

“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

May 1, 2013

Present: Seth Pollack, Amit Pandya, Ruben Cortes, Elmer Dolera, Van Gresham, Eugene Bigay, Wellington Lee, Jill Allen, James Barnes, Marilyn Dorman, Tom Melville,

Staff and guests: Ken Feske, Cathy Chavez-Miller, Salvador Munoz

- I. The meeting was called to order by Ruben Cortes at 4:09 p.m. All present introduced themselves.
- II. **Public Comment** – none
- III. **Minutes** – The April 3, 2013 minutes were approved as written, Lee moved to approved the minutes, seconded by Barnes, passed.
- IV. **Updates:**
 - A. Executive Committee
 1. HACM was not present to make a report on the Nihomachi Village Project.
 2. Financial report – Barnes reported that there is approximately \$8,900 in the bank, \$4,200 of those funds are the SDCB money and the remainder are the funds of ACE.
- V. **Old Business**
 - A. Strategic Action Team Reports
 1. Community Relations Report - The web site is up but not totally finished.
 2. CHAT – They had extensive discussion on the min-Peninsula proposal. Mid-Peninsula expects the local area to get local residents into the units. Potential applicants should be readied now to meet the criteria. The next barbecue is now scheduled on June 20th. The barbecue will be used as a training ground for staff to gain outreach skills which should improve the results in working with the target population.
 3. ACE – The 6th Annual Asian Festival was well attended. There was a large group for the walk. The activity was quieter at the garden than in past years. Over \$2,000 was raised from the advertisements. It is unknown if the event broke even at this time. The Bing Kong Tong was not included in the tour as the Tong San Francisco headquarters sent people down recently to remove chairs, tables, and most of the altar since they are not pleased with the neighborhood and upkeep of the building. An application has been submitted to the Neighborhood Grant Program of the Community Foundation. Our committee made a presentation to the funding committee.
At their next meeting, May 13th, they will debrief on the Asian Festival.
 4. Safety, Security and Sanitation – There was not a sweep prior to the festival as the police see that as a public relations nightmare. There was a clean up of some of the

shopping carts. Further discussion needs to be held prior to any future sweeps. The Salinas Public Safety Committee is working on a one cent sales tax increase for police and code enforcement.

5. RAT – there was no report.
6. Oldtown Salinas Association (OSA) – They started a process to discuss homeless issues and held meetings. A task force was to have been set up. There is no funding for the homeless in the upcoming budget. OSA has restarted their meetings on the homeless and the next meeting will be on May 7 at 1:45 pm at the Californian building. Jill will represent SDCB at this meeting.
7. Other – At the Festival city staff and the council stated that Chinatown revitalization is one of five top projects for the City. SDCB should follow up with this with the council. SDCB should also attend council meetings to encourage the council to adopt two way streets in the Chinatown neighborhood as recommended by a traffic study.

Monterey County Behavioral Health is supporting the Learning Center and will continue this for the next year with assistance from Interim.

- VI. The next meeting is scheduled for June 5 at 4 pm. The agenda will include the discussion of options for sweeps. In the meantime CHAT and SSS will have a meeting to discuss best practices in working with the homeless/sweeps. The agenda will also include the Downtown Vibrancy Plan.
- VII. The meeting was adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Minutes taken by Marilyn Dorman, Secretary