



City of Santa Rosa

Communications &
Intergovernmental
Relations Office
637 First Street
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

Community Advisory Board Special Meeting Minutes - Final

Wednesday, October 30, 2024

6:00 PM

SPECIAL MEETING

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Weeks called the meeting to order at 6:05PM.

2. REMOTE PARTICIPATION UNDER AB 2449 (IF NEEDED)

NONE

3. ROLL CALL

Present: 9 - Chair Calum Weeks, Vice Chair Andrea Rodriguez, Board Member Cherie Barnett, Board Member David Chen, Board Member Ana M. Diaz, Board Member Ariana Diaz De Leon, Board Member Jude Frates, Board Member Miles Horton, and Board Member Nancy Trejo Vazquez

Absent: 2 - Board Member Jorge Inocencio, and Board Member Derek Knowles

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Duane DeWitt thanked the board for their service, and made comments regarding the inception of the CAB, the importance of public participation, and his intention to continue to participate.

Noelle Moss, representing the Children's Museum of Sonoma County, made comments regarding participation at museum events, the Unlocked Potential Capital Campaign to expand the facility, and invited members of the CAB to come for a tour.

Adina Flores thanked the City Manager and City Attorney for attending the CAB meeting, and made comments regarding conflicts of interest she believes exist with CAB members and the passing of CAB grants, her appreciation of City staff, and her hope to facilitate transparency.

Donny Gonzalez, representing Living Grace Foundation, made

comments regarding the goals and services provided by the foundation and stated that he looked forward to working with the CAB to bring positive results to Santa Rosa.

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5.1 Draft Minutes - September 18, 2024

Public Comments:
None

Approved as submitted.

6. SCHEDULED ITEMS

6.1 COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT GRANTS REVIEW

Staff will review information regarding the Community Improvement Grant eligibility criteria, application process, deadlines, and report requirements.

Provided for information.

Ana Horta, Community Engagement Manager, gave a presentation and answered Member questions.

Public Comments:

Jose Villagomez thanked the City of Santa Rosa for supporting the Celebrando Culturas Juntos, and made comments regarding the mission of the Children's Museum of Santa Rosa and its impact upon the City.

Tina Rogers made comments regarding her appreciation of the CAB, and the importance of helping and supporting children in the community.

Adina Flores made comments regarding her concerns about the remaining CAB grant funds, conflicts of interest she perceives with

the CAB member's grant approvals, her disagreement with the grant submission for the Children's Museum, and her stance against Measure I.

Duane DeWitt made comments regarding the grant amounts, the need to codify a waiting period for reapplying for a CAB grant, a previous experience when grant money was withdrawn from a project in Roseland, and suggested that grants be reserved for disadvantaged areas of the City.

Eric Fraser made suggestions to revise the confusing format of the grant applications, focused use of the grant funds to support those who are attempting to make the City better, and the establishment of a panel to direct grant funds.

6.2 MOTION - COMMUNITY ADVISORY BOARD GRANTS

The Community Advisory Board (CAB) reviews and approves the 2024 Community Improvement Grant Applications. The Board shall award grants to the applicants whose projects best meet the criteria. Grant Applications for Quarter 3 closed on September 27, 2024. The CAB received 10 applications eligible for funding, totaling \$25,000.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by the Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Department that the Community Advisory Board, by motion, determine the dispersing of Community Advisory Board Q3 2024 Grants.

Ana Horta, Community Engagement Manager, provided information and answered Member questions.

Member Chen recused from the AAPIC General Meeting & Community Gathering grant.

Public Comments:

Adina Flores expressed concerns regarding how grant funds have been used previously, and recommended that the Latino Service Providers Winter Celebration grant be removed from consideration

by the board.

Eric Fraser made comments regarding segregating out the grant applications from entities that have previously applied, and expressed concerns about the way grants are voted upon.

A motion was made by Board Member Barnett, seconded by Board Member Frates, for disapproval of the following grants:

**AAPIC General Meeting and Community Gathering
Historic Railroad Square Carriage Rides**

The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Vice Chair Rodriguez, Board Member Barnett, Board Member Diaz, Board Member Diaz De Leon, Board Member Frates, Board Member Horton, and Board Member Trejo Vazquez

No: 1 - Chair Weeks

Absent: 2 - Board Member Inocencio, and Board Member Knowles

Recused: 1 - Board Member Chen

Public Comment:

Madonna Feather recommended that the Chair refrain from expressing his personal feelings regarding the CAB's motion and voting process.

Adina Flores made comments attempting to clarify the Chair's previous statements regarding the motion and voting process.

Tina Rogers made comments regarding the Chair's fairness in allowing the members of the CAB to vote upon the CAB grants.

A motion was made by Board Member Horton, seconded by Board Member Diaz De Leon, for disapproval of the following grant:

AAPIC General Meeting and Community Gathering

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Weeks, Vice Chair Rodriguez, Board Member Barnett, Board Member Diaz, Board Member Diaz De Leon, Board Member Frates, Board Member Horton, and Board Member Trejo Vazquez

Absent: 2 - Board Member Inocencio, and Board Member Knowles

Abstain: 1 - Board Member Chen

Public Comments:

None

**A motion was made by Board Member Barnett, seconded by Board Member Frates, for disapproval of the following grant:
Historic Railroad Square Carriage Rides**

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Chair Weeks, Vice Chair Rodriguez, Board Member Barnett, Board Member Chen, Board Member Diaz, Board Member Diaz De Leon, Board Member Frates, Board Member Horton, and Board Member Trejo Vazquez

Absent: 2 - Board Member Inocencio, and Board Member Knowles

Public Comments:

None

**A motion was made by Board Member Barnett, seconded by Board Member Diaz, to approve the following grant:
Sonoma CAN Family Area.**

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Weeks, Vice Chair Rodriguez, Board Member Barnett, Board Member Chen, Board Member Diaz, Board Member Diaz De Leon, Board Member Frates, and Board Member Horton

Absent: 2 - Board Member Inocencio, and Board Member Knowles

Recused: 1 - Board Member Trejo Vazquez

Public Comment:

Eric Fraser made comments regarding the exclusion of the Greater Cherry Spring Fling grant and protested the comments made by

Member Horton.

