



City of Santa Barbara
Parks and Recreation Department

Memorandum

DATE: July 19, 2010
TO: Park and Recreation Commission
FROM: Westside Community Center Advisory Committee
SUBJECT: Annual Advisory Committee Reports For Fiscal Year 2010

Committee Members

The Committee is currently comprised of Gloria Franco, Raquel Mendoza, Rosalina Palacios (Chairperson), and Jesus Rodriguez. Three vacancies.

Parks and Recreation Commission Liaison

Christopher Casebeer

City Council Liaison

Frank Hotchkiss

Appointment Process and Meeting Schedule

Community Center Advisory Committees are appointed by City Council and meet on a monthly basis. The Westside Community Center meets every second Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. at the Westside Community Center, 423 W. Victoria Street. In case of no quorum being present, the Committee meets as a Committee of the Whole and conducts business subject to ratification at the next meeting.

Member Representation

Since this Committee's geographic charge encompasses a large area composed of two census tracts and outlying areas, otherwise known as the greater Westside Neighborhood, the members are selected accordingly. Of seven members, two represent census tract 10, two represent census tract 11, and three are representatives at large. The members are appointed to staggered four-year terms. The members are not required to be electors.

Committee Projects/Activities

The following were activities undertaken by the Committee for FY 2009-2010:

- Co-sponsored the submittal of four CDBG Grant applications as part of the City's Neighborhood Improvement Task Force process.
- Has advocated and supported the efforts of young people to become self sufficient through employment training and placement.
- Involved in the on-going discussion to restructure Community Center Advisory Committees.
- Worked on recommendations for proposed fees and charges.
- Made recommendations for repairs for Center safety hazards.
- Worked/assisted Staff with recommendations for the installation and/or upgrading of the children's playground equipment located at the juncture of the Westside Center and the Anapamu Pedestrian Bridge.
- Held a series of community family events during holiday seasons including Turkey Give Away, and Holiday Dinner in which over 300 individuals participated.
- Has been actively involved in recruiting new members for Community Action Commission's Senior Nutrition Program.
- Currently working to update and will soon submit the Neighborhood Preservation Project priorities to appropriate City staff and/or to the Neighborhood Improvement Task Force.

Recommendations/Concerns

The Committee continues to work toward bettering community services to low-income families and recommends that more priority be given by the Department to providing access to all its services.