

March 21, 2024, 2:00PM
City Council Chambers, 2nd Floor

MINUTES**Members Present:**

William Cooper [3/0], Antoinette Giles [3/0], Juan Hollingsworth [3/0], Alicia Matheson [2/1 (via Zoom)], Calvin Pham [2/1], Commissioner Tony Ortiz [1/0], and Claudia Ray [2/1 (via Zoom)]

Members Absent:

All members present except Dr. Lantz Mills, Ryan Seacrist and Sharisse Walton.

Others Present:

Recording Secretary Donna Fuller, Executive Secretary Kassi Bernard, Planner II Rosemary Culhane and Housing Initiative Manager Jessica Frye via Zoom.

1. Call to Order

Juan Hollingsworth called the meeting to order at 2:06pm. All members present except Dr. Lantz Mills, Ryan Seacrist and Sharisse Walton.

2. Consideration of the Minutes

Approval of the minutes from November 16, 2023 – Commissioner Ortiz made a motion to approve the minutes, which was seconded by Calvin Pham and unanimously approved.

3. Public Comment

Juan Hollingsworth invited comments from the public, but no member of the public was present.

4. New Business

- a. Welcome to Commissioner Tony Ortiz – Kassi Bernard introduced Commissioner Ortiz who is taking the appointed elected official spot from Commission Jim Gray and asked the board members to introduce themselves and provide a summary of their backgrounds before Commissioner Ortiz introduces himself.
- b. Housing Planning Updates – Rosemary Culhane introduced herself and advised that she will be providing the board with planning updates. Ms. Culhane explained one of her responsibilities is acting as the permitting expeditor. She further stated, her role is to try and prevent delays, work with permitting and other departments to expedite the permit process. Ms. Culhane went on to state additional incentives that are provided for affordable housing are impact fee waivers or discounts. She advised the Transportation department will give a presentation at the April AHAC meeting regarding reduced transportation impact fees. Ms. Culhane also stated the presentation will include alternative development standards for affordable housing and requirements for additional alternative development standards. She went on to say there are proposed changes to the park impact fees and Nancy Ottini will provide that information at the May or June meeting prior to implementation.
- c. Review of upcoming schedule – Kassi Bernard reviewed the year ahead schedule

and advised the next meeting is April 18, 2024, at 2pm. Ms. Bernard stated at the April 18, 2024, meeting there will be a presentation from Transportation, and she will be presenting her changes to the Local Housing Assistance Plan (LHAP). The strategies in the LHAP are updated every three years and is a requirement of the State on how SHIP dollars are spent in local municipalities. This updated plan that will cover FY's 2024-2027 is due to the State on May 2, 2024. Ms. Bernard also stated the election of Officers for the Committee will be held at the April 18, 2024, meeting.

Ms. Bernard briefly went over the remaining schedule for the year and asked if there were any questions. Antoinette Giles asked if there would be an update regarding the ADU events that occurred. Ms. Bernard responded that Paul Lewis who was unable to attend today's meeting will provide an update at a future meeting. Further discussion ensued.

Calvin Pham asked about an update regarding the vacant lot inventory and if it would be possible to have someone from the Housing Authority provide a presentation of future development plans as was provided at the City Council. Commissioner Ortiz responded and provided a brief recap of that presentation. Further discussion ensued.


Juan Hollingsworth asked if the city has hired additional staff to assist with expedited permits. Jessica Frye responded that would be the responsibility of the Economic Development department, however, they are helping with the expediting process. Further discussion ensued.

Claudia Ray asked what the city's goal regarding increasing the amount of available affordable housing to which Jessica Frye responded the city is doing several small things to help move the needle. She further explained one of the things that was done which came from AHAC was school impact fee waivers. Ms. Frye stated the waiver is doing a good job in supporting affordable housing projects. Further discussion ensued regarding the availability of affordable housing availability.

Kassi Bernard asked Commissioner Ortiz to formally introduce himself before the meeting was adjourned. Commissioner Ortiz stated his background was in law enforcement and accounting. He further stated he has been with the city for 16 years and spent 14 of those years advocating for affordable housing at the State and Federal levels. Commissioner Ortiz further stated he is an advocate for building affordable housing that anyone walking by cannot discern if it is affordable or not affordable and allows people to retain their dignity.

5. Adjourn

Juan Hollingsworth adjourned the meeting at 2:42pm.


Juan Hollingsworth (Apr 24, 2024 10:21 EDT)

Juan Hollingsworth
Chair



Donna Fuller
Recording Secretary