

**HUMAN AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
April 15, 2009**

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Coachella Valley Association of Governments' (CVAG) Human and Community Resources Committee (HCRC) meeting was called to order on Wednesday, March 18, 2009 at 12:10 p.m. by Chairwoman Jean Benson, at CVAG offices, 73-710 Fred Waring Drive, Conference Room 119, Palm Desert, California.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilmember Paul Marchand from the City of Cathedral City led the pledge.

3. ROLL CALL

A roll call was conducted and it was determined that a quorum was present.

MEMBERS PRESENT

AGENCY

Councilmember Jean Benson (<i>Chair</i>)	City of Palm Desert
Councilmember Paul Marchand	City of Cathedral City
Councilmember Emmanuel Martinez	City of Coachella
Councilmember Russell Betts	City of Desert Hot Springs
Councilmember Patrick Mullany	City of Indian Wells
Councilmember Kristy Franklin	City of La Quinta
Councilmember Ginny Foat	City of Palm Springs
Councilmember Alan Seman	City of Rancho Mirage
Leticia DeLara, Legislative Assistant	County of Riverside

MEMBER JURISDICTIONS ABSENT

City of Indio

MEMBER SEATS VACANT - NOT COUNTED FOR QUORUM

City of Blythe
Agua Caliente Band of Cahuilla Indians
Cabazon Band of Mission Indians
Torres Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

OTHERS PRESENT

Richard Savich, Executive Director
Jeff McLaughlin, Project Director
Craig Redelsperger, Director

AGENCY

UCR - Palm Desert
UCR – CSSD
211 Riverside County

CVAG STAFF PRESENT

Aurora Wilson, Director of Community Resources
Amanda Keil, Management Analyst
Jacob Alvarez, Management Analyst
Larry Parrish, Interim Executive Director
Patty Nevins, Interim Program Assistant

4. **FINALIZATION OF AGENDA AND ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS** – None.

5. **PUBLIC COMMENTS** - None.

6. **HUMAN AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS COMMENTS**

Councilmember Emmanuel Martinez from the City of Coachella indicated that depending on the length of the meeting he might need to leave early.

Aurora Wilson announced that Program Assistant Valarie Franklin is on leave and introduced interim assistant Patty Nevins.

7. **CORRESPONDENCE** - None.

8. **MEETING MINUTES**

It was noted that the Human and Community Resources Committee meeting minutes of March 18, 2009 will be presented next month.

9. **9a. DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITTEE GOALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009/2010 (Formerly Item 13)**

Chairwoman Benson stated that Agenda item #13 was being moved up to #9a for scheduling reasons. Aurora Wilson reviewed the goals as discussed at the March Human and Community Resources Committee meeting:

Goal #1: Serve as a conduit for information related to all health and social service needs as well as issues associated with the current economic crisis, e.g. foreclosure assistance and unemployment rates, and take positive action as deemed necessary.

Goal #2: Riverside County ranks 58 out of 58 California counties for lack of child care spaces. As a result of correspondence from the HCR Committee to the Board of Supervisors two years ago, the County has amended its General Plan to recognize and add child care as an element. The HCR Committee shall serve as a conduit for information associated with child care and take positive action as deemed necessary.

The Committee also recommended that the following items previously listed as goals be assigned as standing committee agenda items: Coachella Valley Health Collaborative Update, Workforce Housing Trust update, and Homelessness Committee update.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER PAUL MARCHAND, CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER GINNY FOAT, CITY OF PALM SPRINGS THAT THE HUMAN AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE APPROVE THE DRAFT GOALS 1 AND 2 AS PRESENTED, AMENDING GOAL #1 TO INDICATE THAT THE COMMITTEE SERVES AS A CONDUIT FOR DISSEMINATION OF INFORMATION, AND ADDITION OF STANDING AGENDA ITEM UPDATES (COACHELLA VALLEY HEALTH COLLABORATIVE, WORKFORCE HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS COMMITTEE) FOR THE COMMITTEE AND FOR INCLUSION IN CVAG'S BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009-10. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9b. EXECUTIVE EDUCATION PROGRAMS AT UCR-PALM DESERT

