

City of Madera ADA Advisory Council
City Hall Council Chambers, 205 W. 4th Street
Madera, CA 93637

REGULAR MEETING AGENDA

May 16, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

The meeting room is accessible to physically disabled persons. Requests for accommodation (assistive listening devices, interpreters, or language translators, etc.) should be made at least seventy-two (72) hours before the meeting to Diana Rosas at (559) 661-5401 or drosas@cityofmadera.com.

Any writing related to an agenda item for the open session of this meeting distributed to the ADA Advisory Council less than 72 hours before this meeting is available for inspection at the City of Madera Human Resources Department, 205 West 4th Street, Madera, California 93637 during normal business hours.

Roll Call

Dennis Smith – Chair
Dana DeFranco – Vice-Chair
Cynthia Ortegon
DJ Becker
Emmanuel Gomez
Tim Riche

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The first fifteen minutes of the meeting are reserved for Members of the public to address the Council on items which are within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Council. Speakers shall be limited to three minutes. Speakers will be asked to identify themselves and state the subject of their comment. If the subject is an item on the Agenda, the Chairperson has the option of asking the speaker to hold the comment until that item is called. Comments on items listed as a Public Hearing on the Agenda should be held until the hearing is opened. The Council is prohibited by law from taking any action on matters discussed that are not on the Agenda, and no adverse conclusions should be drawn if the Council does not respond to public comment at this time.

Business Matters

1. Approval of Minutes – Meeting of April 18, 2017
2. Report on Attendance at the April 19, 2017 Transit Advisory Board Meeting – Cynthia Ortegon
3. Report on Attendance at the April 19, 2017 Madera County Transportation Commission Unmet Needs Meeting – Tim Riche and Cynthia Ortegon

4. Oral reports by Staff and Advisory Board Members

Adjournment

Next Regular Meeting of the Madera ADA Advisory Council will be Tuesday, June 20, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

I, Diana Rosas, HR Technician II for the City of Madera, declare under penalty of perjury that I posted the above Madera ADA Advisory Council Agenda for the Regular Meeting of May 16, 2017, near the front entrances of City Hall no later than 5:00 p.m. on May 11, 2017.

Diana Rosas, HR Technician II Date

ALL CITY EMPLOYEES AND THE PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND

City of Madera ADA Advisory Council
City Council Chambers, 205 W. 4th Street
Madera, CA 93637

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

April 18, 2017, 2:00 p.m.

A regular meeting of the Madera ADA Advisory Council was scheduled for 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, April 18, 2017, in the City Council Chambers.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT:

Dennis Smith, Chair
Emmanuel Gomez
Cynthia Ortegon
Tim Riche
DJ Becker

Staff
Diana Rosas
Wendy Silva

OTHERS PRESENT: Linda Shaw, Madera Housing Authority

ABSENT: Dana DeFranco, Vice Chair

Chairperson Dennis Smith called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

Public Comment: Raymundo Maya on behalf of Gene and Millard Atkins – Their house caught on fire November 6th and they were displaced from their home. They asked for emergency housing but it would only be provided for 3-7 days and after that they wouldn't have any place to stay. He feels that there is a need for emergency housing for the elderly and disabled people as well as homeless elderly disabled people. Council Member Smith responded by saying that the Council will be discussing this business matter in today's meeting.

Business Matters

1. Approval of Minutes – March 21, 2017. Council Member Riche moved to approve the minutes; motion seconded by Council Member Becker. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Presentation by Ms. Shaw Shaw, Executive Director of the Madera Housing Authority, on housing units for seniors – Ms. Shaw Shaw spoke with the advisory council regarding senior housing. She explained that the housing authority does have quite a bit for the size of the city but the County of Madera does need more housing. She stated that the Board of Commissioners for the Housing Authority asked her to

