



Services of the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission



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ADOPTED MINUTES
SOUTHEAST COMMUNITY FACILITY COMMISSION
Wednesday, August 23, 2023
6:00 P.M.

- 1. Land Acknowledgement: Chair Murphy read the Land Acknowledgement.
2. Call to Order and Roll Call: Chair Murphy called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and staff called roll. Present: Murphy, Fromer, Chung, Mezie, Posey, Sanchez(arr.6:20pm), Tran
3. Adoption of Minutes: July 26, 2023 Moved: Chung Second: Posey The minutes for July 26, 2023, were adopted.
4. General Public Comment: None
5. Communications: Multilingual announcement from SFMTA of the Bayview Transportation Resource Center.
6. Report of the Chair: Chair Susan Murphy Chair Murphy announced the Farmers Market is every Thursday from 3 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in the Center parking lot. On September 7th Moon Sing Noodle Company will visit the Market and create a meal in celebration of their 90th anniversary. She announced the first annual Citizens of Distinction Award Gala and congratulated Executive Director Pharr and Commissioner Chung as recipients of the award. The event will be held at the Center and is scheduled for Sunday, September 24th. It is hosted by Uniti Resources, Inc. and everyone is invited to attend.
7. Committee Reports: None. a) Community Programs Advisory Committee (Posey) There was no quorum for the meeting. b) Facility & Design Advisory Committee (Sanchez) Item 7b was moved forward pending the arrival of Commissioner Sanchez.
8. Community Marketplace Concept: (Jennifer Ly, SFPUC Environmental Justice & Land Use Manager) (Tony Esterbrooks, DPW Section Manager-Bureau of Landscape and Architecture) Jennifer Ly introduced Tony Esterbrooks and provided background on the project, a 15,000 square foot space on the SECC grounds earmarked for temporary outdoor activation. DPW will be the project designer and the community will be engaged with a goal to create a space that organizations and residents will use. Community meetings through September will invite the community to provide input.

- London N. Breed Mayor
Emily Pharr Executive Director
Susan Murphy Chair
Dr. Gina Fromer Vice-Chair
Karen Chung Commissioner
Chika Mezie Commissioner
Damien Posey Commissioner
Amerika Sanchez Commissioner
Marlene Tran Commissioner

There was a brief discussion with Vice-Chair Fromer who pointed out the need to trim a very visible landscaped area that could possibly be a fire hazard.



Tony Esterbrook said DPW is looking to improve the space at Newhall and Evans and possibly bring a marketplace to the site. He acknowledged this would not exclude a proposed education facility in the space in the future. He reported the plan for the project was to program the space for 5 to 10 years, build a sustainable and easy to maintain area that would not be a major capital infrastructure project. The goal is the outdoor space will support local community groups with features that support health and wellness within the community, and also support environmental education and a space for community to gather.

Following are the top three categories gathered in a 2020 community survey of suggestions for use of the space:

- Markets and Fairs
- Health, Wellness and Other Educational Resources
- Community Education (Gardening/Environmental)

The department is currently in the programming/discovery/creative phase of the project which will lead to a conceptual design. DPW is contracted to provide construction drawings and Mr. Esterbrook said they are working with the SFPUC to understand what the space can be. The SFPUC is working to identify funding and understand what the cost will be.

He reported there will be a series of community meetings over the next 6 months on the following dates:

Meeting #1 September 26/ **Meeting #2** Late Fall Early Winter/ **Meeting #3** Early 2024

Mr. Esterbrook noted the current Farmers Market is in place and a more permanent space could occur on the site with a balance of health and wellness opportunities such as dance, tai chi, yoga, music, and adult exercise equipment which is very popular in parks right now. There could also be an opportunity to provide information regarding growing nutritious food options and preparing them.

There is also the possibility for an educational space that school groups could visit and learn about storm water, urban wood reuse for trees, and an overall idea to provide nature engagement and gardens for children and adults.

Mr. Esterbrook introduced 3 project precedents provided by Jennifer Ly that had similar concepts:

Richmond Unity Park – a community led design effort.

West Oakland Farm – an urban agriculture project where community learns how to cook and grow their own food onsite.

Stoneview Nature Center in Culver City - a contemporary feel in line with the SECC with an outdoor kitchen, pavilion, and a seating area with space to breathe, relax, and meditate.

In closing Mr. Esterbrook said feedback is needed from the community to ensure the site is organized to be flexible and able to serve the community in a variety of purposes.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

Commissioners expressed their excitement and said they were looking forward to highlighting produce from different cultures. They asked if there was a plan for increment weather?

