

MINUTES
VERNON HOUSING COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2020
COUNCIL CHAMBER, 4305 SANTA FE AVENUE

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Gaviña called the meeting to order at 6:08 p.m.

FLAG SALUTE

Chair Gaviña led the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Frank Gaviña, Chair
Steven Froberg, Vice Chair (via remote access – arrived at 6:25 p.m.)
Ronit Edry, Commissioner (via remote access)
Jorge Nevarez Jr., Commissioner
Marlene Ybarra, Commissioner (via remote access)
Melissa Ybarra, Commissioner

STAFF PRESENT:

Carlos Fandino, City Administrator
Dan Wall, Public Works Director (via remote access)
Lisa Pope, City Clerk
Arnold Alvarez-Glasman, Interim City Attorney (via remote access)

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

MOTION

Commissioner Melissa Ybarra moved and Commissioner Nevarez seconded a motion to approve the agenda. The question was called and the motion carried 5-1, Vice Chair Froberg absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

NEW BUSINESS

1. COVID-19 Emergency Rent Relief Options for Tenants of City Owned Housing

Recommendation:

A. Find that approval of the proposed action is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") review, because it is an administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a "project" as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378; and

B. Consider options for emergency rent relief in response to financial impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic and direct staff to proceed with a plan for rent forgiveness and/or rent repayment.

City Administrator Fandino and Public Works Director Wall presented the staff report.

City Attorney Alvarez-Glasman explained the proposed rent forgiveness.

Public Works Director Wall indicated there was \$500,000 budgeted for housing.

Dora Douglas asked if rent forgiveness could start from March 2020.

City Clerk Pope read the comments submitted by Bill Davis and Leticia Lopez.

The Commission discussed options for rent forgiveness and concurred that total forgiveness was untenable.

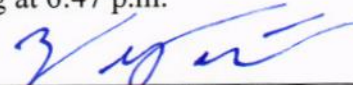
MOTION

Commissioner Marlene Ybarra moved and Commissioner Nevarez seconded a motion to:


A. Find that approval of the proposed action is exempt from California Environmental Quality Act ("CEQA") review, because it is an administrative activity that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment, and therefore does not constitute a "project" as defined by CEQA Guidelines section 15378; and B. Directed staff to proceed with implementation of the Vernon Housing Commission Temporary Rent Repayment Procedures for Existing Tenants Experiencing Hardship due to COVID-19 Emergency. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, Chair Gaviña adjourned the meeting at 6:47 p.m.


FRANK GAVIÑA, Chair

ATTEST:


LISA POPE, City Clerk
(seal)