

“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

August 7, 2013

Board members present: Don Reynolds, Seth Pollack, Glorietta Rowland, Ruben Cortes, Larry Hirahara, Gerald Cheang, Van Gresham, Eugene Bigay, Wellington Lee, Tom Melville, Jill Allen, James Barnes, Marilyn Dorman, Ann Houle

Others present: Melissa Cortes, Cathy Chavez-Miller, Bill Black, Ken Allen

- I. The meeting was called to order at 4:07 p.m. All individuals present introduced themselves.
- II. **Public Comment** – none
- III. **Minutes** – The July 2013 minutes were corrected and approved, Barnes moved to approve the minutes, seconded by Melville, passed. Correction was in section V. Old Business, 4. Should read: A male who was conducting a recycling business in Chinatown has been asked to cease doing business in the neighborhood.
- IV. **Updates:**
Executive Committee
 1. Financial report – Barnes reported that as of July 31st there was \$5,617.73 in the bank, \$3,229.36 of those funds are SDCB’s and the remainder are the funds of ACE. We have received \$2,500 from the Chinese Church, \$1,300 of which will be passed through to CSUMB Foundation. We also received \$1,200 from the Buddhist Temple. The report was accepted. Barnes also reported that he is working on the reinstatement of our 501.c.3 status, signed articles of incorporation need to be sent to the IRS with our application, as well as, \$750. The application is due September 28th.
 2. Downtown Vibrancy Plan – Reynolds reported the City Council will be looking at the scope of services for the plan to initiate a contract with a consultant next week. The county is paying one third of the cost of this. The City and the County have not agreed upon on the boundaries of the area to be covered by the plan, currently the northern boundary are the railroad tracks. There are no vacant parcels in downtown Salinas, however, there are some in the Chinatown area which could attract private investment.

The City has \$300,000 remaining from HUD which need to be spent on infrastructure and homeless activities. These funds may be used to clean the soil on properties in Chinatown, acquire property at 10 Soledad Street, and possibly at 12 Soledad Street.
 3. SDCB Financial Policies – Melville and Dorman will provide a draft at the next meeting.
- V. **Old Business**

Strategic Action Team Reports:

1. Community Relations Report – The web site is up but it is not complete. The consultant has not been paid in full yet. We need to begin to produce newsletters again, they could possibly be sent electronically.
2. CHAT – Mid-Peninsula made a presentation to CHAT on their support services attached to their housing projects. Maricella, a CSUMB student presented her research on homeless encampments, as her Capstone Project. SDCB would also be interested in hearing this presentation as well as the Homeless Coalition. The next barbecue may be in September.

The City of Monterey is looking at regional approaches to safe parking and encampments. All jurisdictions should use a similar approach to these issues.

4. ACE – They are concerned with cataloguing historical pictures. They have received funding to design how to arrange their exhibits at the café. They will be holding a fundraiser on Oct 26th from 11 am – 1 pm. This will be a tri-tip barbecue. They are still seeking board members. An action plan will be developed on how and when to transfer the funds we are holding for ACE.
4. Safety, Security and Sanitation – Cortes distributed the June crime statistics for the neighborhood. The June 25 clean-up/sweep of the neighborhood was low key with little backlash. The police were polite and professional. Lake Alley was not cleaned up but was expected to be taken care of during the sweep, it is unknown why that did not happen. Phlush Program needs to be discussed to determine who will cover the cost of this, who will be accountable for this project, and who will supervise. The next meeting of SSS is on August 15th.

VI. New Business

1. Board retreat – Barnes will check with Sun Street on the availability of their facility on November 6th. Retreat to be held from noon to 4 p.m.
2. Salinas winter shelter – The City is considering using the old pool facility for this. If this is not ready for this coming winter another location will need to be located. An organization is still needed to run the shelter.
3. Ad Hoc Homeless Committee – They will be meeting on September 5th at 5 p.m. at City Hall.
4. November 16th is going to be a CSUMB community wide volunteer day to honor the new CSUMB President.
5. Donation of funds to CSUMB – Barnes moved, seconded by Pollack, passed to send \$1,300 to the CSUMB Corporation from funds provided to SDCB by the Chinese Church.

VII. The next meeting is scheduled for September 4th at 4 pm.

VIII. The meeting was adjourned, 5:35 pm.

Minutes taken by Marilyn Dorman, Secretary