

Special Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 22, 2008
City Hall, Tower, Room 1753
9:30-10:30 a.m.

Members Present: Ray Avalos (SJPD-Family Violence Center), Rebecca Garcia (CSJ-Housing Dept.), Christine Hagion Rzepka (The Ripple Effect), Ernest Kong (SJPD Family Violence Center) Kathleen Krenek (Next Door), Doreen Morgan (CSJ-Senior Commission), Rolanda Pierre-Dixon (SCC- DA's Office) Steve Preminger (Working Partnerships), Dan Rodriguez (Sheriff's Office), Wigsy Sivertsen (San Jose State University), Council Member Forrest Williams (CSJ- D2) Reshma Yunus (SEMAH) and Eve Castellanos (CSJ-CMO)

Members Absent: Chata Alfaro (Support Network for Battered Women), Council Member Nora Campos (CSJ-D5), Ayesha Haider (NISA), Cindi Hunter (Domestic Violence Consortium), Melanie Jimenez (Mayor's Office), Dan Nishigaya (SCC-Sheriffs Office) Petra Riguro (CSJ PRNS) and Teresa Yu (Asian Women's Home).

Staff, Interested Parties, and Guests Present: Andres Quintero (CSJ-District 2), Lauren Sutherland (CSJ-District 4) Russ Bence (SJPD Family Violence Center)

The meeting convened at 9:40 a.m.

I. Approval of minutes from 9-24-08 meeting

- Minutes from the 9-24-08 meeting were approved unanimously. **Motion to approve: Member Preminger; 2nd: Member Morgan**

II. Discussion Items

I. New Business

A. 11th Annual Walk to End Domestic Violence Debrief

Eve reviewed highlights from the City's 11th Annual Walk to End Domestic Violence including:

- Highest participation ever (approximately just under 1,000)
- Raised \$550 dollars in donations
- Contingencies from the following organizations participated:
 - Santa Clara Probation Department
 - San José State University
 - City of San José employees
 - Job Corps Students
 - City Year

Eve's announcements were followed by a discussion on how to improve upon this year's Walk which included that addition of batterer/ batterer intervention service providers. The overall consensus of the Board was that the event had been successful and well organized and that the speakers (Tracie Stafford and Brian Copeland) did a tremendous job.

Other suggestions that will be forwarded to the next year's Walk Committee Members

What Worked	What we could do better	Other Comments
Speakers	Signage (elected officials, signs used for Walk)	Use DV placemats
Give aways at tables	More resource tables	Adding resources for batterers
Planning	Shorter program	
Youth presence/members of the public	Improve PA system	
Music/band	More recognition of DV Programs	
Organizations recognized		
Rotunda set-up		

B. Accept Report from Rules and Open Government Committee Meeting 10-14-08

Lt. Ernest Kong of the San Jose Family Violence Center informed the Board that this is still a work in progress and that legislative action may be needed at next months meeting. In addition Eve mentioned that the Attorney General was asked to weigh in on the situation and agreed that the Sunshine reform would make victims of crime vulnerable and further that it was outside of the City's purview to make such a decision alone.

C. Receive Report from Ad-Hoc Committee regarding San Jose Police Dept. Civil Stand By Process

Eve reported that the ad-hoc committee met on October 15, 2008. The committee was made up of staff from the Santa Clara County Courts, SJPD, Sheriff's Office, Next Door Solutions to Domestic Violence, Ripple Effect and Network for Battered Women. Eve presented the Committee's three recommendations to the Advisory Board. The recommendations were as followed:

- Honor No- Contact Restraining Orders in which case Civil Stand-By's would be denied.
- Engage the Courts in the creation of new more user friendly forms
 - Creation of new user friendly forms

- Encourage those filling out applications to make use of the TRO section in which to itemize emergency items only
- 30 minutes the ideal amount of time for Civil Stand-By's
- Eve clarified that the Committee's recommendations are being made on property issues not custodial issues
- Create a check list for individuals considering requesting Civil Stand-By's that would include:
 - What Civil Stand-By's entail
 - What PD can and can not do during Civil Stand -By's

It was suggested that this information be added to a web site such as the County DV web site.

A. Action Items

None.

III. Announcements/Public Comments

- Council Member Williams presented a certificate of appreciation to Sgt. Russ Bence of the Family Violence Center for his three years of service on the Family Domestic Violence Advisory Board.
- Council Member Williams stated his appreciation for working as Co-Chair of the City's Family/ Domestic Violence Advisory Board for the past three years. Members of the board also conveyed their sentiments of appreciation.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 am.