



**FAMILY & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  
GUS VELASCO NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER  
Wednesday, August 21, 2019  
5:45 p.m.

**MINUTES**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Janie Aguirre called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Dolores Duran

3. ROLL CALL

*Members Present:* Gilbert Aguirre, Janie Aguirre, Dolores Duran, Bonnie Fox, Gaby Garcia, Peggy Radoumis, Laurie Rios, Dolores Romero, Martha Villanueva, and Hilda Zamora

*Excused:* None.

*Members Absent:* Tina Delgado, and Miriam Herrera

*Council Liaison:* Annette Rodriguez, Councilmember

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

*Agency Representative:* None.

*Guest:* Priscilla Rodriguez, L.A. Cada

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Bonnie Fox and seconded by Martha Villanueva to approve the Minutes of June 19, 2019, amended as follows.

**Item No. 7 EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT,**

“Mr. Ramirez reported on the following”:

**Item No. 3 ROLL CALL; Members Absent**

“None.”

**6. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT**

Councilmember Annette Rodriguez reported that the city installed solar lights on the stops signs located at the corner of Charlesworth Road and Pioneer Boulevard for better visibility.

Ms. Rodriguez also reported that homeless individuals have been congregating at the Parkette near the North 605 on-ramp. Ms. Rodriguez informed Dino Torres, Director of Police Service Center, as the homeless individuals who kept asking her for money approached her three times in one day at the same location.

The Annual Relay for Life event will be held on Friday, September 27, 2019, and Saturday, September 28, 2019, at the Lake Center Athletic Field. The Fire Department will be hosting its annual Relay for Life Potato Bake on Thursday, August 22, 2019, at Headquarters Fire Station.

In addition, a Block Party will be held at Los Nieto’s Park on Saturday, September 14, 2019. Free hotdogs, hamburgers, and drinks will be available for residents to enjoy. Flyers were passed out to members.

Lastly, applications for the 2019 Citizen of the Year Award were passed out to committee members who were encouraged to nominate someone that they feel is deserving of this year’s award. In addition, the “Citizen of the Year Committee” will be recruiting an additional person to sit on the board. Councilmember Rodriguez is currently looking for one more person to sit on the Citizen of the Year Committee, as the next meeting will be held on Monday, September 16, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. The committee is hoping to receive 7 to 10 nominations.

**7. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT**

Mr. Ramirez reported on the following:

***Los Angeles County Homeless Safe Haven and Mental Health Presentation*** – Mr. Ramirez introduced Priscilla Rodriguez, Development Coordinator with LA CADA, who gave an overview of the array of services offered, which have impacted and saved lives for over 50 years.

Alice’s House provides treatment for women who have experienced incarceration, homelessness, trauma, drug, and alcohol abuse, including other issues that have affected their lives. The goal is to rehabilitate the women into becoming a productive member of society and will be housed up to six months to provide the services they seek. In addition, Alice’s House offers legal assistance on site for those who need help with custody issues.

Safe Haven is a residential Mental Health Facility Service that’s available to individuals who suffer from a mental health issue and need assistance in becoming stabilized. This outpatient service is on a referral basis only, and patients will receive support for three weeks to one month, and eventually will be able to go back home.

The Timken's Foundation provided \$60,000 in donations to assist in the Safe Haven facility renovation. However funding ran out before the project was complete. Congresswoman Janice Hahn and her team came out to see the facility and donated over \$300,000 in funds to complete the renovation of the facility. Approximate completion date of the project will be in November or December.

- a) ***“Nomination and Election of Officers for Fiscal Year 2019-20 – Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson*** - Members conducted the nomination and election of Committee officers for the positions of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson for Fiscal Year 2019/2020 by ballot with the following result:

Chairperson – Janie Aguirre, declined; Gaby Garcia, declined; The Committee voted and declared Janie Aguirre as Chairperson for Fiscal Year 2019/2020.

Vice-Chairperson – Gaby Garcia, accepted; Laurie Rios, declined; Bonnie Fox, declined; The Committee voted and declared Gaby Garcia as Vice-Chairperson for Fiscal Year 2019/2020.

