

TO: James L. App, City Manager

FROM: Ron Whisenand, Community Development Director

SUBJECT: Housing Authority Board Interviews

DATE: April 6, 2010

Needs: For the City Council to set a date for interviews of candidates to fill openings on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners (the "Board").

Facts:

1. One of the statutory duties of the City Council is to appoint members of the Board.
2. The Board has seven members with three-year staggered terms. Five members are appointed from the community at large; two members must be residents of Oak Park Public Housing; one of the two resident members must be 62 or more years of age.
3. There are presently two openings on the Board:
 - a. The at-large position, presently held by Steve Sylvester, which was to expire on February 28, 2010.
 - b. A resident position, presently held by Richard Stainbrook, who has requested to resign due to health issues.
4. A recruitment notice for the at-large vacancy was placed with the local media and posted on the City's website for one month. The application deadline was Friday, February 19, 2010.
5. Steve Sylvester submitted an application to be re-appointed. No other applications were submitted for the at-large position.
6. The Housing Authority solicited applications for the resident position. On March 9, they submitted four applications to the City.
7. Although Richard Stainbrook occupied the resident position for persons 62 or more years of age, Nancy Rakowitz, the other resident member meets that criteria, and the replacement position need not be 62 years or older.

Analysis and
Conclusion:

Housing authorities operate under Sections 34200 et seq of the Health and Safety Code. Section 34270 sets forth the requirement for a seven member board with the composition outlined in Fact #1, above. This section also requires that the Mayor appoint the members of the Board, subject to confirmation by a majority of the City Council.

Policy

Reference: Health and Safety Code Sections 34200 et seq.; City Council Policies & Procedures governing advisory bodies adopted 12/18/01.

Options: That the City Council takes one of the actions listed below.

- a. As there are no competing applications for the at-large position, re-appoint Steve Sylvester to another term, which would expire on February 28, 2014; and
 - b. Set Thursday, April 22, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. to interview applicants for the resident position and make an appointment to the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners;
2. Amend, modify or reject the above option.