comment on parking lot issues and options.

Committee Member Peggy Radoumis made a comment on the Young Ambassador’s and Women’s Club, upcoming activities.

Committee Member Bonnie Fox made a comment on the status of items in the food pantry and community closet.

Ed Ramirez commented on the Homeless count to take place January 23, 2019.

13. ADJOURNMENT – JANIE AGUIRRE

Chairperson Aguirre adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 20, 2019.

  
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Prepared By: Virginia Magana,  
Administrative Clerk, II

  
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Ed Ramirez, Executive Secretary