

“To create a safe, welcoming, revitalized and accessible neighborhood that embraces its cultural history, richness and diversity, offering housing, economic opportunities and community services.”

Salinas Downtown Community Board

Board Meeting

April 3, 2013

Present: Don Reynolds, Gloria De La Rosa, Seth Pollack, Glorietta Rowland, Amit Pandya, Ruben Cortes, Kathy Young, Larry Hirahara, Gerald Cheang, Van Gresham, Eugene Bigay, Wellington Lee, Marilyn Dorman, Tom Melville,

Staff and guests: Ken Feske, Cathy Chavez-Miller, Joe Kirchofer, Dominique Cohen, Diana Alfaro, and Arvin Temka.

Excused: Gary Rayner

1. The meeting was called to order by Ruben Cortes at 4:05 p.m. All present introduced themselves.
2. **Public Comment** – none
3. **Minutes** – The March 6, 2013 minutes were approved as written, Bigay moved to approved the minutes, seconded by Young, passed.
4. **Updates:**
 - A. Executive Committee
 1. HACM was not present to make a report on the Nihomachi Village Project.
 2. Financial report – Barnes was not present so there was no financial report.
 3. 2013 Budget – The budget was presented and that was followed by discussion. Reynolds moved to approve the budget, seconded by Rowland, passed.

The Monterey Peninsula Foundation request for funding will be submitted within the next week for consideration by the foundation board in June.
5. **Old Business**
 - A. Strategic Action Team Reports
 1. Community Relations Report - The web site should be up and running with significant content by the end of April.
 2. CHAT - The next barbecue is scheduled for May 16th. The focus of the barbecue will be on connecting clients and service providers. Data collection will be a priority.
 3. ACE – The 6th Annual Asian Festival will be held at the end of the month from 11 am – 4 pm. There will be a walking tour at 2:15 beginning at the Filipino Center. The tour will end at the Old Republic Cafe. Their next meeting is scheduled on April 8th.
 4. Safety, Security and Sanitation – The Police Commander attended their last meeting. Neighborhood cameras show non-stop drug dealing which the city does not have the capacity to deal with. The portable restroom has been taken down. It can be relocated in 2 – 3 months if an organization will take this project on. The committee explored

the a walking only/pedestrian Soledad Street which they agree is not viable at this time. Drug sales are mostly to pedestrians. Their next meeting is scheduled for April 18th at which time they will discuss when the next sweep will occur. Pandya mentioned that grants can be acquired for safety purposes.

5. Mid-Peninsula Housing Potential Chinatown Project

Staff from Mid-Peninsula were on hand to discuss the potential project and to provide background information on the agency (Joe Kirchofer, Dominique Cohen, and Diana Alfaro). The agency has been around for more than 40 years. They develop and manage affordable housing. They are based up the peninsula in the bay area and have an office in Watsonville. They have completed a split site project in Castroville and are currently developing on East Garrison. They currently have 14,000 residents. They have special needs housing, which provides supportive housing for homeless and other special population groups. They provide family services including health/wellness programs, college readiness, educational and vocational programs. They also provide senior services to allow seniors to age in place, including case management, in order to maintain quality of life for this population. They have afterschool programs for K – 6th and are currently developing a teen program.

The housing project is not expected to be “wet” housing. Fifty percent of the units could be market rate. There will be a 55 year restriction for at least 50% of the units. The location concerns on Soledad Street were discussed. Statement was made that it is better to house the homeless than not to according to the AMA. The first floor would be retail space, The units would be studios, 409 square feet, 60 – 90 units. They plan on incorporating historical and cultural elements into the building design. The project will be easier to finance if there are a mix of incomes for the residents. Security on the property will include cameras.

6. CSUMB has funding for the center and the garden through June.

6. The next meeting is scheduled for May 1 at 4 pm. The agenda will include the Downtown Vibrancy Plan.
7. The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Minutes taken by Marilyn Dorman, Secretary