Regular Meeting
of the
San José
Neighborhood Services & Education Committee
held
May 8, 2008 at 1:30 P.M.

Present: Chair Chirco, Vice Chair Nguyen, Councilmember Nancy Pyle, Councilmember Chu, Jeff Janssen, Patty Deignan and Norberto Dueñas

The meeting was convened at 1:35 p.m.

a. Report on Mobilehome Infrastructure Pilot Program (Housing) [Request deferral to June, 2008]

Upon motion by Councilmember Pyle, seconded by Vice Chair Nguyen, the Committee voted to defer the report.

b. Inclusionary Housing Update (Housing) [Request deferral to August, 2008]

Upon motion by Councilmember Pyle, seconded by Vice Chair Nguyen, the Committee voted to defer the report.

c. Update on Community Sports Field Study (PRNS)

Ms. Cynthia Bojorquez, Deputy Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, presented the report. Ms. Bojorquez noted that PRNS has been in negotiations with San José State University (SJSU) and the Eastside Union School District (ESUSD) for the construction of sports fields. Staff expects to bring forward to the Council by the end of summer Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) with both groups for the construction of four lighted soccer fields at SJSU and a softball complex, a digital arts center and some other amenities in the Eastside School District, including perhaps a feasibility study for the Fiscalini Swim Center.

Upon motion by Councilmember Pyle, seconded by Vice Chair Nguyen, the Committee voted to accept the report.

d. Parks Capital Grants Update (PRNS)

Ms. Cora Velasco, Recreation Superintendent, presented the report. Ms. Velasco itemized the grant sources and the projects these grants have funded. She also highlighted two of the completed grant-funded projects; Lake Cunningham Skate Park Project and trail improvements in the Guadalupe River Park.

Upon motion by Councilmember Pyle, seconded by Vice Chair Nguyen, the Committee voted to accept the report.

e. **Strong Neighborhood Monthly Update (CMO)**

1. Neighborhood Leadership Development Update [Deferred from April, 2008]

Laura Lam, Strong Neighborhoods Manager, presented the report. Ms. Lam reported that staff has gone through a series of trainings to help identify leaders in the community. Some of the strategies included relationship building with leaders through one-on-one meetings; coaching; sharing of stories/experiences to develop a common understanding; identifying issues and moving the neighborhoods into action. Staff is working to recruit neighborhood leaders who are committed and able to build a following and consensus based on the strengths of the community.

2. Neighborhood Development Center Update

Ernest Guzman, Community Services Supervisor, gave a brief overview of the Neighborhood Development Center (NDC). The programs offered by the NDC are Mobile Leadership Academy, Resource Library, Community Action and Pride Grants (CAP), Volunteer San José, Keep San José Beautiful, Beautification Grants, and the Neighborhood Improvement Awards. Mr. Guzman also highlighted the three SNI pilot project areas (Seven Trees, Silver Leaf and Camden/Hillsdale).

Vice Chair Nguyen asked if the $15,000 limit for CAP grants will be increased as there seems to be more applications received than funds for distribution. Deputy City Manager Dueñas suggested a referral from the Committee to the budget process for staff to prepare a Manager's Budget Addendum (MBA) highlighting the funding history of the program.

3. Update on the Draft Neighborhoods Commission Workplan [Deferred from April, 2008]

Mr. Guzman reported that the Neighborhood Group Registration deadline has been extended from April 4 to April 18. To date, the total number of applications is 154. The Commission Candidate Application submission was also extended to April 18. The total number of commissioner applications is 46. Mr. Guzman also announced the schedule of caucuses for each Council District.

Chair Chirco asked if this report could be presented to the full Council. Deputy City Manager Norberto Dueñas suggested doing a cross-reference on the May 20th City Council agenda.

Upon motion by Councilmember Pyle, seconded by Vice Chair Nguyen, the Committee voted to accept the report with the following amendments:
1. Staff will submit a report as part of the budget process on the Community and Pride Grants funding history.
2. The Neighborhoods Commission update will be cross-referenced on the May 20, 2008 City Council meeting agenda.

f. Schools/City Collaborative Monthly Update (CMO)

1. Reports from School Safety, Joint Use, and Teacher Recruitment/Retention Subcommittee Reports

Deputy City Manager Norberto Dueñas distributed the Information Memo signed by Mayor Chuck Reed and Chair Chirco who co-chair the Collaborative, which gave an update of the activities of the Collaborative highlighting the sub-committees and the items that the Collaborative will be working on. Mr. Dueñas also presented a couple of draft charts that show the structure of the Collaborative and its subcommittees. Jeff Jansen (title??) reported that the Mayor's Office has been successful in recruiting most of the superintendents to serve on the various committees of the Collaborative.

Upon motion of the Councilmember Pyle, seconded by Vice Chair Nguyen, the Committee accepted the report.

g. Quarterly Update on Performance Measures (CMO)

This update for the third quarter of 2007-08 was presented by members of the Neighborhood Services CSA. Cynthia Bojorquez, Deputy Director, PRNS, joined by Angel Rios, also Deputy Director, PRNS and Ned Himmel, Asst. Library Director, presented the report.

Ms. Bojorquez highlighted the graffiti measures. She highlighted the Department's success in working with Santa Clara County to have the Department of Corrections provide work crews to remove graffiti tags at no cost to the City. In addition, the Department has reached an agreement with the County Probation Department to have juvenile offenders work on the weekends removing graffiti as part of their community service hours.

Deputy Director Angel Rios highlighted the increase in the number of incidents on Safe School Campus Initiative sites responded to. He also noted that the coordination of responses to incidents with the schools has been very good.

Assistant Library Director Ned Himmel reported that the number of visits to the Library website totals 4,918,017, over 9% higher than the target for 2007-08. This is due to the implementation of new software that accurately records website visits.

Upon motion by Councilmember Pyle, seconded by Vice Chair Nguyen, the Committee voted to accept the report.

h. Oral Petitions

There were none.

i. Adjournment

The Committee adjourned at 2:41 p.m.

Judy Chirco

Councilmember Judy Chirco
Chair, Neighborhood Services
and Education Committee

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