- Mr. Esterbrook advised the pavilion is a strong point in this area as it serves to provide shelter from wind, sun, and rain. He noted the criteria needs to come out of the programming phase and can be refined accordingly.

Commissioner Posey said he had a lot of questions that would possibly be answered at the community meetings, and he planned to be there. He wanted to know if community members would be hired and who would be making the final decisions around the community ideas for the project?

- Executive Director Pharr responded after engaging in a community process to determine the preferred flexible design style the Commission would make a recommendation to the SFPUC and then to DPW to finalize the design and identify funding for the actual construction.

Commissioners said there was a lack of fitness opportunities for the community, and they wondered if there was a plan to provide a fitness room at the Center. They also suggested implementing an after-school program with an adult supervisor and a hiring component for young people which would serve another aspect of the community. Lastly, they emphasized the importance of including community leadership in the process.

- Mr. Esterbrook responded they could think about a health and wellness component based on what the community expresses its priorities to be, and it could come in different forms, such as a flexible pad area where people could do a Zumba class or Tai chi, or the idea of adult exercise equipment that could be installed on site.

Public Comment: None.

9. **Resident Partner Presentations:**

(Elise Washington, SECC Resident Partner Liaison)

Ms. Washington said presentations would be provided by three resident partners who are renting space on the 3rd floor and in September there would be presentations from the other three resident partners. She advised she would provide an overview and next steps at the end of the three presentations.

En2Action -

Pooja Rajani, Director of Programs

Abraham Vallin, Community Outreach and Engagement Manager

Mr. Vallin said En2Action was established in 2019 with a mission to engage, empower and inspire action to promote equitable growth, build resilient communities and achieve transformative social good. The En2Action team is composed of 14 individuals led by Andrea Baker – CEO/Executive Director and Judith McRae, Interim Chief Operating Officer. Mr. Vallin introduced core programs:

Ujamaa Kitchen – a 6-month culinary bootcamp.

Black Cultural Preservation Mini-Grants – Funds are distributed to produce events promoting black culture.

Ms. Rajani introduced core programs:

Sell Black – a 14-week digital marketing training program.

Small Business Hub – provides support to Black owned entrepreneurs and small businesses through workshops, trainings, and one on one technical assistance.

Mr. Vallin provided the impact of the programs from April 2023 through June 2023. He reported a total of 87 participants completed the 4 core programs. The Small Business Hub had the most participants. 27 participants were from zip code 94124, 6 were from 94134, and 3 were from 94107. This is a total of 36 participants from district 10, which is about 41% of all participants.

Ms. Rajani reported on 3 events that were recently held. The first was a virtual food workshop in partnership with the Department of Public Health. The second was an information session with the Small Business Development Center. The most recent event was the second cohort of Ujamaa Kitchen.

Mr. Vallin presented the following as challenges for the clients of the programs:

Limited Access to Technological Resources –

Unfamiliarity With City Processes –

Marketing and Promotion –

Staying Motivated –

In closing Mr. Vallin reported En2Action has created resource guides and provides one on one technical assistance to businesses. Referrals will be made to businesses to access the tech hub at the Center along with workshops and networking opportunities.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

Vice-Chair Fromer had a question regarding the demographics of the program.

- Staff advised it would be provided in September as a collective.

Commissioners had questions regarding the funding for the program and how could organizations get in contact and receive services.

- En2Action staff responded funding comes from the Office of Economic and Workforce Development and the Dream Keeper Initiative. They advised they primarily serve low-income, Black-owned small businesses. They noted a lot of business hear about them through word of mouth, the website, flyers, and when they attend major community events.

Commissioner Posey and Commissioner Mezie commended En2Action and noted they both had an opportunity to participate in some of the workshops and they witnessed a lot of new businesses starting with the help of these programs. Commissioner Posey asked if another Ujamaa Kitchen bootcamp would be available and Commissioner Mezie asked about the Mini Grant Program and if the Bayview community would have access to any cultural preservation events?

- En2Action staff advised the Ujamaa Kitchen would begin another cohort and applications would be available in the Fall.
- En2Action staff reported Bayview has been added to the portfolio for cultural preservation events, and there is a plan to reach out to CBOs to help spread the word and reach as many people as possible so they can take advantage of the opportunities that are available.

Executive Director Pharr said a summary report will be provided where staff will aggregate all of the data from all of the resident partners and the impact that has been provided collectively. She also provided the following breakdown:

En2Action served 51 individuals and 49 identify as African American.

Chair Murphy asked if the organization was working with Neighborhood Access?