try and bring about more affordable housing. She stated that she just received an award from CDBG (Community Development Block Grant) to provide housing for homeless as well as emergency housing which currently the Housing Authority does not do. If you are homeless you can apply and will be put on a waiting list. If your issue includes abuse or if you are a veteran you can be put a little higher on the list. If it is an emergency situation you can get placed at Pamona Ranch units that sit vacant during the winter. During the summer it is not vacant; it is filled with migrant workers. The Housing Authority does not have a contract with HUD or the State stating that emergency housing can be provided. She was approached by Mr. and Mrs. Atkins and her understanding was that they did not want to move someplace that was temporary, that they wanted funds to replace their home where it was, and they had temp housing and didn't want to live in public housing. The Housing Authority was not able to help in that situation and did refer them to CAPMC. Ms. Shaw stated that they are in dire need of emergency housing for both elderly and non-elderly. But speaking directly about the elderly, the housing authority has 4 places where the elderly are housed (elderly is defined as 55+ disability or 62 and above per the Federal Government). The locations provide appropriate ADA compliant facilities; recreational activities were once provided but the Federal Government cut out funding for the agency that was providing the services, and one thing that Ms. Shaw will try to do is get more funding to reinstate those services. A challenge that Ms. Shaw stated with a small number of elderly is prostitution. Most of the seniors are good about reporting and most of the seniors are good about trying to prevent that from happening by locking the doors at night and setting the alarm. Seniors take an interest at being an advocate. Council Member Riche asked about the wait time for Section 8. Ms. Shaw stated that the list for Section 8 gets opened every year. They have 781 vouchers. When the vouchers are used up the list is closed. She is anticipating opening it up next spring and the waiting can be 2-3 years. For public housing the wait is 1-2 years even for someone who needs it for "right now." Council Member Becker asked if there are any slots reserved for the disabled. Ms. Shaw stated yes there are but not two or three set aside only for disabled. Council Member Becker asked if there is a percentage reserved since most seniors are disabled. She asked if they are in advanced age, how can we help meet those needs? How can we improve that? Ms. Shaw stated that most of the people who apply are disabled and are seniors so the Housing Authority doesn't give them an advantage if they are disabled because most of them all have disabilities. Council Member Becker stated that she recently encountered disabled veterans and asked about housing for them. Ms. Shaw stated that they provide VASH vouchers only to veterans. They have to go through the VA in Fresno. Once they get clearance from the VA and are referred to Madera Housing Authority then they are housed. Currently there are vouchers that aren't used. Council Member Riche asked, when saying not used are places empty? Ms. Shaw clarified that it would be like section 8. Council Member Becker asked if she can define the Section 8 voucher program. Ms. Shaw

explained that the housing choice voucher program known as Section 8 assists low income families with rental subsidy. The program allows private landlords to rent apartments and single family homes at market rates to qualified low income families. It is funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. The program participants pay at least 30% of their adjusted gross income toward their portion of rent and the Housing Authority pays the remaining portion directly to the landlord. The way it works, the person will come in and apply, Housing Authority will give them a list of participating landlords and they have 120 days to find a suitable place to live of their choosing. The place they choose must have a section 8 landlord. Council Member Ortegon asked if the Section 8 homes are inspected. Ms. Shaw stated yes they are annually inspected, sometimes twice a year. Council Member Becker stated that the issue is a lot of landlords don't take section 8 vouchers. Ms. Shaw stated that the issue is that landlords don't take vouchers because they stereotype section 8 people as people with problems. Council Member Becker asked, how under housed are we? Ms. Shaw stated that we can use 10%/ 50 units more housing for lower income and moderate income than what there is now. Council Member Becker asked if there is a plan or a goal for acquiring this. Ms. Shaw stated that the City Council has a 2025 plan to build on the housing that is part of the plan. Ms. Shaw explained that next year she is hoping to work with Community Land Trust to acquire land from governmental agencies for \$1 and build on those parcels of land. She has an Ad Hoc committee to work with her on that. She is hoping by 2020 to have met that 10%. Council Member Riche asked if he encounters anyone who needs housing assistance, should he send them Ms. Shaw's way? She replied yes, she can help them directly. Council Member Becker asked how the Housing Authority interacts with Social Services. Ms. Shaw stated they interact well and that she is currently working on a grant for monies to contract with them to send us some of their clients. Council Member Becker asked if there was anything the public can do to increase the housing. Ms. Shaw stated that testifying in front of City Council and letting them know that housing and quality housing is needed. Raymundo came up to the podium again and stated that when Mr. and Mrs. Atkins went to the Housing Authority they were told that they be put on a waiting list for 3-10 months. Ms. Shaw responded saying that she was told they didn't want to do that. They wanted funding to rebuild their home but the Housing Authority does not have any funding for rebuilding a personal residence. Council Member Smith asked if there was anything the Housing Authority can do regarding that. Ms. Shaw stated that she told them that there was housing at Pomona Ranch and could stay there but that they did not want to be anywhere but their own residence.

