

East Richmond Heights Municipal Advisory Council October 16, 2024 MINUTES

PROPOSED

Hybrid Meeting

Recording on Supervisor Gioia’s YouTube channel: None posted.

MAC PRESENT: Members: Chair: Jon Sargent, Vice Chair: Victoria Curtis, Jinwei Zhang, Joann Pavlinec, Pam deWitt, Alternates: Bara Sapir, Royer Ruiz-Ramirez

MAC ABSENT: None

9 other persons attended in person and ____ attended via Zoom.

Topic	Presenter	Notes/Actions
	Sargent	Meeting called to order at 6:37 pm.
Minutes to approve	Sargent	Pavlinec moved, Sapir seconded approval of August 21, 2024 minutes. Passed unanimously.
Treasurer’s Report	Mills	\$2300 in Treasury, pending a few items from past Festival.
CA Highway Patrol	Sargent	No CHP officer present.
Contra Costa County Animal Services	Ben Winkelblack, Director	<p>Director Winkelback, a Certified Animal Administrator, has been on the job for 5 months and gave his report in person.</p> <p>Basic facts about the department:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● serving 7,000 animal/year ● Average stay is 20 days. ● Animals must be spayed/neutered to be able to adopt (state law) ● Measure X funding will fund 2700 spay/neuter services in the next three years. ● Animal Benefit Fund will fund 544 spay/neuter this year as well as community outreach. ● July 5 is the busiest day ● 3, 998 licenses in June, a 54% increase. <p>Animal Services challenges are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Down 5 field services officers. ● Increasing animal intake. ● Shelter is beyond capacity every day. ● Medical costs went up 40%. ● Veterinary costs have increased 100%. ● Increased needs in community

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Usually responding to 300 “holdover calls.” <p>Animal Services is addressing these challenges by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adding staff (see below.) ● Focusing on “pathway planning:” weekly meetings with partners to coordinate care of animals most in need. ● Rolling out barcode scanning to collect health data. ● Adding sound-deadening in the cat area. ● Planning to house dogs differently. ● Opening some of the kennels. ● Making a renewed focus on animal licensing, to meet rabies requirements. 37% return to home rate. Goal is 100%. ● Reopening “adoption galleries” in the back. ● A vet behaviorist has toured and made facility suggestions, i.e. different kinds of beds for dogs; different ways to feed dogs; new ways to lower stress in animals. ● There is a cat foster program. ● Possibly starting a “Barn Cat” program. <p>Staffing changes being made are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 2 new officers have completed training and 4 more are in the training process. ● Chief of Shelter medicine is an open position and the Department has begun to recruit for. ● A dog foster program person has just been hired. ● No dedicated staff right now, for youth programs. (Some partners do “humane education.”) ● Hiring an additional medical technician. <p>Upcoming events include a microchip support event. In answer to audience questions he assured us: strays are not put in play groups; no, there is no longer a facility near Sugar City; he wants partners [i.e. Jelly’s] to succeed.</p>
Regional History Presentation	Cappelletti	Due to technical difficulties the presentation on the ODUMC stained glass windows is postponed to the next meeting.
Discussion Items		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Curtis moved, Sapir seconded: “The ERHMAC increase the amount paid for taking its meeting minutes to \$125/meeting retroactive to the September minutes.” Approved unanimously.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pavlinec moved, Ramirez seconded: “The ERHMAC will cancel its December ERMAC meeting.” Approved unanimously.
Land Use Committee		No new proposals this last month.
Agenda Items/Speakers for Upcoming ERMAC meetings		<p>Sapir: Reminder to get PGE to speak.</p> <p>JinWei: Let’s make our banner</p> <p>Sapir: “We need to make the MAC sexier,” and spread the word by reaching out to PTSA’s, Houses of Worship, Schools.</p>
Adjournment		Sargent moved, Sapir seconded: Adjournment. Passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.