- They advised they were not at this time, but they were interested in receiving names and referrals.

Vice-Chair Fromer thanked En2Action for their presentation and said she was looking forward to receiving more details.

3rd Street Youth Center & Clinic –

Dani Coquia-Guzman, Assistant Director of Health & Youth Development

Ms. Coquia-Guzman reported the 3rd Street Youth Center & Clinic was founded in 2005 by community members in the Bayview who wanted to provide an opportunity for youth in the community to engage in health resources. The Youth Clinic is located on Bancroft Avenue and free services are provided in partnership with the Department of Public Health. Therapy services are available through the Behavioral Health Department in the clinic and also through schools. The TAY Navigation Center (transitional aged youth) is located on Polk Street and housing services are also available with two offices, one on Innes and one on Bancroft.

The team operating out of the SECC are Joi Jackson-Morgan, Executive Director/ Dr. Misty Patton, Director Health & Youth Development/ Dani Coquia-Guzman, Assistant Director of Health & Youth Development/ Ashia Coleman, Youth Development Manager College Jump/ Tonie Shannon, Health Education Specialist Health Core Fellowship.

There are three programs currently running out of the SECC:

Third Street Leadership Academy – 4 participants

Health Core Program – 9 participants

College Jump – 18 participants

19 students identified as female, and 12 students identified as male. The breakdown by zip code was provided as follows:

94124 – 17/ 94134 – 6/ 94116 – 1/ 94115 – 1/ 94112 – 2/ 94110 – 2/ 94103 – 1

Ms. Coquia-Guzman reported the numbers provided were from May, however updated information showing results from programming at SECC would be available as the new year of programming arrives. A testimonial was provided regarding “Carolina” a young person that has successfully completed all three programs and is now an intern designing a new logo for the Health Core Program.

The challenges of the program are the slow return to a new normal for youth. There are lower retention rates and lower turnout to program events. In person programming will be provided at the SECC for more support and new programming will begin in September. All three programs will be offered at SECC, and applications are being accepted now. Ms. Coquia-Guzman said flyers would be provided and she said she hoped they would be widely distributed.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

Commissioner Mezie asked if the SFUSD was being contacted and requested flyers to share with youth, and she also asked what was the maximum capacity of each program per cohort?

- Ms. Coquia-Guzman reported the organization has been invited to host workshops with SFUSD. She advised that two of the programs provide pay for participants and each program has a maximum capacity of 15 participants. Also, there is no cap on the one-on-one counseling and the 4-week curriculum will start in October. She added she would provide flyers as well.

Commissioner Posey said he was glad to see 3rd Street Youth Center & Clinic in the building and he was looking forward to receiving flyers to help with outreach.

Chair Murphy said the City & County has an EMT program that would be perfect for “Carolina”, and she thanked Ms. Coquia-Guzman for her presentation.

Charity Cultural Services Center –

Cindy Fu, Sr. Program Manager

Nancy Wong, Program Outreach Specialist

CCSC was established in 1981 by Harrison Lim to serve immigrants in the Chinatown community. CCSC is a nonprofit organization that provides vocational training and job placement to San Francisco residents. The four core programs are Construction/ Culinary/ Youth/ Financial Literacy.

The CCSC team was introduced as follows:

Ashley Cheng, Executive Director/ Phyu Aung, Program Director/ Cindy Fu, Sr. Program Manager/ Kelli Lei, Program Coordinator/ Nancy Wong, Program Outreach Specialist

Ms. Fu provided the highlights of the program which are CityBuild Academy a 12-week pre-apprenticeship training program. There are 50 candidates in the program. The next program is Construction Career Development Services which provides post-graduation follow-up services to all CityBuild Academy participants.

The newest program is the Forget Me Not Literacy Program which is funded by the San Francisco Human Rights Commission as part of the Dream Keeper Initiative, to educate San Francisco residents about various topics of financial literacy. Recruitment for this program is ongoing. Candidates must complete an online workshop that is approximately 30 hours long and once completed and with the submission of required documents they receive a \$400 stipend in phases that must be used to open a bank account. After they submit a statement from the account, they receive an additional \$200. This program has intense case management and follow-up services where they learn to maintain a credit score, manage their account, and budget.

Ms. Wong provided a testimonial about Freddie Copeland who successfully completed the CCDS program and was able to remove barriers that led him to a successful career as a cement mason worker.

