

**FAMILY & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Minutes of Wednesday, February 19, 2025**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Peggy Radoumis called the meeting to order at 5:46 p.m.

1. ROLL CALL

 *Members Present*: Dolores Duran, Elena Lopez, Gabriela Garcia, Peggy Radoumis, Gilbert Aguirre, Janie Aguirre

 *Members Absent:* Karla Cardenas, Lisa B. Herrera, Adrianne Karnofel

 Staff: Ed Ramirez, Community Services Manager, Executive Secretary

 Kevin Sanchez-Reyes, Community Services Supervisor

 Noah Jimenez, Administrative Assistant

*Agency Representative:* None.

*Guest:* None.

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Gabriela Garcia
2. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

None.

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A motion was made by Jane Aguirre and seconded by Gabriela Garcia to approve the Minutes for the November 20, 2024 meeting. The motion was carried unanimously.

1. PRESENTATIONS

None.

1. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT

Mr. Ramirez introduced Kevin Sanchez Reyes as the new Community Services Supervisor, who will oversee Heritage Park and Clark Estate. He also welcomed Noah Jimenez as the new Administrative Assistant, who will assist with Family and Human Services.

Additionally, Mr. Ramirez shared updates on Advisory Committee policy changes. The committee’s membership has increased to 20 people, and members are now permitted to miss up to four meetings. Meetings will now be held six times per year in February, March, May, June, October, and November. Furthermore, members will serve two-year terms, with the current term set to end in 2026.

He also reported on facility rental policy updates. A new fee schedule has been implemented, shifting from deposits to down payments, along with updated insurance requirements for facility rentals. Residents will receive a 15% discount on certain facility fees, and facilities such as Clark Estate and Heritage Park are now available for a wider range of events.

1. OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Ramirez provided updates on transit services, sharing that a new driver is currently being onboarded. In March, an activity is being planned to promote transportation services, alongside ongoing efforts to rebrand the program. Additionally, software updates are in progress to improve appointment tracking and potentially allow riders to see shuttle locations in real-time. The department is also considering extending the service radius beyond the current five-mile limit.

Mr. Ramirez also reported on the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) program, which is now accepting appointments for free tax preparation services. Residents can call the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center to schedule an appointment, where staff and volunteers will assist with tax preparation. The process involves picking up a packet, gathering the required information, and completing a final review with assistance from the team.

1. NEW BUSINESS

Elections were presided over by Ed Ramirez.

* Peggy Radoumis was nominated and re-elected as Chairperson by a unanimous vote
* Jane Aguirre was nominated and re-elected as Vice Chairperson by a unanimous vote
* Elena Lopez was nominated and re-elected as Heritage Arts Advisory Committee Representative by a unanimous vote

Mr. Ramirez and Kevin Sanchez-Reyes provided updates on several community programs.

* 2025 Homeless Count - The event, originally rescheduled from January due to the LA County fires, is taking place that evening at the facility. New technology will be used for real-time mapping and tracking, with the process relying on a visual count only and no direct contact with homeless individuals. Full data from the event is expected to be available by June or July.
* Boxcar Mural Contest - The contest is open to students aged 12 through college level who are Santa Fe Springs residents, with submissions due by April 11. Artwork from participants will be displayed at Art Fest, and the winning piece will be digitally wrapped on the boxcar at Heritage Park. The Heritage Arts Advisory Committee will review submissions and recommend finalists to the City Council for final selection.
* Carriage Barn Closure - Is currently closed through Art Fest as it undergoes reconfiguration, and the library updates the exhibits. At this time, there is no specific reopening date, but more information will be provided in the future.
* 2025 SFS Art Fest Call to Artists – The city is looking for artists to participate in ArtFest. Pamphlets are available with more information at city facilities.
1. DIVISION PROGRAM/PROJECT UPDATES

Kevin Sanchez-Reyes provided a brief overview of the following events:

1. Chalk it Out! will take place March 22nd from 9am to 12pm at Town Center Hall Plaza
2. Library’s First Friday will take place March 7th at the Library.
3. Adaptive Recreation Dance will take place March 14th at Heritage Park
4. Children’s Clothing Drive is from March 10th-14th at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Centre
5. Children’s Boutique and Prom Pop-Up will be on March 26th from 12-4pm at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center
6. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
* Spotting Domestic Violence Presentations
1. MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS
* Elena Lopez shared her excitement on visiting Chicago now that it’s colder
* Gilbert commented on the Valentines Day Senior Dance, and his enjoyment of the DJ’s performance. Potential ideas on themes for future senior dances were discussed as well.
1. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Peggy Radoumis adjourned the meeting at 6:55 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 19th, 2025 at 5:45 p.m. in person at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center, Meeting Rm #1.

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 Ed Ramirez, Executive Secretary Noah Jimenez, Administrative Assistant