CITY OF
SANTA FE SPRINGS

FAMILY & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE
GUS VELASCO NEIGHBORHOOD CENTER
Wednesday, February 17, 2016
5:45 p.m.

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER
   Chairman Ted Radoumis called the meeting to order at 5:47 p.m.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Chairman Radoumis

3. ROLL CALL

   Members Present: Gilbert Aguirre, Janie Aguirre, Margaret Bustos, Tina Delgado, Gloria Duran, Bonnie Fox, Lydia Gonzales, Ted Radoumis, Annette Rodriguez, Dolores Romero, Dr. Linda Vallejo, Martha Villanueva, and Hilda Zamora

   Members Absent: Debbie Belmontes and Arcelia Miranda

   Council Liaison: Councilmember Jay Sarno (Excused)

   Staff: Maricela Balderas, Director of the Department of Community Services
   Ed Ramirez, Executive Secretary
   Judi Manalisay, Children's Services Administrator
   Teresa Clift, Administrative Clerk II

   Guest: Ed Duran

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
   A motion was made by Janie Aguirre and seconded by Gilbert Aguirre to approve the Minutes of January 20, 2016. The motion was carried unanimously.

5. COUNCIL LIAISON REPORT
   None.

6. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT
   Ed Ramirez reported on the following:

a. ***Teens Programming Grand Kickoff/Family & Youth Intervention Program*** – The T.E.E.N.S. program is being moved to the Town Center Hall and there will be a kickoff event on February 29, 2016 at 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m. A variety of entertainment, activities, and promotion of programs being offered will be featured. The Teens programming will incorporate youth from middle school students and high school students. Currently, staff is conducting surveys to start working on ideas to name the facility, programs, and educational workshops. Also, staff is in the process of updating equipment and furniture at Town Center Hall. In addition, staff will continue to collaborate with the Boys and Girls Club and through this partnership, staff was able to be eligible to offer hot meals for youth after school. As the youth program moves forward, staff will be implementing new programming such as civic engagement, recreational, health and wellness and educational components.

   Also, in collaboration with the Family & Youth Intervention Program staff is working on a referral system to help with the transition of youth to integrate into the Teen's Program and also be able to refer youth who will benefit from the Family & Youth Intervention Program. Mr. Ramirez will keep members apprised.

b. ***SFS Art Fest 2016 Event Update*** – Staff continue to plan the two-day event of Friday, May 13, 2016 and Saturday, May 14, 2016. Currently accepting artist, vendor, and sponsorship applications by registering at www.sfsartfest.org. The deadline to apply is March 11, 2016. Featured this year, is cartoonist Lalo Alcaraz who is making presentations to art students at various local schools. Also, photographer George Rodriguez, artist Maria Kane, and local artist Raymond Persinger will be recognized. In addition, Mr. Ramirez announced that the City has been awarded the Award of Excellence by the California Parks and Recreation Society for its work on the SFS Art Fest Program and will be recognized at a banquet on March 11, 2016. Mr. Ramirez will keep members apprised.

7. OLD BUSINESS

a. ***Committee By-Laws Proposed Amendments*** – As discussed at the last meeting, City staff are reviewing all City-wide Advisory Committee By-Laws and proposing that all By-Laws be consistent with one another as it relates in the areas of absenteeism and defining the election process for the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson as well as when the nominations and elections take place.

   Discussion ensued regarding how often the Committee shall meet. A motion was made by Dr. Linda Vallejo and seconded by Gloria Duran that the Family and Human Services Advisory Committee meet during the months of January, February, March, April, May, June, July, August, October and November and go dark in the months of September and December. The motion was carried unanimously.

A recommendation of all amendments to the By-Laws will be made to the City Council in the end of March for their consideration and approval. Mr. Ramirez will keep members apprised.

8. NEW BUSINESS
   a. FAMILY AND HUMAN SERVICES SECTION
      Ed Ramirez reported on the following:

      1) ***Holiday Basket Recognition Event Recap*** – Holiday Volunteer Recognition was held on Thursday, January 21 at the G.V.N.C. at 6:00 p.m. The event hosted over 100 participants and was well received by the volunteers.

      2) ***Family Fun Night*** – Event will be held on Friday at the Activity Center in collaboration with the local school districts to promote health and wellness. Members were encouraged to attend.

      3) ***Gus' Kitchen Food Pantry*** – The pantry is being utilized more frequently by patrons. Currently, the pantry is in need of toiletries, canned fruit and meat, peanut butter and cereal. A recommendation was made to include a food can opener. A list will be provided to members at the next meeting.

         Mr. Ramirez also announced that he is collaborating with The Whole Child in a referral process and has been in discussions related to serving the needs of homeless families.

      4) ***Utility Assistance Program*** – The G.V.N.C. is currently accepting appointments for Edison and Gas Company bill assistance programs. Members were encouraged to refer individuals to the G.V.N.C.

      5) ***VITA Program*** – The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Program (V.I.T.A.) is currently in progress and appointments are filled for the season.

      6) ***Legal Services Program*** – Staff is currently working on renovating the program by developing promotional materials and recruiting additional pro-bono attorneys. Members will be kept apprised.

      7) ***Special Olympics*** – Aimee Espinoza has undergone training to become a certified trainer/coach and is working in bringing practices to Santa Fe Springs in preparation for the summer games in June. Information is available in the quarterly brochure. Contact Aimee Espinoza at the G.V.N.C. for athlete or volunteer opportunity signups.

   b. CHILD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SECTION – JUDI MANALISAY
      1) ***Child Care Update*** – Judi Manalisay made a presentation and gave an overview of pre-school and school age-program activities. An increase in state contract for preschool program was received. Staff is currently working

on annual state report which includes parent surveys, environment rating scale, classroom findings that are used to develop goals and objectives for the following year. Also, training of staff continues in various areas. In addition, staff has also developed an activity calendar for parents to support child development at home.

9. ANNOUNCEMENTS
   - Orange County Food Distribution – March 16, 2016 at G.V.N.C. at 10:00 a.m.
   - Healthy Tip Handout – Better Heart Health
10. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS
   - Santa Fe Springs Women's Club Scholarship Applications available for senior high school students. Contact Ed Ramirez or Manuel Cantu at the G.V.N.C.
   - Lake Center School named "School to Watch"
11. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS
   - Committee By-Laws Proposed Amendments – Review and Approval
   - GVNC Programs
   - Food Pantry Report
   - Child Care and Development Report
   - Crime Report
12. ADJOURNMENT
   Chair Radoumis adjourned the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

The next meeting of the Family and Human Services Advisory Committee will be held on Wednesday, March 16, 2016, at 5:45 p.m. at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center, Meeting Room No. 1, located at 9255 Pioneer Boulevard, Santa Fe Springs, CA.

Prepared By: Teresa Clift,
Administrative Clerk, II

Ed Ramirez, Executive Secretary