There were 19 participants in the Dream Keeper Forget Me Not Literacy Program. 8 were male and 11 were female. The breakdown by zip codes is as follows:

94102 – 3/ 94110 – 3/ 94112 – 3/ 94117 – 2/ 94124 – 3/ 94131 – 1/ 94134 – 4

Ms. Wong highlighted the success stories of Joel Avalos and Constanza Loubriel who received financial management training through the Literacy Program. CCSC has supported events at the new Center which consisted of CPR Training and a CBA-CBO Planning Meeting.

Ms. Wong noted as a challenge the need to encourage more women and residents of D10 to join the program. She advised the Construction Industry was a good trade for women.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

Commissioner Tran thanked the presenters and said she was an advocate for the immigrant community. She praised the Culinary Program and said everyone does not need a 4-year college education. She noted Blue Collar workers deserved a lot of credit.

Commissioner Mezie thanked the team from CCSC for the work they were doing in D10 and the effort they were putting into reaching the community. She had questions about the length of the Financial Literacy Program and if the Culinary Program included Bartending, and when the next cycles would begin?

- CCSC staff responded the Culinary Program will start in September as well as the Bartending class. The classes are ongoing. The Financial Literacy Program is a 30-hour online class. It is currently full, and the next class will begin in October.

Commissioners Chung and Posey thanked the presenters for providing valuable programs for the community.

Chair Murphy asked if CCSC was working with Mission Hiring Hall?

- CCSC staff responded they work with APRI and Mission Hiring Hall as a team. They asked if there was a way to provide a big TV downstairs that could announce all of the programs that are available in the building, they also asked for a combination lock for the entrance on Newhall so they would not have to walk all the way around the building to gain entry.

Commissioner Fromer referred them to Dion-Jay Brookter, Executive Director of Young Community Developers and noted the organization does a lot of work in construction and would be a good point of contact for collaboration.

- CCSC advised they had not worked with YCD but appreciated the contact information and would provide outreach to the organization.

Commissioner Tran agreed with the idea to use electronic boards to promote the programs in the Center.

Chair Murphy thanked the presenters.

10. Biosolids Archeological Site Interpretive Panels:

(Kimberly Stern Liddell, SFPUC Infrastructure/Environmental Construction Compliance Officer)

Ms. Stern provided a proposal for Interpretive Signage on Cultural Resources at SECC. The presentation provided the purpose of the project, the location, environmental review/archeological investigation, examples, and collaboration between the SECC staff and Commissioners.

The Biosolids Digestors Facilities Project is a part of the Sewer System Improvement Program and upon completion will transform the city's largest wastewater plant into an energy recovery resource center.

Ms. Liddell reported materials found in the intact submerged midden demonstrates Native American occupation 3000 to 3500 years ago. Materials in the intact thick terrestrial midden demonstrates Native American occupation 2000 years ago to European contact. Materials in the intact thin midden demonstrates Native American occupation 500 years ago to European contact.

Ms. Liddell provided a 3D model that has been developed with the hope of providing programming through the SECC. An assessment is being done on how the site relates to other Native American sites in the Bay Area and the possibility of providing reports generated for science and graduate students. There is also a public interpretation aspect of bringing the information to the public in a tangible way. The Planning Department along with the SFPUC have started talking about providing interpretive signs that can share about this cultural site with the Bayview community and also honor the Ohlone community that was here thousands of years ago. Ms. Liddell said they hope the SECC will consider hosting panels.

Ms. Liddell provided examples of possible signage and advised she was beginning talks with SECC staff and members of the Tribe.

She reported receiving excellent feedback from the presentation provided to the SE Facility & Design Advisory Committee and was now moving forward with a request for a Recommendation from the Commission to proceed with installing interpretive signage at the Center. Meetings and collaborations will continue if the Commission agrees. The next steps will be discussions regarding design, the content, and aesthetics.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

Commissioner Tran said she was fascinated by the presentation and suggested connecting with the Exploratorium.

Public Comment:

Angelique Mahan suggested connecting with the American Indian Cultural District located at Fort Mason.

- Staff advised that we have reached out to the Native American representatives to ensure they are engaged in not only the development of the signage but in the design. There are many steps to go through before an actual installation. We will also be consulting with the SF Arts Commission, and with our Arts and Education Manager.

Chair Murphy requested a motion to recommend the SFPUC/SECFC install interpretive signage about the Ohlone archeological site encountered at the Southeast Plant during construction of the Biosolids Digester Facilities Project.

Moved: Posey **Second:** Chung

The motion carried.

