



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA
RENTAL HOUSING MEDIATION BOARD

MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING
DECEMBER 10, 2015
5:30PM

WATER RESOURCES CONFERENCE ROOM
617 GARDEN STREET
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101
www.SantaBarbaraCA.gov

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:

RICHARD AXILROD	<u> X </u>	RENE GOMEZ	<u> E </u>
LEESA BECK	<u> X </u>	LYNN GOEBEL	<u> X </u>
DAVID BRAINARD	<u> X </u>	DAN HERLINGER	<u> E </u>
ROBERT BURKE	<u> X </u>	DAVID MCDERMOTT	<u> X </u>
CHRIS CASEBEER	<u> X </u>	BRIAN SO	<u> X </u>
SILVIO DILORETO	<u> X </u>	SCOTT WEXLER	<u> X </u>
JEANA DRESSEL	<u> X </u>	BRUCE WOLLENBERG	<u> X </u>
JUSTIN DULLUM	<u> E </u>		

(X = Present A =Absent E = Excused)

Officers: Chair Lynn Goebel, Dan Herlinger, Secretary Scott Wexler

CITY COUNCIL LIAISON: Cathy Murillo

Staff Present: Andrea Bifano, Senior Rental Housing Mediation Specialist,
Joel Estrada, Rental Housing Mediation Specialist

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There was no public comment. The Chair introduced the following persons in the audience: Joyce Axilrod, Ilene Bifano Baroni, Julia Baroni, Natalie Baroni and Georgia McDermott.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Motion: To approve the minutes of the November 12, 2015, Regular Meeting.

Action: Casebeer/Brainard, 11/0/0. (Dullum, Gomez, Herlinger excused, DiLoreto not present).
Motion carried.

4. ANNUAL RECRUITMENT FOR CITY COUNCIL ADVISORY GROUPS:

A. Mediator terms scheduled to expire December 31, 2015:

Silvio Di Loreto (Landlord), Lynn Goebel, Chair (Tenant), David Brainard (Tenant), and David McDermott.

Cathy Murillo, Council Member and Board Liaison presented Silvio Di Loreto with a Letter of Recognition signed by Mayor Helene Schneider honoring him for 40 years of dedicated service to the Rental Housing Mediation Program (RHMP) and RHMB.

Cathy Murillo, Council Member and Board Liaison also presented David McDermott with a Certificate of Recognition for the completion of his four years of outstanding service to the RHMP and RHMB.

B. Vacancies:

1 Landlord, 1 Tenant and 1 Homeowner:

- Incumbents may continue to serve until successors are appointed

Incumbents Silvio Di Loreto and David Brainard (who were not able to attend the City Council RHMB Interviews) will continue to serve on the Board until a successor is appointed to their categories.

C. Appointments:

On December 8, 2016 Lynn Goebel, Chair was reappointed to the RHMB. Her term will run until December 31, 2019.

5. OFFICER ELECTIONS:

Chair, Vice Chair and Secretary

Motion: To elect Leesa Beck as Chair and hold elections for Vice Chair and Secretary at the next regular meeting.

Action: Casebeer/Brainard, 11/0/0. (Dullum, Gomez, Herlinger excused, Di Loreto not present).
Motion carried.

6. OUTREACH:

On November 17, 2015, Andrea Bifano attended the Community Services District Planning Meeting of the Santa Barbara County, held at the Isla Vista Clinic Building at 970 Embarcadero Del Mar. She discussed the Program and answered questions from the group, as Isla Vista is in the process of establishing a proposed plan of services, which may include mediation, for its Central District that will be on the November 2016 ballot.

7. ADVOCACY SUBCOMMITTEE:

Discussion Item - Robert Burke

Robert Burke followed-up on his proposal to create an Advocacy Sub-Committee that would go to groups within the RHMP's contracted jurisdictions and explain what the Program does. Leesa Beck expressed the need to have the sub-committee's function well defined so it would not duplicate what the RHMP staff already does. Richard Axilrod expressed concern about the workload impact on staff. While the subcommittee topic remains in discussion, Andrea Bifano suggested that that Robert Burke come up with a list of five groups he would like to present the Program to and offered to accompany and assist him as needed.

Motion: To discuss Advocacy Subcommittee at the next Board meeting.

Action: (Burke/McDermott) 11/0/0. (Dullum, Gomez, Herlinger excused, Di Loreto not present).
Motion carried.

8. PROGRAM STAFFING:

Lynn Goebel, Chair announced that the recruitment of a full-time position for the advertised Rental Housing Mediation Specialist had been filled by RHMP staff member Joel Estrada.

9. CASELOAD REPORT AND MEDIATOR TRAINING:

A. Case discussion

Justin Dullum and Robert Burke participated in a successful Face-to-Face mediation held during the month of December 2015. The mediation was successful; a Binding Settlement Agreement was written and signed by all parties.

B. Mediator Certificates

Mediator certificates verifying training signed by Mayor Helene Schneider, George Buell, Community Development Director and Andrea Bifano, Senior Rental Housing Mediation Specialist were presented to Mediators by Cathy Murillo, Council Member and Liaison to the Board. Recipients of **Advanced Mediation Training Certificates** were: Chair Lynn Goebel, David McDermott, Robert Burke, Scott Wexler, David Brainard, Richard Axilrod, Leesa Beck, Chris Casebeer, Dan Herlinger (excused), and Justin Dullum (excused). Recipients of **Mediation Training Certificates** were Jeana Dressel and Rene Gomez (excused).

10. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

No announcements

11. ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting adjourned at 6:30pm and was followed by a Celebration of Silvio Di Loreto for his 40 years of dedicated service to the RHMP and Annual Holiday Party.