



FAMILY & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

GUS VELASCO NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER

Meeting Room #1

Wednesday, November 16, 2022

5:45 p.m.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Peggy Radoumis called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Members Present: Gilbert Aguirre, Janie Aguirre, Bonnie Fox, Laurie Rios, Dolores Duran, Peggy Radoumis, Christina Colon, Gaby Garcia, Shamsheer Bhandari, Adrienne Karnofel

Members Absent: Dolores Romero, Miriam Herrera, Elena Lopez

Council Liaison: Annette Rodriguez, Mayor

Staff: Ed Ramirez, Family and Human Services Manager, Executive Secretary
Jose Carrillo, Community Services Supervisor
Jasmine Oregel, Administrative Clerk

Agency Representative: None.

Guest: Chad Van Meeteren, Battalion Chief

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Gilbert Aguirre

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Vice-Chairperson Aguirre suggested a correction on section 12, the Member Comments/Announcements of the minutes of October 19, 2022. In this section, it was noted as “Fire with the Boys”, however, the correction suggested and the event itself is called “Breakfast with the Boys”. Member Laurie Rios moved to approve the minutes of October 19, 2022. The motion was seconded by Vice-Chairperson Aguirre. Minutes were approved unanimously.

6. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT

Mayor Annette Rodriguez reported on the following to the committee:

- i. City Council photos will be relocated in City Hall to the lobby on the West side panel wall.
- ii. City Council authorized \$154,000 for a home improvement project. The proposal was approved for a welding engineer to assist with processing applications. This will benefit low-to moderate income residents and will assist with home improvements such as roofing, painting doors, fixing air conditioning, etc. Applications will be available in mid-December.
- iii. The Security Camera Rebate Program applications are available at the Police Services Center.
- iv. The petition for the stop light/sign on Orr and Day and Whiteland is being processed.
- v. Tree Lighting Ceremony will take place at the Soaring Dreams Plaza on Saturday, December 3, 2022 at 5:00 p.m.

7. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

Mr. Ramirez introduced the Department of Fire and Rescue Battalion Chief, Chad Van Meeteren to the committee to report on the following:

Santa Fe Springs Community Connect Presentation:

Battalion Chief presented on the new Community Connect Program offered to community residents. The free online platform allows residents to share critical information about their household that will aid first responders and emergency response personnel when responding to the residence. Some information that is helpful would be any gate codes, hidden keys, or location of a medicine cabinet. The presentation explained how the program works, what kind of information can be provided, and how your information is secured.

Mr. Ramirez reported on the following to the committee members:

- i. Executive Secretary Ramirez informed members they will be receiving an application and letter by mail or email for them to reapply if they are interested in continuing to be a part of the Family and Human Services Advisory Committee for the upcoming term. The current term for advisory committee members will be expiring on December 31, 2022. Appointments will take place in January 2023 and the next meeting will take place in February of 2023. Members should have already received or will be receiving the application and letter during the week. Advisory committee members must submit an application to the City Clerk's office for reappointment consideration.
- ii. Executive Secretary Ramirez notified members the park hours for Heritage Park have changed in alignment with the Daylight Savings time change. Heritage Park is now open from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and office hours remain open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

8. DIVISION PROGRAM/PROJECT UPDATES

A. *Family and Human Services Division & Program Updates*

Mr. Carrillo provided a brief presentation of the following events and encouraged the members to read through the report in the November packet for more detailed information.

- i. Thankful Neighbor Basket Program at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center held on Friday, November 18, 2022
- ii. Letters to Santa at the Santa Fe Springs Library
- iii. Neighborly Elf Christmas Basket Program on Saturday, December 17, 2022 at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center
- iv. Las Posadas at Heritage Park on Friday, December 9, 2022
- v. Grinchmas Camp at Town Center Hall on Sunday, December 18, 2022
- vi. Adaptive Recreation Programming Update
- vii. Presidents Day Penny Carnival at the Activity Center on Monday, February 20, 2023
- viii. The Shamrock 5k will be held on Saturday, March 11, 2023
- ix. 2023 Art Fest will be held on Friday, April 28, 2023

9. OLD BUSINESS

2022 Holiday Basket Volunteer Orientation – The Holiday Basket Program Volunteer orientation was held on Wednesday, October 26, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center. The orientation provided an overview of the holiday events and review of the Volunteer Policy and Procedures handbook approved by City Council in March 2018. There were a total of 16 people in attendance.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program – Volunteers are need to assist with the VITA program to help complete income tax forms for low-to-moderate-income individuals. Training is free and available to interested volunteers. To become a volunteer or for more information, call the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center.

Family Yoga Night – In partnership with SPIRITT Family Services, the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center will be hosting a family yoga night on December 7, 2022 from 5:00 p.m. – 7:00 p.m. The activity will allow families to learn the basics of yoga. This free event is geared towards school-aged children and a parent or guardian. Registration is required and space is limited.

11. FUTURE AGENDA UPDATES

- a) Alzheimer and dementia presentation
- b) New California Food Waste Law
- c) Medicare presentation
- d) Medical resources for youth with disabilities

12. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

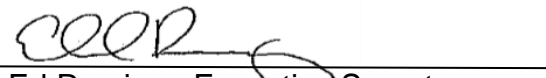
Vice-Chairperson Aguirre, member Bhandari, and member Aguirre wished everyone happy holidays.

Chairperson Radoumis shared with the members that the Relay for Life donations were now over \$100,000. She encouraged the members to share with others to donate a toy for the Neighborly Elf Christmas Basket Program.

13. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Radoumis adjourned the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023 at 5:45 p.m. in person at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center, Meeting Rm #1.



Ed Ramirez, Executive Secretary