11. Hearts in San Francisco: (Pharr)

Director Pharr provided information about the Hearts in San Francisco Project which debuted in 2004 and has placed Hearts all around San Francisco. San Francisco General Hospital Foundation is providing an opportunity for the Bayview to share in this iconic art. The Hearts are valuable, and we have an opportunity to have one installed permanently or receive one on loan and create a rotating installation program where we would swap out the heart and get a different design every few years. There are three designs that are currently available.

The designs are Heartfelt Wisdom by Jeremy Fish/ Justice by Andre Campbell/ Gathering by Monika Steiner. The Committee was most interested in the work by Andre Campbell. His father is a trauma surgeon at San Francisco General Hospital and his mother is Director of Nursing. In future iterations we have suggested using an artist from our local artist registry to commission an original design.

Director Pharr emphasized the heart would be a gift and will cost nothing to receive. If it is a gift, we will be responsible for maintenance which will be close to \$5,000 a year. If we accept it as a loan the foundation will absorb the cost.

The Director reported there has been some discussion regarding an appropriate location and the Arts Commission will help decide where the best placement is, possibly in the amphitheater. We would like to Recommend the SFPUC/SECFC enter into an agreement to accept a heart sculpture (design to be determined) from the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners:

Chair Murphy noted two of the artists had ties to the community and one did not.

Commissioner Tran said this would be a very important piece of art to have at the SECC.

Commissioner Mezie asked if the designs were final?

- Staff responded the designs were from their current inventory, however if we move forward with the loan process there would be an opportunity to have a local artist design a heart specifically for the Center.

Commissioner Mezie said she hoped moving forward there would be more of an opportunity for community feedback.

Public Comment: None.

Chair Murphy requested a motion and second to Recommend the SFPUC/SECFC enter into an agreement to accept a heart sculpture (design to be determined) from the San Francisco General Hospital Foundation.

Moved: Chung **Second:** Tran

The motion was carried.

12. SECFC Executive Director's Report:

Director Pharr reported interest in the Center continues to be high. Since the month of August there have been 147 events drawing in 5,000 or more visitors. \$17,000 plus dollars in revenue have been generated. There have been some issues with safety and security, however we held our first evacuation drill, and we were able to evacuate the Center in less than 5 minutes. Everyone cooperated and we received high praise from our emergency planning team.

Deputy Director Berry provided highlights on the Access Program and reported we were close to launching the program. As soon as the digital devices are programmed to deter removal from the premises, we will be able to launch the program. This is set for early September.

Deputy Director Berry also reported we are receiving additional support from the SFPUC landscapers to help manage the grounds and the grass. The grass is native to the community and is taller than some people are used to seeing because it's designed to provide a natural habitat for birds, pollinators, and other species. He noted the grasses, shrubs, and trees require low water use and thrive with little to no maintenance, including the use of a gas lawnmower, or trimmers. The landscape is a natural place that celebrates California's ecologies and is meant to be explored by bringing nature to the city.

He advised this is an opportunity for the public to experience nature and understand its benefits for the people and wildlife. While there may be some concerns about the way it looks it actually has a very important function. Previous comments from the community are well noted, and we are taking steps to address the aesthetic that everybody is experiencing.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners: None.

Public Comment: None.

13. Reed Fromer – Certificate of Recognition for His Significant Contribution to the Civil Rights Movement:

Chair Murphy read the Certificate of Recognition. (You may contact the Commission Secretary for a copy).

Director Pharr offered her condolences and Vice-Chair Fromer thanked the Commission for recognizing Reed Fromer for his contributions to the Bayview Community.

14. Future Agenda Items Initiate by Commissioners:

Commissioner Tran requested a trilingual list of information regarding what is going on at the Center.

Commissioner Mezie said she was in favor of multilanguage messaging which would help to reach more community members.

Director Pharr said there are 3 monitors installed on each floor of the Center. She said she would request a fourth one and work with the Facility Manager to see if one can be installed closer to the main area of the Center. She advised she would continue to ask for a digital sign for the outside of the building.

Public Comment: None.

15. Announcements:

Commissioner Posey thanked the SECC staff for their support during his Back-to-School Extravaganza and noted the community was still talking about it. He acknowledged the Farmers Market and said he was excited to be a part of everything that was going on at the Center.

Commissioner Mezie announced a Small Business Market at India Basin on September 2nd and on September 20th there will be a STEM event for high school students to receive exposure to different career pathways such as engineering math, and medicine. Flyers will be provided when they are available.

16. **Adjournment:** Commissioner Murphy adjourned the meeting at 8:24 p.m.

The next meeting of the Southeast Community Facility Commission will be Wednesday, September 27, 2023.

Carla Vaughn, Commission Secretary