



City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department

Memorandum

DATE: July 1, 2007
TO: Park and Recreation Commission
FROM: Westside Community Center Advisory Committee
SUBJECT: Annual Advisory Committee Reports For Fiscal Year 2007

Committee Members

The Committee is currently comprised of Vidal Chiprez, Gloria Franco, Raquel Mendoza, Rosalina Palacios (Chairperson), Elisa Panizzon, Eriberto Torres, and Josephine Torres.

Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison

Beebe Longstreet

City Council Liaison

Helene Schneider

Appointment Process and Meeting Schedule

Community Center Advisory Committees are appointed by City Council and meet on a monthly basis. The Westside Community Center Advisory Committee meets every second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Westside Community Center, 423 W. Victoria Street. In case of no quorum being present, the Committee meets as a Committee of the Whole and conducts business subject to ratification at the next meeting.

Member Representation

Since this Committee's geographic charge encompasses a large area composed of two census tracts and outlying areas, otherwise known as the greater Westside Neighborhood, the members are selected accordingly. Of seven members, two represent census tract 10, two represent census tract 11, and three are representatives at large. The members are appointed to staggered four-year terms. The members are not required to be electors.

Committee Projects/Activities

The following were activities undertaken by the Committee for FY 2007:

- Co-sponsored the submittal of two CDBG Grant applications in conjunction with the Neighborhood Improvement Task Force.
- Advocated and supported the efforts of young people to become self sufficient through employment training and placement.
- Attended the Combined Parks and Recreation Commission, Youth Task Force and Center Advisory Committees Meeting in May.
- Worked on recommendations for proposed fees and charges.
- Worked with Recreation staff to offer public input regarding community garden management.
- Worked with neighborhood residents to resolve drug use issues in the Victoria Street neighborhood.
- Made recommendations for repairs for Center safety hazards.
- Assisted center staff in operating the Farmers Market Program.
- Actively involved in recruiting new members for Community Action Commission's Senior Nutrition Program.
- Working jointly with the other Center Advisory Committees to conduct the annual Salsa (Hot Sauce) Festival in September, 2007.

Recommendations/Concerns

The Committee continues to work toward bettering community services to low-income families and recommends that more priority be given by the Department to providing access to all its services.