

“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

June 5, 2013

Present: Elmer Dolera, Kathy Young, Larry Hirahara, Gerald Cheang, Van Gresham, Eugene Bigay, Wallace Ahtye, Wellington Lee, Tom Melville, Jill Allen, James Barnes, Marilyn Dorman

Staff and guests: Cathy Chavez-Miller, Bill Black, James Adams

- I. The meeting was called to order by Tom Melville at 4:13 p.m. All present introduced themselves.
- II. **Public Comment** – none
- III. **Minutes** – The May 1, 2013 minutes were approved as written, Barnes moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Bigay, passed.
- IV. **Updates:**
 - A. Executive Committee
 1. Financial report – Barnes reported that as of May 31 there was \$4,389.36 in the bank, \$3,538.37 of those funds are ACE’s funds and the remainder are the funds of SDCB. Dorman moved to accept the report and Hirahara seconded, passed.
 2. Potential Mid-Peninsula Town Hall Meeting – We may be asked to co-host a meeting to talk to neighborhood stakeholders on the proposed Mid-Pen project in Chinatown. The board wondered who would facilitate the meeting, who would send out the notices for the meeting, and should we do this? We have no funding to assist with an event such as this. The Buddhist Temple could be a potential venue. July was not considered to be a good month for holding this meeting. It would be better to hold the meeting between August 15 and September 15. Face to face outreach will need to be conducted prior to this meeting. Bill Black stated that neighborhood associations are beginning to be formed to discuss neighborhood issues, including development.
 3. Downtown Vibrancy Plan – We have not received this plan from the City (Don). However, we have the attention of the City Council. Our plans developed so far are a model for what the city wants to do downtown. The Vibrancy Plan includes Chinatown.
 4. The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) – The City has approved this program which includes \$200,000 for the Chinatown area for things such as purchasing 10 Soledad Street (potential new learning center), restrooms/showers, clean-up of the Chevron property.
 5. HACM was not present to make a report on the Nihomachi Village Project. Board members wondered if HACM is going to name phase 3 of the Haciendas project

Nihomachi or Haciendas III. We need to request that HACM provide information to us. Hirahara will talk to Carolina Sahagun and then talk to Tom Melville.

6. Six month committee work plans – The board agreed that it would be good for the committees to develop work plans for the remainder of the year and then for upcoming years in order to ensure goals are set and progress towards those goals can be measured. Dorman will develop a template for the committees to use.

V. Old Business

A. Strategic Action Team Reports

1. Community Relations Report – No report.
2. CHAT – The barbecue scheduled for June 20 will take the place of Dorothy's Place lunch that day. Volunteers are needed to serve. Staff on agencies will be present to engage with the homeless. Ten experienced street outreach workers will provide training to inexperienced staff on how to engage the target population.
3. ACE – ACE is expecting to hear about pending grant applications soon. ACE has received their tax exempt status and is concerned about meeting all criteria for non-profits. It was suggested a checklist be made of all necessary activities.

There has been no response from the Bing Gong Benevolent Association to W. Lee's letter. Board discussed how to approach this: research so has the authority to act, who are potential letter writers to support the return of the artifacts that were removed, ACE draft letter which can be used by potential letter writers to support our position.

4. Safety, Security and Sanitation – The committee is concerned about how to conduct quarterly neighborhood clean ups without repercussions. The port-a potty is currently on hold but is sorely needed in the neighborhood.
5. CSUMB Learning Center - there was no report.

VI. New Business

1. CSUMB request for funds – Funds have run out for the Learning Center. An arrangement was made for several donations to be made to SDCB for a total of \$4,000. The funds would come from a private person (\$1,500), the Temple (\$2,400 half for SDCB and half for CSUMB), Chinese Church (\$2,400 half for SDCB and half for CSUMB), and \$100 from SDCB. This transaction was not approved by the board or the Executive Committee. A check has been sent to CSUMB and we have received a thank you for that donation. Following lengthy discussion a motion was made to request the return of the funds which were sent without proper authorization. Moved by Barnes, seconded by Bigay, passed with 2 abstaining, 1 no vote, and the remaining votes were ayes. The board agreed fiscal procedures are needed by SDCB.

VII. The next meeting is scheduled for July 10 at 4 pm.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 p.m.

Minutes taken by Marilyn Dorman, Secretary