

City of Visalia
Citizens Advisory Committee
Wednesday, February 1, 2017
City Hall Council Chambers
707 W. Acequia St., Visalia, Ca

Regular Meeting Minutes

- 1. Call to Order and Welcome:** by Chair Kristi Bruce at 5:00 PM
Members Present: Chair, Kristi Bruce; Vice Chair Norbert Duarte; Secretary Jim Burr; Members Mary Beatie, Joe Eiben, Tom Gordon, Joel Rosales, Don Wright, Perry Montgomery, John Gonzalez, Suzanne Monroe and David Winters.
Members Absent: Debbie Bowen
Alternates Present: Chris Telfer and Mike Lane
Liaison & Staff Present: Eric Frost, Deputy City Manager; Mario Cifuentez, Airport & Animal Shelter Manager; Ivy Ruiz, Shelter Manager. Also, Dr Nanette Kuswa DVM and other members of the Community Cat Coalition.
- 2. Public Comment:** Bill Whuott, North Visalia advocate, provided update on North Visalia issues including the homeless, youth in the area, city parks cleanup and made request for a City Councilmember visit to the area.
- 3. Approval of Minutes:** Chair referred to Eric Frost to explain issue with the Jan. 4, 2017 meeting status and meeting minutes. Due to a software error, the meeting was not properly posted and cannot serve as a legal Regular Meeting. Minutes will be referred to as Meeting “Notes” and all actions taken will be readdressed. Motion made and seconded to recognize Jan 4th meeting report as ‘Notes’, not Minutes, and passed unanimously.
- 4. Interview of Potential CAC Candidate:** The chair Kristi introduced Brian Poochigian, CAC Alternate candidate and briefly explained CAC’s purpose and activities. Brian then discussed his background, education and preferred avenues of volunteer service to Visalia followed by Q & A. After discussion, Jim Burr moved to recommend Brian Poochigian to City Council as Alternate member. Motion seconded and passed with one descending vote.
- 5. Select Candidates for CAC Voting Member and Alternate Positions:** Eric Frost explained unexpected delays in approving two alternate members, and delays in Voting Member vacancies caused by processing two mid-term vacancies. He explained (1) the appeal time relating to members creating unscheduled vacancies and that time has lapsed allowing vacancies to be filled.
- 6.** Eric also (2) confirmed that Chris Telfer and Mike Lane have been approved as CAC Alternates by Council and can now be appointed to Voting Member positions. Therefore, Don Wright moved to make Chris Telfer and Mike Lane CAC Voting Members; motion seconded by Joe Eiben and passed unanimously.
- 7. Review of Proposed 2017 Action Plan:** Chair welcomed back Rhonda Haynes, Housing

Specialists for final review of the 2107 Action Plan with 2016 Amendments. She touched on minor changes since her last update and hosted a Q&A session. Moved and seconded to recommend that Council approve the plan as presented. Motion passed unanimously. Several members complemented Rhonda's presentations and thanked her for allowing CAC the time to review the plan before responding.

8. Presentation & Feedback on Proposed Changes to City's Animal Control Ordinance:

The Chair welcomed back Mario Cifuentez and Ivy Ruiz from Animal Control who introduced local veterinarian Nanette Kuswa, DVM, for final discussion on changes in the city ordinance relating to Animal Control. Mario and Dr Kuswa responded well to several questions from members relating to the feral cats "Trap-Neuter-Release" project and expanding it in the future. Moved by Jim Burr, seconded by Norbert Duarte that CAC recommend the City implement the full Community Cats Program and that all proposed changes/updates to the Animal Control Ordinance be approved. Motion passed unanimously.

Norbert Duarte made a companion motion, seconded by Joe Eiben recommending that Council approve (1) removal of City's current Kennel Permit requirement and, (2) continue to limit the number of animals per city household to four. Motion was approved unanimously. Both Mario and Dr. Nanette Kuswa received positive comments and expressions of thanks by members for their good efforts!

9. Selection of CAC Representatives to Measure N Oversight Committee: The Chair entertained a motion for two CAC Representatives to serve on Measure N Oversight Committee. Joel Rosales nominated Chris Telfer and Mike Lane, seconded by Jim Burr. Motion passed.

10. Committee Reports:

- a. Non-Profit: Suzanne provided a brief update regarding non-profit funding.
- b. Public Opinion Survey: CAC Chair noted the loss of 2016 Sub-Committee Chair. Joel Rosales volunteered to serve as 2017 Chair and was appointed by unanimous consent.
- c. CDBG Funding: Tom Gordon stated nothing new to report

11. Good of the Order:

- a. Tom Gordon and others have concerns regarding delays in signal lights activation on Akers at Riggins. Apparently relates to delays in SCE's service alignment project.
- b. Don Wright has concerns about Council's planned committee on homeless. By consensus, CAC requests Meet & Greet with Mayor Gubler soon, similar to that of former Mayor Nelsen.
- c. Jim Burr expressed concerns about City Bark Parks for off-leash dogs. Observations are that consequences for bad-actors with vicious dogs are not working and responsible dog owners are avoiding the use of Bark-Parks out of concerns for safety. Mary Beatie and others shared concerns. Jim and Mary will request meeting with Animal Control and report back to CAC.

Adjournment: Chari Kristie Bruce adjourned the meeting at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Burr, CAC Secretary