

***“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 Regular Meeting**

February 6, 2013, 4:00 –5:30 PM

CSUMB Community Learning Center, 22 Soledad Street, Salinas

**Present:** Don Reynolds, Gloria De La Rosa, Seth Pollack, Margarita Zarraga, Julie Laurent, Cathy Gutierrez, Heath Johnson, Amit Pandya,, Ruben Cortes, Kathy Young, Deborah Silguero, Larry Hirahara, Van Gresham, Eugene Bigay, Wellington Lee, Cathy Chavez Miller, Jill Allen, Jim Barnes, Tom Melville, Gary Rayner, Marilyn Dorman, Gary Peterson, Joe Gunter, Eric Peteren, Lauren Miller, Bill Black, Ken Feske. Excused—Dave Crabill, Gerald Cheang, Louis Lee,

**I.** Meeting was called to order at 4:03 by Ruben. A quorum was present. All introduced themselves.

**II. Public Comment:** None

**III. Consent Agenda:** January 9, 2013 minutes. Amit moved, Eugene 2<sup>nd</sup> approved unanimously.

**IV. Updates**

**A. Executive Committee**

1. Update on Housing Authority Project (Nihomachi Village)—No update.
2. Nominating Committee’s Report: Nominees: Tom Melville, Co-Chair (2013-2015) and Marilyn Dorman, Secretary (2013-2015). Retained Officers: Ruben Cortes, Co-Chair (2012-2014) and Jim Barnes, Treasurer (2013-2015). Elections at March 6 meeting.
3. Financial Report. January 31, 2013 bank balances: SDCB \$,5,516.17, ACE \$3,726.11 Marilyn moved, Seth 2<sup>nd</sup> acceptance of the financial report. Passed unanimously.
4. Letter of Support for Shelter Outreach Plus Emergency Shelter Grant application. Don moved, Marilyn 2<sup>nd</sup> approval of SDCB providing a letter. Passed unanimously.

**V. Old Business**

**Strategic Action Team Reports**

1. Community Relationship Report: Tom moved, Jim 2<sup>nd</sup> that Maria del Rosario Valladares Alvarez redesign the SDCB website using the WordPress format. Maria will update the website and conduct training in Wordpress to allow SDCB members to maintain the site going forward. Cost \$2500. Passed unanimously.
2. CHAT: Several persons moved to City Hall following January 31 neighborhood “sweep”. All were respectful and appreciated by staff (Mayor Gunter’s observation). “We have not ignored issue. We are looking for answers, including other city owned property.” Mayor will meet with representatives of the group following this meeting. Not every Mayor would come down—**THANK YOU MR. MAYOR!!** There is no easy fix, there are hard/difficult outcomes—but the human response by all (especially the police and public works workers) is commendable. Police assessment of the sweep was positive—there were no arrests and no altercations. In spite of the disruption and relocations of persons everyone was civil. However, there are persons on the street who feel hurt and violated especially because no solution or alternative was presented. Tom moved, Marilyn 2<sup>nd</sup> to authorize CHAT to appeal/request City of Salinas Public Works to approve funds for procurement of two Portland Loos (\$60K FOB Portland, \$40K Shipping and Installation) and request the City of Salinas establish a Winter Shelter from November 2013-March 2014 as a pilot for providing respite from harmful weather. \$50-\$100K is estimated for these services. Motion passed unanimously.

3. 3. ACE---There are 3 Co-Chairs for the Asian Festival and the system seems to be functioning smoothly. ACE is planning on submitting a Neighborhood Opportunity Grant to the Community Foundation of Monterey County on March 1 to seek funds that would provide resources to safely archive historic and cultural items (including photos). The next meeting of ACE is February 11 @ noon @ Confucius Church.

4. Safety and Security Action Team: met January 24 and discussed “sweep” and FLUSH. January 10 sixty-eight persons met to identify how to manage public porta-potty. Since Monday January 14<sup>th</sup> the facility has operated without incident; however, it had to be emptied 3 times per week rather than the once a week planned. It shows the community is using it and it is needed plus it was being used appropriately. The porta-potty was broken into once, but no vandalized, just used. Following the sweep it has been chaotic/difficult to monitor or access as it is in the alley not on the street. This should be changed when the fence being erected on city property is completed.

5. RAT—Reconnection Action Team: No Report

## **VI. New Business**

CSUMB Learning Center will expend all its HUD funding by February 15 and is in need of money or will severely reduce its services. A Harden Foundation application for both SDCB and CSUMB was discussed. Seth moved, Gloria 2<sup>nd</sup> that a HF application be submitted for up to \$30K for continued operation of the Learning Center plus SDCB infrastructure creation. Unanimously passed. Tom moved, Eugene 2<sup>nd</sup> that SDCB submit a Monterey Peninsula Foundation grant for up to \$20K for continued operation of the Learning Center plus SDCB infrastructure creation. Unanimously passed.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS/EVENTS**

**February 14—front line social service agency workers will provide a barbecue on Soledad Street (which will be barricaded off from automobile traffic) and convene a networking/connection conversation following the barbecue.**

**March 1—8:30am-1pm, Designing Healthy Communities, Steinbeck Center with Dr. Richard Jackson.**

**April 27—Asian Festival**

## **VII. Next Meeting Date: March 6, 2013 4:00-5:30pm**

Meeting was adjourned at 5:38

Respectfully submitted,  
Ken Feske