



Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission



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ADOPTED MINUTES
SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY FACILITY COMMISSION
Community Programs Advisory Committee
September 11, 2023
12:00 noon to 2:00 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Land Acknowledgement: 12:18 p.m.

2. Roll Call:

Present: Posey, Tran, ONeal, Wade-Thompson
Excused: Mezie, Summers

3. General Public Comment: None.

4. Adoption of Minutes – April 10, 2023.

Moved: Wade-Thompson Second: Tran
Ayes: Posey, Tran, ONeal, Wade-Thompson

Public Comment: None

5. SECC Outdoor Activation Design (Update & Discussion) (Berry)

(Larry Berry, SECC Deputy Director)

Mr. Berry provided an update on the Community Marketplace Design that staff will be creating in conjunction with the Department of Public Works over the next few months. A community planning session will take place on September 26 and Commissioners are encouraged along with community members to participate. In 2020 after completing a survey staff learned a community marketplace was the idea the community was most in favor of. Until we receive a real timeline on the development of an education building for the community, we will create something useful on the open parcel.

The goals are:

- 1) Activate and program the outdoor area at Newhall and Evans
2) Provide space for markets and other business activations
3) Provide outdoor space for local community groups
4) Provide features that support health and wellness
5) Provide features that support environmental education
6) Provide a place for community gathering

Mr. Berry provided data from the 2020 survey showing the interests of the community and he reported the team is in the program phase and thinking about design concepts.

Posterboards will be available in the lobby over the next few weeks and will be presented at the September 26 meeting. Community members will be asked to vote on what the most important categories are to them as well as responding to a new survey that will be translated into 4 languages.

London N. Breed
Mayor

Emily Pharr
Executive Director

Susan Murphy
Chair

Dr. Gina Fromer
Vice-Chair

Karen Chung
Commissioner

Chika Mezie
Commissioner

Damien Posey
Commissioner

Amerika Sanchez
Commissioner

Marlene Tran
Commissioner



Mr. Berry reported design concepts were gathered from West Oakland Farm Park in Oakland California, Parque Lineal La Presidenta in Medellin Columbia, and Stoneview Nature Center in Culver City California.

There are 3 options being considered for design and the community is being asked to weigh-in with their top two choices. The options are:

Option #1 – Flexible Pavilion Space

Option #2 – Outdoor Room/Wind Screens

Option #3 – Open Flexible Space with Outdoor Lighting

Mr. Berry said the design boards will be available inside the lobby this week and Commissioners and committee members can participate in the online survey or in person. The Department of Public Works landscape architects along with the SFPUC environmental justice team will be available to answer questions.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners and Community Committee Members:

Community Member Ms. Wade-Thompson noted the last survey had been done in 2020 which was a while ago. She asked if the lighting would be provided by solar energy? She noted the three communities referenced for design choices were warm area climates and she asked if the designs chosen would take into consideration San Francisco weather which can be windy throughout the day?

- Staff responded the survey information was older however community assessments are not normally done annually so the team is looking forward to community participation and support. Regarding the lighting it will be tied into the existing grid which is currently a hybrid of regular power and solar panels on top of the Center. It was noted the West Oakland event space was closest to the San Francisco climate.

Commissioner Tran expressed her agreement with the comments of Ms. Wade-Thompson and added she would like to make sure the pathways are well lit for night events, and she also expressed interest in large electronic signage so individuals riding or walking by would know about events taking place inside.

- Staff said the design team is working on outdoor signage and activating digital signage indoors.

Commissioner Posey said staff is doing a great job and asked who would be running the market?

- Staff advised a series of partnerships would ensure the smooth running of the outdoor space. People can gather and meet to exercise with various nonprofit organizations like the one that we have for the Farmers Market. It was noted that managing additional programs might overwhelm the current staff and the intention is to ensure the community feels ownership of the additional programs.

Community Member Tandia ONeal asked what lessons had been learned from the Farmers Market?

- Staff said they learned the wind was a huge factor and at the suggestion of the Fire Marshall vendors cooking with open flames were moved. Several of the vendors who sell fresh produce need direct access to their vehicles because as they're selling their produce, they may need to pull out more on a more frequent basis. Staff reported there will also be consideration given to have additional vehicle and pedestrian gates that will allow vendors to enter and exit the market without congestion. Currently there is congestion because if the gates are closed the only access is on Third Street and Evans. This will allow individuals to access the Market without having to walk round the entire block.

Community Member Ms. Wade-Thompson asked how youth participation was envisioned?

- Staff responded it would be great to have the youth participate in the survey but more importantly they should attend the September 26 meeting here at the Center from 5:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Commissioner Posey noted that he would have young people from his organization attend.

Public Comment: None.

6. Directors Report:(Pharr)

Emily Pharr, Executive Director

Executive Director Pharr reported we are in budget season and proposals are being prepared to ensure adequate funding is available for future programming and operations. The funding will support the event series, Farmers Market, and other Center activities. We are continuing our hiring process and we are looking forward to Resident Partner reports at the end of the month which will advise of us the collective impact of the Resident Partners.

Deputy Director Berry added the events previously approved by the Commission are in the process of being developed. One organization Mission Bid is working with Civic Edge Consulting through the Controllers Office. They will be hosting technology focused workshops and people are able to participate by signing up through our reservation system. We are also participating in a mini-grants program along with the Office of Workforce Development and the Dream Keepers Initiative. A review committee has been formed and they will work with En2Action to administer community grants to individuals and organizations that want to do community events. More details will be provided soon. Lastly, the Access Program has launched, and community members can check out laptops while they are onsite. This allows them to participate in digital literacy courses.

Executive Director Pharr said there are 9922 positions available for the Community Benefits Team and some of the positions will be assigned to the Center. The positions are open to individuals with at least 60 college units. They should apply on the City Website, and it would be great if individuals from this district applied. This is a great opportunity for individuals that are interested in city employment. The Director invited Commissioner Tran to provide the names of organizations that might benefit from the information.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners and Community Committee Members:
None.

Public Comment: None.

7. New Committee Business: None.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners and Community Committee Members:
None

Public Comment: None.

8. Announcements: (discussion)

Community Member Ms. Wade-Thompson announced the following events:

Monday, September 11 - Historical Black College University Fair, 4 p.m. to 7 p.m., Mission High School

Friday, September 29 - Holland & Knight, Literacy Fair, 2 p.m. to 5 p.m., Bayview Opera House on September 29th, from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Friday, October 27 – Black Student Union Summit, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Milton Marks Conference Center

Ms. Wade-Thompson congratulated Executive Director Pharr on her Citizens of Distinction Award presented by Uniti Resources Inc.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners and Community Committee Members:
None.

Public Comment: None.

9. Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 12:56 p.m.

The next meeting of the Community Programs Advisory Committee is scheduled for October 16, 2023.

Assigned Commissioners: Damien Posey/ Dr. Gina Fromer/ Marlene Tran

Community Members: Joy Ceniza/ Tandia O’Neal/ Emily Wade-Thompson/ Kathryn Summers