

CITY OF COMMERCE
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMISSION
MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD MARCH 14, 2019, 6:30 P.M.
City Council Chambers

Call to Order

Vice-Chairperson Viesca called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m.

Flag Salute and Invocation

Vice-Chairperson Viesca led the flag salute and invocation.

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Acosta, Viesca, Equihua Jr., Baker (arrived 6:48p)

Commissioners Not Present: Gonzalez

Staff Present: Acting Liaison Vivero, Clerk Meneses

Staff Not Present: Liaison Shumway

Public Comment

Moved to beginning of Item #2

SCHEDULED MATTERS

1. Approval of Minutes

Vice-Chairperson Viesca motioned to approve minutes of the meeting held February 13, 2018. Commissioner Acosta seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Yays: Acosta, Viesca, Equihua Jr. Nays: None. Not Present: Gonzalez, Baker

Item #2 moved to later in meeting when Commissioner Baker arrives (Commissioner Acosta recusing herself)

3. Discussion on Creating a Strategic Plan For the Homeless Who are Displaced Following Enforcement Operations

Ralph Vivero stated that Sheriffs are enforcing the City's No Overnight Parking Ordinance. RV's are towed if they have DMV violations or are leaking sewage waste or pose health hazards. City staff and other agencies provide resources and temporary shelter to displaced persons. Many times help is refused. Staff will assess the # of homeless persons in the City and will keep a list of persons contacted and services offered.

The Commission agreed a long term solution is needed to transition people back into society. *It was decided to continue this discussion and staff will provide # of*

homeless persons in the City, HYC Agency services, and current County initiatives.

Public Comment

*Commissioner Acosta was advised not to participate in the discussion for Item #2, since she lives near the affected area.

Against staff's advisement, Commissioner Yolie Acosta stepped down as a Commissioner and made a public comment about Item #2.

She stated residents had requested a stop sign be placed elsewhere. The new sign on Gaspar is less than 1 block from Gerhart Ave. and creates these problems: Big rigs don't have enough room to stop; traffic is worse, cars are not stopping. She asked that Commissioners address this as a public safety issue.

2. **Traffic Report on Issues Following the Installation of Stop Signs at Ferguson Drive and Gaspar**

Engineer Seung Yang shared a Traffic Commission report dated 6-13-18. Staff and the Traffic Commission recommended placing the sign elsewhere. Council disagreed and voted to place the sign at Ferguson/Gaspar.

After a discussion, the Commission decided to discontinue discussion, unless future safety issues occur. During the discussion, Commissioner Acosta interjected comments & answered questions, despite staff's continuous reminders to recuse herself.

4. **Staff Reports**

Acting Liaison Vivero reported the following:

- **CSA Recruitment** – City is hiring CSA's. CSO's have been covering at empty crossing posts, creating delays in CSO response to service requests.
- **Spring Clean Up** – In collaboration with Parks & Rec, event will be held on 4/13, from 8a-12p.

5. **Commission Reports**

Commissioner Acosta reported/stated:

- Requested an update on the Athens picking up trash before 8am
- Requested a status on roosters issue at 5838 Ferguson Dr.
- Moyra Garcia reached out to her regarding the Military Banners
- Gave Commissioners a copy of letters dated 11/16/17 & 6/27/18, from Council to Wes Lujan @ UP Railroad, regarding the Ferguson sound wall.

Commissioner Equihua, Jr. reported/stated:

- Observed tents and ground drilling at a house on McDonnell

Commissioner Baker reported/stated:

- Kids were seen playing at dumpsters where contaminated dirt is thrown. CSO's should warn kids.
- Has heard complaints about Stevens patrons parking on side streets; *asked for this issue to be added to next agenda.*
- Break-ins occurred in Washington/Atlantic area. CSO's should visit businesses to show a presence.
- Asked if CSO's were approved for late night hours.

Vice-Chairperson Viesca reported/stated:

- Asked for number of CSO's. (11 CSO's, 1 CSS)

Adjournment

8:04 p.m., Vice-Chairperson Viesca adjourned the meeting.