

RENTAL HOUSING MEDIATION TASK FORCE
MINUTES
JUNE 7, 2012

DAVID GEBHARD PUBLIC MEETING ROOM
630 GARDEN STREET

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by Justin Dullum Chair at 5:30 p.m.

LEESA BECK	<u>E</u>	PARVANEH GIVI	<u>X</u>
DAVID BRAINARD	<u>X</u>	DAN HERLINGER	<u>X</u>
ROBERT BURKE	<u>X</u>	DAVID MCDERMOTT	<u>X</u>
CHRIS CASEBEER	<u>X</u>	SCOTT WEXLER	<u>X</u>
SILVIO DILORETO	<u>X</u>	BRUCE WOLLENBERG	<u>E</u>
MARTI FURMAN	<u>X</u>	LYNN GOEBEL	<u>X</u>
JUSTIN DULLUM	<u>X</u>		

(X = Present A =Absent E = Excused)

Officers: Chair Justin Dullum, Vice Chair Lynn Goebel, Secretary Scott Wexler
Staff Present: Andrea Bifano, Sr. Rental Housing Mediation Specialist, and Sue Gray, Community Development Administrative Services Manager.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: To approve the minutes of the May 3, 2012 meeting.

Action: Burke/Goebel 11/0/0. (Beck/Wollenberg excused). Motion carried.

4. FY 2012-2013 BUDGET UPDATE:

A. June 6, 2012 City Council meeting update and discussion: A group discussion was held regarding the favorable outcome of the June 6, 2012 City Council meeting. Discussed was a motion at the meeting made by Councilmembers Grant House and Harwood "Bendy" White to approve Fiscal Year 2013 funding for the Rental Housing Mediation Task Force and the direction to Staff to include the program as a standard line item in future budgets. The motion was passed 6 to1. Many persons in support of the program were in attendance to speak at the meeting. From the Rental Housing Mediation Task Force: Silvio DiLoreto, Justin Dullum, Robert Burke, Chris Casebeer, and David McDermott. Members of the public included: Mickey Flacks, Santa Barbara County Action Network, Emily Allen, Rental Housing Roundtable, and Jeff Bass.

Sue Gray, Community Development Administrative Services Manager attended the meeting and acknowledged the hard work of the Task Force. She clarified the outcome of the City Council meeting and the 2013 budget and stated that further fundraising efforts were not deemed necessary at this time.

B. Advocacy Subcommittee: Review of Mediators' Advocacy efforts: Acknowledgment was given to the Advocacy Subcommittee members: Robert Burke, Leesa Beck, David Brainard, Chris Casebeer, Silvio DiLoreto and Justin Dullum for their efforts and to the

Grant Writing Subcommittee: Justin Dullum, Silvio DiLoreto, Parvaneh Givi and David McDermott.

5. SEMI-ANNUAL RECRUITMENT FOR CITY ADVISORY GROUPS:

Justin Dullum, Chair shared that open recruitment for two Landlord and 1 Homeowner positions were in progress. He further provided the following interview and appointment information:

A. Interviews by the City Council: May 22, 2012 at 6:00 p.m.; June 5, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. (Estimated Time) and June 12, 2012, at 4:00 p.m. (Estimated Time).

B. Appointments: Tuesday, June 26, 2012.

6. OUTREACH:

A. Report on June 1, 2012 Housing: The Next Frontier: Strategy and Solutions. Sponsored by the Coastal Housing Coalition, held at the University of Santa Barbara California: The purpose of the conference was to join forces with a diverse group of participants to generate discussions on methods to produce more affordable housing for local workers and their families in our area. In essence, the conference's goal was to improve the housing situation on the South Coast. The conference had a great turnout and was successful.

Justin Dullum, Chair shared that findings of the California Economic Housing Study commissioned by the Coastal Housing Coalition was presented by Dr. Mark Schniepp, Director of the California Economic Forecast. The study provided demographic evidence of how deeply the housing imbalance affects the economic vitality of the entire South Coast. In addition to Dr. Schniepp's presentation, eight interactive panel discussions were held. Andrea Bifano participated in the opening panel discussion: *Key Housing Trends Panel Response and Discussion*.

B. Report on June 2, 2012 Rental Housing Mediation Task Force through Non-Profit 2nd Story Associates Fund Raiser, sponsored by Baroness Jewelers. The Calle Real Shopping Center and its merchants sponsored its first annual *Caring and Sharing Day*. More than thirty-five Calle Real Center merchants and over 40 non-profits participated in the event that paired up local non-profits with merchant sponsors. Mediators Justin Dullum, David McDermott, Chris Casebeer and Scott Wexler assisted with sales and raffle tickets as did Staff Andrea Bifano and Netza Ortiz, Rental Housing Mediation Aide II. Justin Dullum, Chair reported that Baroness Jewelers donated all jewelry sales that day totaling the amount of \$1,100.00 to the Rental Housing Mediation Task Force.

7. CASELOAD REPORT AND MEDIATION TRAINING: (1 hour training time per the Dispute Resolution Programs Act Guidelines)

A. May 2012 Statistics: Justin Dullum, Chair stated that statistical reports would be distributed through email by staff.

B. Mediation Training *Mediations/Skills*: Case Review and Skills (per the Dispute Resolution Programs Act Guidelines): One mediation and the skills utilized during the session were discussed.

The Mediators to the Face-to-Face mediation were Dan Herlinger, and David McDermott. Staff was present as well Robert Burke, Chris Casebeer, Marti Furman and David Brainard, whose roles were trainees/observers. The skills utilized included active listening, caucus and reality testing regarding the viability of the Agreement. The mediation was successful and a Binding Settlement Agreement was written and signed by the parties prior to the conclusion of the mediation session.

8. NEW BUSINESS:
No new business.
9. ANNOUNCEMENTS:
No announcements.
10. ADJOURNMENT:
The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm.