

**HUMAN AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF THE MEETING
March 18, 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 12:02 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 Alan Seman, City of Rancho Mirage, 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 Lupe Ramos Watson	City of Indio
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 - None

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

AGENCY

Janet Moore, Housing Director	City of Palm Desert
Margaret Park, Director of Planning	ACBCI
Donna Craig, Chief Program Officer	Desert Healthcare District
Gary Jeandron	CVHC

CVAG STAFF PRESENT

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

4. FINALIZATION OF AGENDA AND ADDITIONS AND REVISIONS

Aurora Wilson stated that a request had been received from Supervisor Wilson's office to add an item to the agenda relative to relocation of tenants at Thermal Mobile Home Park. She noted that the item was added prior to the 72 hour Brown Act requirement and was assigned as agenda item 8b.

Councilmember Lupe Ramos Watson from the City of Indio stated that she had a financial conflict of interest relative to this item and will leave the building when this item is considered and requested that it be moved to #12 on the agenda. The Committee agreed to move the item to agenda item #12.

Councilmember Ramos Watson stated that she had received a letter from the Judicial Council of California, Administrative Office of the Courts requesting partnership assistance from the City of Indio for a juvenile courthouse.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS - None.

Amanda Keil noted the March 25th opening of the Olive Crest residential center for abused children.

6. HUMAN AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEMBERS AND DIRECTORS COMMENTS - None.

7. CORRESPONDENCE - None.

8. MEETING MINUTES

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER PAUL MARCHAND AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PATRICK MULLANY, TO APPROVE THE HUMAN AND COMMUNITY RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 21, 2009. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

9. **COACHELLA VALLEY HEALTH COLLABORATIVE (CVHC) UPDATE**

Gary Jeandron, Coordinator of the Coachella Valley Health Collaborative, reviewed the status of the Collaborative from the time that it was created by the HCR Committee in 2004. The group's focus is to provide a forum for individuals, agencies, and organizations to improve health and well being in eastern Riverside County, by providing a framework for collaboration amongst individuals and groups. He stated that in 2006 the group determined that there was no place to obtain needed data to support positions and compare improvements from year to year, and the nonprofit Health Assessment Resource Center (HARC) was formed for this purpose. The CVHC is now working on identifying related nonprofits and creating a database to promote efficient collaboration and elimination of duplicative efforts by nonprofits and public agencies. A recent CVHC workshop on federal grant writing was attended by eight nonprofits that were also given access to Cal State San Bernardino's grant database.

10. **COACHELLA VALLEY REGIONAL HOUSING TRUST UPDATE**

Amanda Keil stated that the Workforce Housing Blue Ribbon Committee (BRC) has met three times; by-laws and articles of incorporation have been created and approved by the Executive Committee and an attorney with the BRC is working on the required filings. The BRC looked into the Neighborhood Stabilization program but decided that their focus should remain on creating the Trust and they are now working on the Board of Directors. The 2009 Workforce Housing Summit is being planned for September and based on previous feedback will be shortened to three hours. Ms. Keil also noted that only Cathedral City and La Quinta have not appointed representatives to the BRC.

Ginny Foat, Councilmember, City of Palm Springs, voiced concern that current opportunities for obtaining workforce housing (e.g. foreclosures) are not being pursued. Aurora Wilson noted that the Trust must first be formed, which is what is being done now. Lupe Ramos Watson, Councilmember, City of Indio, stated that the BIA is already working with a group that is looking at monies available for this purpose. Aurora Wilson added that CVAG has requested \$5 million in stimulus startup funds for the Housing Trust.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER PAUL MARCHAND, CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY, AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUPE WATSON, CITY OF INDIO, TO RECEIVE AND FILE THE MEETING MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 9, 2009 BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE MEETING. MOTON CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

11. **DEVELOPMENT OF COMMITTEE GOALS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2009/2010**

Aurora Wilson presented current goals and areas previously addressed and requested input on new or alternate goals. In consideration of new goals, Mrs. Wilson introduced Donna Craig from Desert Healthcare District to discuss their initiatives. Ms. Craig reported that Desert Healthcare District is in the process of reviewing their strategic plan and changing priorities in healthcare and discussed current topics of interest and issues

in the Coachella Valley, including food insecurity and links to health problems. She added that District staff has been directed to explore partnerships with Coachella Valley agencies currently involved in food assistance for collaboration and make recommendations for an ongoing food assistance program. One possibility is CVAG's involvement as an overall coordinator for valley-wide efforts. Jacob Alvarez also reviewed the Schools by Design project for consideration of inclusion in HCRC goals, and Aurora Wilson stated that previous childcare efforts could be considered.

Current Committee Goals:

Goal #1	Serve as a conduit for information relative to all health and social service needs of the residents of the Coachella Valley; and take action, as deemed necessary, to help address those needs.
Goal #2	Research affordable and low income housing programs and take action, as necessary. Monitor/investigate housing inventory issues due to current housing market and financial condition. Discuss impacts to families and communities.
Goal #3	Continue Coachella Valley Health Collaborative updates and child care reports on meeting agendas and take action, as necessary.

Councilmember Ramos Watson agreed with making childcare a priority, possibly its own goal. She suggested that language related to the current economic crisis be inserted into Goal #1, and that relative to Goal #3, the two projects that have spun off – the Coachella Valley Health Collaborative and the Workforce Housing Trust - become standing agenda items so that the Committee can be kept updated on a regular basis.

12. AGENDA ADDITION – LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR RELOCATION OF TENANTS AT DURO MOBILE HOME PARK TO MOUNTAIN VIEW ESTATES MOBILE HOME PROJECT IN OASIS

Councilmember Ramos Watson excused herself from this item due to a conflict of interest and left the room.

The following modifications to the letter were recommended: in the third paragraph, the total population of the Coachella Valley be included; reword the first sentence to add a semi-colon after Rancho Mirage and reorganize remaining members to state “the CVAG jurisdictional area also includes the City of Blythe, the three sovereign Indian nations, and unincorporated areas of Riverside County”; move the second sentence of the fourth paragraph (“*The Committee is becoming increasingly concerned...*”) to the first paragraph after lead sentence; append the first sentence of paragraph four to the end of paragraph one; add wording to the last paragraph (“families are living in extremely unsafe conditions”); salutation is incomplete; add list of committee members.

Councilmember Marchand from the City of Cathedral City asked for clarification of the purpose of the letter. He suggested that the pending actions related to this situation be specified and emphasized.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER GINNY FOAT, CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER PAUL MARCHAND, CITY OF CATHEDRAL CITY, TO SEND THE LETTER OF SUPPORT AS AMENDED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting of the HCR Committee will be Wednesday April 15, 2009 at 12:00 noon

14. ADJOURNMENT

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