

“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

July 10, 2013

Board members present: Don Reynolds, Gloria de la Rosa, Glorietta Rowland, Ruben Cortes, Kathy Young, Larry Hirahara, Gerald Cheang, Van Gresham, Eugene Bigay, Wellington Lee, Tom Melville, Jill Allen, James Barnes, Marilyn Dorman

Others present: Gary Rayner, Ken Feske, James Adams, Cathy Chavez-Miller, Bill Black, Jess Tabasa, Melissa Cortes

- I. The meeting was called to order by Ruben Cortes at 4:04 p.m. All present introduced themselves.
- II. **Public Comment** – none
- III. **Minutes** – The June 5, 2013 minutes were approved as written, Hirahara moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Barnes, passed, Reynolds and Cortes abstained as they were not present at the June meeting.
- IV. **Updates:**
Executive Committee
 1. Financial report – Barnes reported that as of June 30th there was \$4,579.36 in the bank, \$3,738.37 of those funds are ACE’s funds and the remainder are the funds of SDCB. Melville moved to accept the report and Reynolds seconded, passed. Barnes reported that ACE has filed two years of tax returns with the state and the federal returns will be filed later. Draft budgets for ACE and SDCB have been drafted.
 2. Downtown Vibrancy Plan – Reynolds provided copies of the scope of services for the Vibrancy Plan, it is expected to take six months to develop. The economic development element will include a poverty reduction section. Chinatown is not currently considered part of downtown, SDCB needs to request the Council/City include Chinatown as part of the downtown area.
 3. The Capital Improvement Program (CIP) – One of these plans are adopted every year. Projects for Chinatown are included in the current plan, including acquiring property at 10 Soledad Street (there are funds available to rehabilitate the building) and the Chevron Property.

Don Reynolds convened the Chinatown Ad Hoc Committee (Craig, Lutes, De la Rosa) – they discussed homelessness and Chinatown. Volunteers were solicited to be on this committee from the SDCB Cortes, Allen, Rowland, Melville, Bigay, and Gresham volunteered. Also to be included in this committee are Simon Salinas, Mary Adams, and the Mayor.

4. Larry Hirahara called Starla Warren at HACM. HACM will be soliciting input from us after Big Week.

V. **Old Business**

Strategic Action Team Reports

1. Community Relations Report – No report. The web site is not complete.
2. CHAT – Attachments were sent to the board prior to this board meeting including their June agenda and a summary of the community needs based on input at the June barbecue. The barbecue went well. There was more engagement by service providers. The Salvation Army may want to do a similar event at their Good Samaritan Center in Sand City. CHAT is working with the City and Mid Peninsula on how to engage the local population, this will begin in mid-August. Their next meeting is scheduled for July 22 at noon. An inclement weather shelter is needed the City is willing to make a facility available if a non-profit will operate it. Who will cover the cost of insurance?
3. ACE – They are concentrating efforts on historical preservation. They have been granted \$3,500 from the Community Foundation (Neighborhood Grant), \$9,900 to develop the oral history/walking tour. They will be holding a fundraiser on Oct 25, a tri-tip meal. Their board will meet August 6th. They currently need two more board members, they are seeking people with 501.c.3 and historical preservation knowledge. and 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 statistics for May criminal activity were distributed. Crime has increased in the neighborhood. A male who was conducting a recycling business in Chinatown has been asked to do business in the neighborhood. July 25th will be a clean-up day in Chinatown.
5. CSUMB Learning Center donation – Melville discussed our concerns about this donation with Ken and Seth. We are not able to have our donation returned. The Buddhist Temple will donate \$1,200 to us but at this time the Chinese Church will not be making a donation. Melville will follow up with Louis Lee. Feske will attend the meeting at the Chinese Church this evening.

VI. **New Business**

1. Board members were asked if they would like to have a retreat by the end of the year, most agreed to this.
2. Reinstatement of our 501.c.3. Our tax returns for 2009, 2010, and 2011 have not been filed. The board discussed whether or not we should remain as a tax exempt organization. We have to pay up to \$800 to reinstate our 501.c.3 status. Melville moved, seconded by Bigay that we pay \$800 to reinstate our 501.c.3 status, 12 voted

yes, 1 no, and 1 abstained. Barnes will ask the IRS if there is an possibility that we pay less than the \$800.

3. Financial policies need to be developed – Melville and Dorman will work on those.

VII. The next meeting is scheduled for August 7 at 4 pm.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Minutes taken by Marilyn Dorman, Secretary