Adina Flores made comments regarding CAB Member conflicts of interest and her opposition members of the CAB who are employed by Sonoma Clean Power having input on the Greater Cherry Spring Fling and Latino Service Providers grant requests.

Noelle Moss, representing the Children's Museum of Sonoma County, made comments regarding the use of funds for the requested Museum-on-the-Go grant would be used within the city limits.

Tina Rogers made comments commending the work of the CAB Members.

Andrew Gino, representing Prophetic Kitchen, made comments regarding the services provided to the homeless population by his organization.

Madonna Feather made comments regarding the community benefits of the South Park Soccer Club, and recommended an audit to provide information about how the CAB grants have impacted the Pomo heritage people in the area.

Member Diaz De Leon left the meeting at 8:00PM.

A motion was made by Board Member Barnett, seconded by Board Member Chen, to approve the following grants:

The Prophetic Kitchen

South Park Soccer Club

Wellness & Cultural Arts Workshop

Providing a Third Place for the Underserved Community

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Weeks, Vice Chair Rodriguez, Board Member Barnett, Board Member Chen, Board Member Diaz, Board Member Frates, Board Member Horton, and Board Member Trejo Vazquez

Absent: 3 - Board Member Diaz De Leon, Board Member Inocencio, and Board Member Knowles

Adina Flores made comments regarding her support of the Greater Cherry Spring Fling grant.

Eric Fraser made comments regarding the increased cost of permits and maintenance in the Cherry Street vicinity and the importance of the neighborhood to the City of Santa Rosa.

**A motion was made by Board Member Barnett, seconded by Board Member Diaz, to approve the following grant:
Greater Cherry Spring Fling**

The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Chair Weeks, Vice Chair Rodriguez, Board Member Barnett, Board Member Chen, Board Member Diaz, Board Member Frates, and Board Member Trejo Vazquez

No: 1 - Board Member Horton

Absent: 3 - Board Member Diaz De Leon, Board Member Inocencio, and Board Member Knowles

Public Comments:

Madonna Feather made comments regarding the benefits of approving the Museum-on-the-Go grant.

Adina Flores made comments regarding her perceived conflict of interest for CAB Members employed by Sonoma Clean Energy.

Jose Alvarez made comments regarding the inclusivity of the Children's Museum of Sonoma County.

Eric Fraser made comments regarding his support for the Children's Museum of Sonoma County.

A motion was made by Board Member Horton, seconded by Board Member

**Barnett, to approve the following grant:
Museum-on-the-Go**

The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 8 - Chair Weeks, Vice Chair Rodriguez, Board Member Barnett, Board Member Chen, Board Member Diaz, Board Member Frates, Board Member Horton, and Board Member Trejo Vazquez

Absent: 3 - Board Member Diaz De Leon, Board Member Inocencio, and Board Member Knowles

Public Comments:
None

Chair Weeks recommended continued discussion at the December 4, 2024, CAB meeting to further consider the following grants:
Greater Cherry Street Spring Fling
Latino Service Providers Winter Celebration

Public Comments:
Eric Fraser made comments regarding his appreciation of the board to consider the Greater Cherry Street Spring Fling grant, and protested the voting procedures of the CAB.

Adina Flores made comments regarding the political nature of the CAB.

**A motion was made by Board Member Barnett, seconded by Vice Chair Rodriguez, to approve the following grant:
Latino Service Providers Winter Celebration**

The motion failed by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Chair Weeks, Vice Chair Rodriguez, Board Member Barnett, Board Member Chen, Board Member Frates, Board Member Horton, and Board Member Trejo Vazquez

No: 1 - Board Member Diaz

Absent: 3 - Board Member Diaz De Leon, Board Member Inocencio, and Board Member Knowles

6.3 REPORT - CAB WORK PLAN REVIEW AND APPROVAL

BACKGROUND: In June 2024, the Community Engagement Manager, City Council, and the Community Advisory Board (CAB) began working to develop an annual work plan for the CAB. City council members met with their respective CAB appointees to increase communication and collaboration between councilmember and their CAB appointees and to discuss the creation of an annual workplan for the CAB. The work plan presented here is the result of those collaborative meetings.

RECOMMENDATION: It is recommended by the Communications and Intergovernmental Relations Department that the Community Advisory Board, by motion, approve their Annual Work Plan for year 2025, and make a recommendation to City Council, by motion, to approve it.

Chair Weeks made the recommendation to table item 6.3 until the December 4, 2024, meeting.

7. CAB ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ISSUES OF CONCERN TO CITY RESIDENTS

NONE

8. STAFF UPDATES

Ana Horta, Community Engagement Manager, provided information regarding the next regular meeting of the CAB occurring on December 4, 2024.

Public Comments:

Tina Rogers made comments regarding her appreciation of the CAB.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Member Barnett requested that the CAB discuss codifying rules for permitted frequency of CIG submissions.

Public Comments:

None

10. ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further business, Chair Weeks adjourned the meeting at

8:29PM.

Approved on:

**Steven V. Brown,
Recording Secretary**