## 8. DIVISION PROGRAM/PROJECT UPDATES

a) ***FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES SECTION – ED RAMIREZ***

- 1) ***Gus’ Kitchen Pantry Storage Improvements – Update*** – Mr. Ramirez met with Bonnie Fox, who volunteers for the pantry to discuss future improvement needed for the two storage Tuff Sheds. The staff has fabricated shelves, and is presently working on the clothing racks, and clothing compartments for the sheds. This project is scheduled to be completed by the end of August 2019.
  
- 2) ***2019 Back to School Backpack Program – Event Recap*** – Mr. Ramirez gave an update on the Back to School Backpack Program, which was held on Friday, August 2, 2019, at 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The program was a success as Caseworkers preregistered 118 children who were Santa Fe Springs residents and met the income guidelines to receive a backpack filled with supplies. Participants enjoyed a day of shopping for clothes, ice cream, raffles, and picked-up their bags filled with school supplies. In addition, school supplies will be available throughout the school year. A brief slide show presentation was shown.

In addition, this year the Santa Fe Springs Rotary Club contributed the backpacks and \$1,000 monetary donation. Business and community residents also gave monetary donations and school supplies, which makes this year the highest number for monetary donations received. All donors will be invited to attend a council meeting to be recognized for their contributions.

**Vaccines – October 17<sup>th</sup> (9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.)** – Mr. Ramirez reported that the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health (LACDPH) would be providing free flu vaccines to residents six months of age and older at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center on Thursday, October 17, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. If you are interested in receiving the vaccine, please call (562) 692-0261 to reserve your place. No health insurance is required.

b) **HERITAGE PARK AND CLARKE ESTATE PROGRAMS – ED RAMIREZ**

- 1) **2019 Summer Concerts and Movie Series – Event Recap** – Mr. Ramirez reported that the 2019 Summer Concerts and Movie Series concluded at Heritage Park on Friday, August 2, 2019. This series was very successful with its Fashion Friday component hosted by the Abigail Baraza Foundation, which brings in additional participants. A variety of bands also performed and concluded with the Marichi Espectacular who opened up with a tribute to Selena and drew in approximately 1200 participants. Also, there were a variety of food vendors on-site for participants to enjoy. A video of the event was provided for committees to see.
- 2) **2019 Summer Arts & Crafts Camp Program – Event Recap** – Mr. Ramirez showed a presentation to the committee of the Heritage Parks 2019 Annual Summer Arts and Crafts Camp, which received a total of 25 enrollments across the two, one week sessions. This year the program was handled in house by the Family and Human Services staff. Participants enjoyed a variety of activities, such as arts and crafts, painting, sculpting, making dream catchers, lanyards, and bracelets, and park tours. The Summer Arts and Crafts Camp concluded with an art show for the parents to enjoy.

c) **ANNOUNCEMENTS – ED RAMIREZ**

- 1) Orange County Food Distribution – Wednesday, October 2019
- 2) Healthy Tip Handout –
- 3) FHSAC Meeting Dark in September

9. **OLD BUSINESS**

Ed Ramirez reported on the following:

- a. **Options for Learning Childcare Program Update** – Mr. Ramirez gave an update on the progress of Options for Learning. The Council sub-committee met with the new CEO, and staff of Options for Learning who gave an update on their plan of placing the privately-owned bungalows at Los Nietos Park with will be a semi-permanent location. The will no longer be involved with the childcare program and are finalizing the monies for 2018/2019.

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

Ed Ramirez reported on the following:

- a. **2019 Fiestas Patrias Event** - The 2019 Fiestas Patrias Event will be held on Friday, September 13, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. – 11:00 p.m. The Parks and Recreation Department will be coordinating this year's event. We will be celebrations the state of Hidalgo

11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

None.

12. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS – JANIE AGUIRRE

- ✚ Committee Member Janie Aguirre made a comment on regarding name badges for members.
- ✚ Committee Member Gaby Garcia comment garments and items left on the GVNC premises near the playground.

13. ADJOURNMENT – JANIE AGUIRRE

Chairperson Aguirre adjourned the meeting at 7:03 p.m.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 16, 2019.

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Prepared By: Virginia Magana,  
Administrative Assistant

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Ed Ramirez, Executive Secretary