Aurora Wilson introduced Dr. Dick Savich, Interim Executive Director of the Masters of Business Administration (MBA) program at the UCR Palm Desert Graduate Center campus. He reviewed the program, which enables professionals to complete their MBA within 22 months and would include alternate Friday-Saturday weekends. Dr. Savich also advised that the Center is capable of creating custom non-degree educational programs for businesses or other organizations.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER PATRICK MULLANY, CITY OF INDIAN WELLS, AND SECONDED BY GINNY FOATS, CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE UCR EXECUTIVE MBA PROGRAM BE PRESENTED TO CVAG'S TECHNICAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10. SB 39 – GOOD SAMARITAN PROTECTION ACT

Aurora Wilson stated that Senator Benoit's office requested that this item be pulled from the agenda. Action was no longer necessary as Senator Benoit was now a principal co-author of AB83 which recently passed the Assembly.

11. SCHOOLS BY DESIGN

Jacob Alvarez introduced Jeff McLaughlin with the UC Riverside Center for Sustainable Suburban Development to present the project. Mr. McLaughlin reviewed the Schools by Design project, which was founded to address problems associated with siting of new schools: residents no longer want schools near their homes, and students no longer walk to school. He stated that data has been collected on pedestrian habits and traffic patterns to help with setting up Safe Routes to School. Future plans involve the creation of partnerships between schools, cities, and interested community members to discuss issues. Meeting will be set up on a structured basis – monthly or quarterly - to include school and city representatives, transit agencies, tribal governments, and others, to work on walkable school and safe routes issues. Parents and students and other community involvement will be included in discussions. A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) has been drafted in order to continue work on this project.

Councilmember Alan Seman from the City of Rancho Mirage stated that the cities have no control over where the schools are built. Mr. McLaughlin stated that getting schools, cities, and parents talking together could lead to alleviating problems associated with site selection. Councilmember Ginny Foat from the City of Palm Springs stated that the school boards need to sign on to this process first; Councilmember Russell Betts from the City of Desert Hot Springs concurred, citing recent school issues. Councilmember Foat stated that she endorses the concept but would not be comfortable voting for the MOU with the commitments listed with no way to implement it.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER GINNY FOAT, CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PATRICK MULLANY, CITY OF INDIAN WELLS, THAT THE COMMITTEE ENDORSE THE CONCEPT OF SCHOOLS BY DESIGN AND SEND THAT ENDORSEMENT TO THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE WITH THE CAVEAT THAT THE MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IS NOT ENDORSED UNTIL THE SCHOOL BOARDS ENDORSE IT. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Councilmember Martinez, City of Coachella, was excused to leave.

12. COACHELLA VALLEY REGIONAL HOUSING TRUST UPDATE

Amanda Keil stated that the Blue Ribbon Committee has completed drafting the articles of incorporation and bylaws for the housing trust, which have been approved by the executive committee. They will be sent to the state, and the trust should be incorporated by June. The next step is making recommendations for the board of directors; recommendations will come back to this committee for approval on May 20th and subsequently go to the Executive Committee for final approval. The Board of Directors is expected to be in place by June as originally scheduled. At their first meeting, the Board of Directors will approve the bylaws and the Trust will pursue nonprofit status which will enable them to look for private funding, and will choose officers. A staffing budget is being prepared so that staff will be working as soon as possible. The Workforce Housing Summit has been scheduled for September 30th, at which time there

will be a formal handoff from under CVAG's umbrella to being a completely independent nonprofit agency.

13. DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITTEE GOALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009/2010

Discussed as Item 9a, above.

14. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the HCR Committee will be Wednesday May 20, 2009 at 12:00 noon.

15. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Patty Nevins, Interim Program Assistant
Department of Community Resources (DCR)
COACHELLA VALLEY ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS
CVAG MEETING AGENDAS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE INTERNET AT: WWW.CVAG.ORG