

**MINUTES OF THE
NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE**

SAN JOSE, CALIFORNIA

THURSDAY, JUNE 10, 2021

Consistent with the California Governor's Executive Order No. N-29-20, Resolution No. 79450 from the City of San José and the Santa Clara County Health Officer's March 16, 2020 Shelter in Place Order, the City Council meeting was not physically open to the public. Public comments were accepted via eComment, email, by phone/Webinar or online.

The Committee meeting was teleconferenced from remote locations and convened at 1:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Sylvia Arenas, Chair; Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, Vice Chair; Councilmember Maya Esparza, Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, Councilmember David Cohen, Members.

ABSENT: All present.

STAFF: Deputy City Manager, Angel Rios, Jr.; Senior Deputy City Attorney Karin Murabito; Paul Pereira, Mayor's Executive Officer; City Clerk Toni Taber, and Deputy City Clerk Ruth Krantz.

(B) REVIEW OF WORK PLAN

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Magdalena Carrasco, seconded by Councilmember Maya Esparza and carried unanimously, the Work Plan was accepted.

(C) CONSENT CALENDAR

None provided.

(D) REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

1. Police Athletic League (PAL) Status Report. (Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services/Police)

Director of Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Jon Cicirelli offered an introduction, and Shannon Heimer, Division Manager for Parks Destinations, Events and Sports, presented the report.

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(D)(1) (Cont'd.)

Public Comment: Blair Beekman noted concerns regarding using Astro Turf on sports fields.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez, seconded by Councilmember Maya Esparza and carried unanimously, the verbal status report on work to assess and implement alternative operational models for PAL programming and facilities was accepted. [Deferred from May] (4-0-1. Absent: Carrasco.)

2. Report on the Better Housing Initiative Program (Successor Program for the Responsible Landlord Engagement Initiative). (Housing)

Senior Development Officer, Tascha Mattos, spoke on the pilot program model, and Bianca Madrid, Community Programs Administrator continued with an overview of the objectives. Director of Housing Jacky Morales-Ferrand provided a presentation including their vision for the community programs.

Public Comments: Blair Beekman suggested direction facilitated by city government for apartment owners.

Councilmember Sergio Jimenez suggested an exploration of City policy restrictions, such as those on rent-controlled units, and the potential for freeing up utilization of some funds, bringing these into a pilot using different a type of building/units, and exploring the feasibility of ARO units.

Deputy City Manager, Angel Rios, Jr. spoke to coordinating with and doing an assessment on other service providers, and bringing this back for further consideration so staff can look at how to position for next steps. Jaime Angulo was brought into the discussion and noted he is returning back with Catholic Charities and will follow up with their CEO.

Director of Housing Jacky Morales-Ferrand responded to questions, and noted that the information being accumulated will be used as an opportunity in creating a Housing Department systemic approach on when/where we are seeing problems in our affordable units to assure they are being addressed.

Action: Councilmember Maya Esparza moved approval of the report regarding the proposed framework and structure for the Better Housing Initiative pilot program, with staff to return to the NSE Committee by the end of the year with an update that includes the feasibility of including ARO units and a review of existing housing providers to see how we may continue our Landlord Engagement Initiative (LEI) with the City-funded provider. Councilmember Sergio Jimenez seconded the motion. (4-0-1. Absent: Carrasco.)

3. Therapeutic Programs and Services Report. (Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services)

Deputy Director Parks, Recreation and Neighborhood Services, Andrea Flores Shelton gave an introduction, and Jeremy Shoffner, Recreation Superintendent, provided a presentation and responded to questions.

(D)(3) (Cont'd.)

Public Comments: (1) Blair Beekman indicated his interest to returning to in-person meetings. (2) Kristine Sliter expressed gratitude for the support system that Grace Community Center has provided, indicating she would like to continue with Zoom programs in the future. She added that it's a 'great community center'. (3) Kieu Huynh asked if the Grace program would be appropriate for her 5-year-old who is now with San Andreas.

Jeremy Shoffner, Recreation Superintendent, responded to the caller's questions.

Action: Upon motion by Councilmember David Cohen, seconded by Councilmember Sergio Jimenez and carried unanimously, the 2020-2021 Therapeutic Programs and Services report was accepted. (3-0-2. Absent: Carrasco, Esparza.)

OPEN FORUM

Blair Beekman announced that National Night Out is coming up, which offers an opportunity for reimaging and equity. He addressed the prison military industrial complex and health and human service ideas.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember Sylvia Arenas adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

draft

Councilmember Sylvia Arenas
Neighborhood Services and Education Committee

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