



**City of Davis
Social Services Commission Minutes
Monday, June 15, 2020**

Members Present: Anna Ioakimedes; Donald Kalman; Susan Perez; Kurt Snipes; Bapu Vaitla, Vice Chair; Georgina Valencia, Chair; Matthew Wise

Members Absent: Judy Ennis

Also Present: Brett Lee, Council Liaison; Kelly Stachowicz, Staff Liaison; Lisa Baker, Yolo County Housing

1. Call to Order

Valencia called the meeting to order at 7pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Wise move to approve agenda, with a second by Snipes. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Ioakimedes, Kalman, Perez, Snipes, Vaitla, Valencia, Wise

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ennis

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

Stachowicz reported on COVID efforts, which still does not allow for in-person meetings.

Valencia noted that the League of Women Voters are holding a healthcare forum on June 24 at 6:30pm.

4. Public Comment

Juliette Beck – Concerned about undocumented residents pressured to pay rent. Has Commission or staff reached out to YIIN (Yolo Interfaith Immigration Network)?

Natalia Deeb-Sossa, YIIN – Agrees with previous caller. Concerned about the undocumented population.

Ante Ursic – Echoes previous speakers. Concerned about the most vulnerable and thinks showers and administrative costs expensive.

5. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes—May 18, 2020

Valencia moved, with a second by Snipes, to approve the minutes. Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Ioakimedes, Kalman, Perez, Snipes, Vaitla, Valencia, Wise

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ennis

6. Regular Items

A. Current Year Adjustments to Housing and Urban Development Grants (CDBG, HOME, CARES Act)

Lisa Baker, Yolo County Housing, explained the actions needed from the Commission:

- 1) *Amendments to the Citizen Participation Plan, the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and the 2019 Annual Action Plan*
- 2) *COVID-19 Waiver Authority*
- 3) *HOME Program Statutory Suspensions and Regulatory Waiver Authority Related to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)*

She also noted the following details:

- *Minor changes to Citizen Participation Plan to allow for remote meetings.*
- *Researching CARES funds to determine eligibility for mobile showers for homeless individuals.*
- *Would like to use the 19-20 HOME funds for voucher-based Tenant Based Rental Assistance for homeless or COVID-impacted. Consider as a bridge from homelessness into permanent housing.*
- *Need to spend CARES funds by 12/31/20*

Commission engaged in discussion about the proposed expenditures, including the mobile showers. Questions included the showers' cost and whether permanent showers at the current facility are a consideration. Other questions focused on details about how proposed programs would work. Commission indicated an interest in making sure the City reaches out to community groups to ensure everyone has information.

Public Comment:

Ante Ursic: need to consider amount of placeholder, and whether City has received input from potentially affected individuals.

Natalia Deeb-Sossa: Uneasiness by way which funding is being recommended. Need impacted communities at the table.

Commission expressed concern about being able to spend the funds within the timeframe and make sure that it gets to the people who need it.

Wise moved, with second by Ioakimedes, to approve the following:

- 1) *Amendments to the Citizen Participation Plan, the 2015-2019 Consolidated Plan and the 2019 Annual Action Plan*
- 2) *COVID-19 Waiver Authority*
- 3) *HOME Program Statutory Suspensions and Regulatory Waiver Authority Related to the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES)*

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Ioakimedes, Kalman, Perez, Snipes, Vaitla, Valencia, Wise

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ennis

Mayor Lee suggested Commission visit Respite Center. Staff will work to set something up.

B. 2020 CDBG and HOME Funding Recommendations

Lisa Baker provided overview and requested that the Commission consider the following:

- 1) Review funding requests and make recommendations for use of 2020-21 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds
- 2) Review staff funding recommendations for Proposed Reallocation of Prior Year CDBG Funding
- 3) Review 2020 Citizen Participation Plan
- 4) Review 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan and Five-Year Consolidated Plan
- 5) Provide funding and plan narrative recommendations to the City Council
- 6) Recommend submission of these funding awards and plans to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Commission asked why there were so few applicants this year and for further explanation on the Farmhouse project. Staff will reach out to organizations to survey why they are not applying.

Public Comment:

Ante Ursic – Concerns about administrative costs.

Natalia Deeb-Sossa – Concerns about administrative costs.

Commission discussed priorities in serving different size organizations, including the Commission's past interest in funding smaller organizations and the barriers to entry for smaller organizations. Smaller organizations have a more difficult time meeting the federal grant requirements. Staff explained that administrative costs are necessary to manage the grants.

Snipes moved, with a second by Vaitla, to approve staff recommendation as follows:

- 1) Review funding requests and make recommendations for use of 2020-21 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) and HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME) funds
- 2) Review staff funding recommendations for Proposed Reallocation of Prior Year CDBG Funding
- 3) Review 2020 Citizen Participation Plan
- 4) Review 2020-2021 Annual Action Plan and Five-Year Consolidated Plan
- 5) Provide funding and plan narrative recommendations to the City Council
- 6) Recommend submission of these funding awards and plans to the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

Motion passed by the following vote:

AYES: Ioakimedes, Kalman, Perez, Snipes, Vaitla, Valencia, Wise

NOES: None

ABSENT: Ennis

*Ioakimedes moved, with a second by Vaitla, to recommend updating the Citizen Participation Plan. The motion passed by the following vote:
AYES: Ioakimedes, Kalman, Perez, Snipes, Vaitla, Valencia, Wise
NOES: None
ABSENT: Ennis*

C. Informational Memo - Housing Element Annual Progress Report and General Plan Annual Report

Stachowicz provided an overview of the annual Housing Element Report and reminded the Commission that the City is beginning the process to update the Housing Element for 2021-2029. This update will be due to the State in May 2021.

Public Comment:

Ante Ursic: Doesn't understand admin costs or student beds.

D. Subcommittee Updates

1) Data Resources and Needs (*Perez, Snipes*)

Perez: Are there other data points that Commission should be looking at? Subcommittee looking to get feedback from commission. Snipes wants to start with health related data and broaden from there.

Vaitla: When City has to deal with large sets of information, how do they look at trade-offs? Are there metrics? Look at other cities and commissions that have metrics.

Perez and Snipes will gather data for public health.

2) Awareness and Outreach (*Ioakimedes, Ennis*)

No report. Staff will reach out to subcommittee regarding CDBG applicants

3) Housing Trust Fund (*Valencia, Kalman*)

Valencia: Looking at this related to the Housing Element. Look at silos for affordable housing needs (homelessness, rental, for sale). Access to information and resources for homelessness, for example.

Stachowicz can dust off the July 2019 Housing Trust Fund report, talk to Community Development regarding the Housing Element, and bring back to the commission. Put on July meeting.

Kalman requested a category to look at those at risk of homelessness.

4) JPAL Grant (*Ioakimedes, Vaitla, Wise*) – *Rename the Subcommittee to Research Grants.*

7. Commission and Staff Communications

A. Development Project Update

Kalman asked if DISC come back to Commission. Lee noted the presentation for DISC was unusual in that applicant said they would comply with requirements when project is built. Acknowledged that Commission didn't really have a chance to fully vet the affordable housing plan.

8. Adjourn

Valencia moved, with a second by Snipes, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 9:36 pm.