

District 1— Franklin Nguyen District 3 – Pete Kolstad District 6 – Jim Carter District 8 – Jeremy Barousse
District 1— Gary Cunningham District 4 – John Semanik District 6 – Olivia Navarro District 9 – Michael Young
District 2— David Wilkins District 4 – Alan C. Hinman Jr. District 7 – Jonathan Fleming (VC) District 9 – Terry Martin
District 2— Perry Henry District 5 – Juan Estrada District 7 – VACANT District 10 – Richard Giammona
District 3— Nia Celestin District 5 – Mimi Hernandez District 8 – Nichole Edraos (C) District 10 – Nick Labosky
Commission Staff: Sabrina Parra-Garcia
Council Liaison: Frank Ponciano

Regular Meeting Minutes

Prepared by Sabrina Parra-García

Wednesday, April 11, 2018

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

The Neighborhoods Commission of the City of San José convened at 6:48 p.m. in the City Hall Wing Rooms 118-119.

Present Commissioners: Cunningham, Wilkins, Celestin, Kolstad, Hinman Jr., Carter, Navarro, Velazquez (new), Edraos, Young, and Martin.

Absent Commissioners: Nguyen, Henry, Semanik (resigned), Estrada, Hernandez, Fleming, Barousse, Giammona and Labosky.

Staff: Sabrina Parra-Garcia, Executive Analyst with the City Manager’s Office, and Frank Ponciano, Council Assistant with Councilmember Rocha’s Office.

II. Orders of the Day – None.

III. Public Record – None.

IV. Public Comment

- Janice Rombeck, Office of Supervisor Cortese, reminded the Commission about the trip to La Paz to the Cesar Chavez burial site on April 23, and a community forum on firearms and safety, April 28, 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Santa Clara Fairgrounds.
- Lydia Ma, Vice Chair and District 4 Youth Commissioner, came to inform the Commission about her project to paint a mural at Overfelt Gardens Park and have them share with their residents about the project.
- Tina Morrill, Stop Illegal Fireworks Committee, came to speak about how the online reporting tool is only available for 3 holidays – Lunar New Year, Tet, and 4th of July – and to ask for more information about the Commission Roadshow.
- Mackenzie Mossing, Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society and District 10 residents, to talk about the June Measure B ballot measure and how its opposed by the political leadership and environmental and smart development advocates.

V. Consent Calendar

A. Approve the minutes for March 14, 2018.

Action: Commissioner Cunningham, seconded by Commissioner Carter, motioned to adopt the minutes as presented. The Commission unanimously approved the minutes.

VI. Reports and Informational Only

- A. Chair; Chair Edraos addressed the late start time and shifting the agenda to accommodate, including a short conversation about the bylaws and budget letter. She also allowed the newest Commissioner, Jonathan Velazquez, to speak and he shared that he has been a life-long resident of District 7 and has served on Seven Trees Neighborhood Association for the last year.

Action: The Commission voted on a motion that the Commission hear the Auditor's full presentation, table the bylaws presentation to next meeting, spend 10 minutes to talk about the budget letter, and skip the ad hoc reports, as Commissioner Fleming is missing with a motion by Commissioner Martin and seconded by Commissioner Navarro. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Staff Liaison Frank Ponciano, Office of Council Member Rocha, provided a verbal report:

- Memo on the need to fund repairs to streets in poor repair – memo was written in late March for the April 3 Council meeting; calling for \$92 million, as recommended by staff, to fund the maintenance of 58 miles of streets with a Pavement Condition Index of less than 25. While the Department of Transportation has a practice of prioritizing streets that in better repair because it is proportionally cheaper to fix them now than later, this practice doesn't make sense for people who live on those 58 miles of streets in terrible condition. Council discussion generated the idea that this funding could come from a November ballot measure for infrastructure repair.
- San Jose Police Fallen Officer Memorial at the downtown police station – There was a February 27 Council meeting discussion: He is sharing what the design would be and how much funding is still required to make it a reality.

- C. Commission Staff Sabrina Parra-García, Office of the City Manager, provided a verbal report on the following:

- East African Cultural Festival, April 14 – Roosevelt Community Center starting at 4 p.m. The Office of Immigrant Affairs is sponsoring.
- Next Rapid Responder Training, April 16 from 5 to 7 p.m. – at San Jose City Hall. For people who are interesting in acting as allies to those who are being detained and would like to find out how to assist those detained and the family members left behind.

VII. New Business

- A. City's Annual Audit Presentation; Sharon Erickson, City Auditor

Ms. Erickson made an overview presentation on the 2016-17 Annual Report on City Services.

Commissioner Hinman, Jr asked police and fire retirement and when the City will not be able to cover the payments for retirees. Ms. Erickson responded that the City can cover it in the short-term and to be able to completely fund them within 20 years.

Commissioner Navarro asked about whether there would be sufficient money to build another fire substation. Ms. Erickson recommended that Commissioners look at the Capital Proposed Budget to see if the budget is going up, especially with regards to staffing for Station 37.

Commissioner Carter asked about the reserve fund and what the plan is. Ms. Erickson responded that the answer is in the Mayor's March Budget message for general reserves as well as reserves for any expected budget deficits. A final answer will be in the Proposed Budget released on May 1.

VII. New Business cont.

Commissioner Velazquez asked whether the City was planning to look at City reuse sites for more ongoing programming. Ms. Erickson responded that her department is currently doing an audit on that, which will be released in a few months. She also recommended taking a look at the proposed budget for additional staff to Parks, Recreation, and Neighborhood Services Department section.

Commissioner Young asked whether the City has a strategy to try to implement any cost sharing with bargaining units to better balance the retirement benefits contributions. Ms. Erickson recommended taking a look at the Office of Employee Relations website to see the proposals on collective bargaining. She also added that current employees aren't the ones causing the unfunded liability, so there's an equity issue that current employees are potentially paying for the retirement of those who have already left.

B. Commission bylaws; Sabrina Parra-Garcia, Office of the City Manager

Deferred to May regular meeting (see action under Chair's Report).

C. Commission Budget Letter; Chair Edraos

Chair Edraos solicited ideas from each present Commissioner for what the topics and issues are that Commissioners are hearing residents are the biggest concerns. She will be putting those ideas into a draft budget letter to be shared at the Special Meeting, date to be determined, in early May when the Commission will get a presentation on the FY2018-19 Proposed Budget.

Action: Discussion only.

G. Ad Hoc Project Progress; Vice Chair Fleming

Deferred to the May regular meeting (see action under Chair's Report).

VIII. Meeting Schedule and Agenda Items

A. Next regular meeting: May 9, 2018, 6 p.m., in San Jose City Wing Rooms 118-119.

IX. Adjournment

The Neighborhoods Commission meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.