

RENTAL HOUSING MEDIATION TASK FORCE  
MINUTES  
FEBRUARY 2, 2012  
DAVID GEBHARD PUBLIC MEETING ROOM  
630 GARDEN STREET

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL:

The meeting was called to order by Chair Dullum at 5:30 p.m.

LEESA BECK	<u>X</u>	PARVANEH GIVI	<u>X</u>
DAVID BRAINARD	<u>X</u>	DAN HERLINGER	<u>X</u>
ROBERT BURKE	<u>X</u>	DAVID MCDERMOTT	<u>X</u>
CHRIS CASEBEER	<u>X</u>	TRUDY PAUL	<u>E</u>
SILVIO DILORETO	<u>X</u>	SCOTT WEXLER	<u>X</u>
MARTI FURMAN	<u>X</u>	BRUCE WOLLENBERG	<u>X</u>
JUSTIN DULLUM	<u>X</u>	LYNN GOEBEL	<u>X</u>

(X = Present    A = Absent    E = Excused)

Officers: Chair Justin Dullum, Vice Chair Lynn Goebel, Secretary Scott Wexler  
Staff Present: Andrea Bifano, Sr. Rental Housing Mediation Specialist

2. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No public comment.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

**Motion:        To approve the minutes of December 1, 2011 meeting with correction that Dan did not abstain on vote to adjourn.**

Action:        Wollenberg/Burke, 10/0/0. (Paul absent. Beck/McDermott/DiLoreto arrived late). Motion carried.

4. CITY COUNCIL ANNUAL APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS:

*On December 13, 2011, David McDermott, Homeowner, was appointed and David Brainard, Tenant, was reappointed. David McDermott was welcomed and shared his professional background which included former City and County Attorney and currently in his own mediation practice. David Brainard was congratulated on his reappointment to the Task Force.*

5. OFFICER ELECTION:

*To be held on February 2, 2012. The officer election was held. Discussion ensued regarding the need for clarification of the length of the term.*

**Motion:        The current officers shall be re-elected to fill out the terms of those they replaced.**

Action:        Burke/Herlinger, 10/0/0. (Paul absent. Beck/McDermott/DiLoreto arrived late.) Motion carried.

6. SUBCOMMITTEE UPDATES:

A. *Grant Writing/Fund Raising*; Subcommittee Members: Justin Dullum, Silvio DiLoreto, Chris Casebeer, Parvaneh Givi and recently added member David McDermott:

- *February 7, 2012, at 5:30 p.m. Funding presentation before Community Development Human Services Committee.* Chair, Justin Dullum noted Lessa Beck's well received Rental Housing Mediation Task Force power point presentation before City Council on December 6, 2011 and the Santa Barbara City Council's vote, as well as the turnout of Task Force members and public support for the program. He then reported that he and Andrea Bifano were scheduled to provide a funding presentation before the Community Development Human Services Committee on February 7, 2012. He stated that the program would not be receiving its historical Community Development Block Grant Administrative (CDBG) Cap funds for Fiscal Year 2013 due to a reduction in CDBG money given to the City of Santa Barbara and the strain on the Administrative Cap. Andrea Bifano stated that last year the program applied for and received \$22,000 in Human Service funds and that the application for FY 2013 requested a total amount of \$60,000 to make up for the loss of CDBG Administrative Cap funds. Andrea referenced the forecasted budget page that was submitted with the grant application. Chair Justin Dullum stated that the grant writing subcommittee would need to step up its grant writing efforts.

B. *Mediation Training*; Subcommittee Members: Leesa Beck and Lynn Goebel  
Shared that they would set up a meeting date with staff and work on a training for the next RHMTF Advisory Group meeting.

C. *Advocacy*; Subcommittee Members: Robert Burke, Leesa Beck, and David Brainard.  
They set a meeting to be held on Wednesday February 15, 2012 at 6:00pm in the David Gebhard Public Meeting Room. Discussion shall include avenues to secure additional funding from the City's budget, including funding available for Fair Housing component. The issue of requesting additional funds from contracted municipalities would be discussed as well.

D. *By-laws*; Subcommittee Members: Silvio DiLoreto, Bruce Wollenberg, Dan Herlinger, Robert Burke, and David McDermott: They scheduled a meeting to be held on

7. SCHEDULE FOR MEDIATOR ASSISTANCE IN OFFICE:

*Discussion and sign up:* Discussion ensued. No action taken.

8. PROPOSE AN ORDINANCE TO PRESENT TO THE CITY COUNCIL RECOMMENDING PERMANENT FUNDING FROM THE GENERAL FUND FOR THE RENTAL HOUSING MEDIATION TASK FORCE:

Robert Burke had placed the item on the agenda. He presented his position for advocating that the Rental Housing Mediation Task Force receive permanent funding from the City's General Fund through the creation of an Ordinance, and that the program

become a "Commission" rather than a Task Force. Discussion ensued including the whether or not an Ordinance was the best way or appropriate way of obtaining permanent funding and that further exploration of other means of permanent funding should be studied.

**Motion:** That the Advocacy Committee be instructed to develop a strategy for obtaining permanent funding from the City's General Fund or other means of permanent funding.

**Action:** Burke/Brainard, 12/0/1. (Paul absent. McDermott abstained.) Motion carried.

9. SUGGESTED STRUCTURE FOR RENTAL HOUSING MEDIATION TASK FORCE MEETINGS:

Discussion was held regarding the structure of Rental Housing Mediation Task Force meetings, formal versus casual. No action was taken.

10. OUTREACH:

*Update:* Justin Dullum shared that an outreach would be held at the Santa Barbara City College conducted by the program's hourly staff during the month of February 2012 provided that there would be no rain and that staff's schedule would be able to accommodate the outreach. Discussion ensued regarding other possible locations and events to hold an outreach.

11. CASELOAD REPORT AND MEDIATION TRAINING: (Mediation training .5hr)

A. *The December 2011 Second Quarterly Report and January 2012 Statistics.* The statistics were distributed and reviewed by the Advisory Group members.

B. *Mediations/Skills:* The training subcommittee and staff reviewed the mediator training guidelines as outlined in the Dispute Resolution Programs Act Guidelines and provided an overview of the administrative forms used in the Rental Housing Mediation Task Force office.

12. NEW BUSINESS:

None.

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS:

None.

14. ADJOURNMENT:

**Motion:** To adjourn the meeting at 7:15 p.m.

**Action:** Burke/Goebel, 11/0/0. (Paul absent. Givi/Casebeer left.) Motion carried.