



**Social Services Commission Minutes
Monday, February 22, 2021**

Members Present: Judith Ennis, Vice Chair; Donald Kalman; Susan Perez; Kurt Snipes; Bapu Vaitla, Chair; Georgina Valencia; Matthew Wise; Rachael Fulp-Cooke (Alternate)

Council Liaison Absent: None

Staff Present: Dagoberto Fierros, Kelly Stachowicz

1. Call to Order

Chair Vaitla called meeting to order at 7pm.

2. Approval of Agenda

Vaitla moved, with a second by Perez, to approve the agenda. Motion passed by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

3. Brief Announcements from Staff, Commissioners, and Liaisons

Stachowicz noted that commissioners were notified about CDBG/HOME applications. Commissioners should ask staff if they have any questions.

Vaitla noted he will not be present at the meeting in March.

4. Public Comment

No comments

5. Consent Items

A. Approval of Minutes – January 25, 2021

Snipes noted that on pages 2-3, Chair Vaitla is referred to as Vice Chair in a few places.

Perez moved, with a second by Vaitla, to approve with changes above. Motion passed by the following vote:

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

6. Regular Items

A. Presentation: Universal Basic Income (UBI) Pilot Project –

Nolan Sullivan, Branch Director of Service Centers at Yolo County Health and Human Services, shared a presentation about the recently approved Universal Basic Income Pilot program. The goal of the program is to get families out of poverty and to provide unconditional income to support participating family's basic needs. Initially the program

targeted households in poverty with at least one child 0-2 years old but Board of Supervisors has requested that the program expand to serve families with children 0-5 years old. Sullivan stated that the program is looking for additional funding.

Public Comment

No public comment

Commission Discussion:

Various commissioners expressed their support for the UBI pilot program. Nolan Sullivan stated that the program is set to launch in July, pending funding. The pandemic has not affected other programs such as CalWORKS Housing Support. There are five families in Davis who benefit from CalWORKS HSP that could also benefit from the UBI pilot. Sullivan stated that the pandemic has not affected the enrollment of some of the programs under his purview. Discussion about program specifics ensued.

MOTION: Vaitla moved, with a second by Ennis, to recommend to City Council that Housing Trust Fund dollars be used to support program costs of the UBI pilot for families of Davis, in the amount of \$50,000 or an amount close to \$50,000, dependent on the cost to support Davis families who will be enrolled in the UBI pilot program.

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

B. 2020 Climate Action and Adaptation Plan Update –

Fierros provided an overview of the City's actions to update the Climate Action and Adaptation Plan to address greenhouse gas reduction.

Stachowicz noted there may be future tie ins to equity issues that this Commission would be interested in. The Commission had some general questions and comments about the importance of the effort. Fierros suggested he would return to the Commission approximately quarterly with a report, if essential to the commission.

Public Comment

No public comment

C. Update: Awareness and Outreach Subcommittee –

Ennis and Snipes provided an update on their outreach efforts. Three interviews have been completed so far (Rancho Yolo, Interfaith Rotating Winter Shelter and Davis Community Meals), with a goal of providing feedback to inform the commission. Providing housing at all levels has been a priority to all interviewees. There is interest in more landlords taking vouchers and a request to use Social Services Commission as forum for education. In addition, COVID has adversely affected social services organizations, volunteer efforts and adversely affected seniors in general.

Ennis and Snipes requested that the commission give input to the subcommittee in order to align with the commission's priorities.

Public Comment

No public comment

Commission Discussion:

Commissioners shared their suggestions to improve information sharing and outreach efforts with community partners and residents in Davis. It was suggested that outreach efforts could be aligned with specific goals of the commission.

D. 2021 Work Plan –

Commissioners reviewed the 2020 Work Plan and discussed the relevance of previous work plans to the 2021 Work Plan. Chair Vaitla suggested that the Commission appoint a subcommittee to work on recommendations to present at the March meeting. Commission discussed how to proceed.

Chair Vaitla moved, with a second by Wise, to create a workplan subcommittee. I

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

Subcommittee will include Ennis, Fulp-Cooke, and Snipes.

Commissioners reviewed the 2020 Workplan and addressed each of the commission goals. Commissioners showed interest in bringing closure to items that were listed in the 2020 Workplan but also adding new goals to the 2021 Workplan. Commissioners stated that it would be important to understand the vision of the City Council considering that council is the final decision-maker on all recommendations to council.

Commissioners shared the following ideas for next workplan:

- *Snipes: Homelessness (Develop overnight shelter) and promoting awareness.*
- *Wise: New goal on reimagining public safety.*
- *Valencia: Look at the legislative platform, which includes some housing related initiatives and funding. Establishing a plan for SB2 funding. Noted many discussions that the Commission has discussed in the past related to housing and the affordable housing opportunities in Davis.*
- *Fulp-Cooke: Homelessness, Affordable Housing. Restructure affordable ownership program to be transparent.*
- *Perez: Understand the social implications of the past year. Reassess where community is based on implications of the past year.*
- *Vaitla: Create a more systematic relationship with UCD researchers so that City could be a policy laboratory. How to increase the size of the Housing Trust Fund. How can we build permanent supportive housing and increase the affordable housing stock. Consider reparations.*
- *Kalman: Develop overnight shelter. Better coordination of homelessness providers.*

- *Ennis: Restructure goals document. Consider recovery from this past year for next year's goals. Increase focus on needs within individual groups within Davis.*

Further discussion ensued.

Public Comment

No public comment

Wise moved, with a second by Vaitla to continue meeting to the end.

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

7. Additional Subcommittee Updates

- A. *Affordable Housing Subcommittee (Vaitla, Valencia, Kalman) – No update*
- B. *Evidence/Research/Grants (Vaitla, Wise, Perez) – Vaitla brought up a proposal to look at the cost of homelessness in Davis and Yolo County and ways to mitigate costs.*
- C. *Joint Subcommittee on Public Health and Safety (Perez, Vaitla, Wise) – No report*

8. Commission and Staff Communications (5 minutes)

Includes upcoming meeting items, events, subcommittee reports, reports on meetings attended, inter-jurisdictional bodies, inter-commission liaisons, etc.

A. Development Projects Update – *Stachowicz shared data on affordable ownership properties in the past month and in process.*

B. Social Services Commission Long Range Calendar – *Kalman asked for clarification as to the drop in number of applications for CDBG and HOME funds.*

9. Adjourn

Wise moved, with a second by Perez, moved to adjourn meeting at 9:38 pm.

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

NOES: None

ABSENT: None