3. Review of letter to be submitted on behalf of MADAAC to the Madera Post Office regarding accessibility concerns- Council Member Riche distributed what he had started as a letter to the Post Office. He included pictures of the areas of concern. Ms. Silva discussed with the Council which concerns they wanted in the letter. The overall concerns were for the accessible parking, access ramp, front doors and a

driver side mail drop option. Ms. Silva reminded the Council that we can't tell the post office how to fix something but can tell them why we feel something should be looked at and express accessibility concerns. Ms. Silva will draft a final letter for Chairman Smith to sign. Ms. Silva will invite the Postmaster to a meeting and provide her direct contact information.

4. Discussion of participation in the Strides for Inclusion walk event 5/13/2017- Tim Riche. Council Member Riche reported he will be out of town the week of the event. He does have information and will email it to everyone. Ms. Silva said she could only find event information regarding signing up to walk and asked if there were going to be booths. Council Member Riche stated that they will have table and information booths. The event is at 8 am; it is a Fundraiser for program inclusion sports. Ms. Silva asked if there was anyone available that can staff the booth. None of the Council Members were available.
5. Oral reports by staff and Advisory Board Members. Council Member Gomez shared that he attended Coffee with the Cops and had a good conversation with officer Alva and discussed concerns regarding misuse of accessible parking. He reported Officer Alva stated that she has written a few tickets and they, meaning herself and other officers, would love to do more and would love to stop people from parking illegally in ADA spots but do what they can. Council Member Gomez also stated that he received a lot of positive feedback from people in general who saw the Facebook post from PD with the officer writing the ticket for misuse of ADA parking; people are aware that they (PD) are looking. Council Member Riche stated that he is on the Citizens Academy for Vision 2025 and the last night they were at the Police Department and he asked Chief Frazier if they can do another Facebook post on that. Chief Frazier said that they would do that. Council Member Riche expressed his thanks and felt that the posts could go a long way and Chief Frazier agreed. Council Member Gomez stated that if the Police Department does it periodically enough the message gets out there. Council Member Ortegon reminded everyone that the Transit Board Meeting is tomorrow from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at a different location, 428 E. Yosemite Ave, Successor Agency. At 3:00 p.m. the Unmet Transit Needs Meeting will be at MCTC Office, 2001 Howard Road. Council Member Ortegon and Council Member Riche will be attending. Council Member Ortegon spoke about the color blue being a recognized sign of a handicapped spot. Council Member Becker stated that she gets complaints that people with disabilities have a problem finding an open spot because there is a shortage and people are using the spots that are unauthorized to use them.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.

The next Regular Meeting of the Madera ADA Advisory Council will be Tuesday, May 16, 2017 at 2:00 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chambers.

Respectfully Submitted,

Accepted,

Diana Rosas
Human Resources Technician II

Dennis Smith, Chair

Date:_____

Date:_____