



**City of Santa Barbara**  
Parks and Recreation Department

**Memorandum**

**DATE:** July 17, 2008  
**TO:** Park and Recreation Commission  
**FROM:** Westside Community Center Advisory Committee  
**SUBJECT:** **ANNUAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2008**

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**Committee Members**

The Committee is currently comprised of Vidal Chiprez, Gloria Franco, Carlos Guerrero (Chairperson), Raquel Vela Mendoza, Rosalina Palacios (Census Tract 9 vacancy being filled until successor is appointed), and Jesus Rodriguez. One Public at Large vacancy.

**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.

**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 activities were undertaken by the Committee in Fiscal Year 2008:

- 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 Center Advisory Committees Meeting on September 20, 2007.
- 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 Westside 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.
- Sponsored a Healthy Kids insurance recruitment dinner event on May 28, 2008 for low-income families.
- Holiday Turkey Give Away in November 2007. Members assisted Staff with recruitment of families for distribution of holiday turkeys to the most needy.

## **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.