

SPECIAL SESSION, THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2012, 5:30 P.M.

The Mayor and City Council met in Special Session on Thursday, January 26, 2012 at 5:30 p.m. for a Public Hearing with the following members present: Mayor Nunez, Council Members Ochoa, Diaz, Lee, Garcia and Gonzales; City Manager Maner and City Secretary Raines. City Attorney DeFoyd out of state.

Mayor Nunez called the Public Hearing on Fair Housing Activity Statement to order.

City Manager Maner stated that Chief Squyres had information on this for the Mayor, Council and Public.

Chief Squyres stated that to refresh everyone's memory, The Fair Housing Activity Statement was something required by HUD and they put it as a stipulation to what is called the Round 2.2 money for the Hurricane Ike Disaster Recovery. He advised that it was also going to be a stipulation for all HUB money from this point forward so for our normal CDBG Grants and those kind of things, as well, and part of that agreement is that not only do we create this document but that we review it yearly starting with today and the future ones won't have to be a public hearing but the initial one did. He stated the requirement was we had to be on the record and within ten to thirty days ago, it was posted on our web site and in fact, it was both in English and Spanish and we have met all the criteria that we need to do. He stated that Ms. Raines and he had attended a class that put this document together for the city and they sort of spoon fed a lot of it to us, it was made for large communities or large counties that are called entitlement counties that directly receive HUD money and we were not one of those, we are a sub-recipient of HUD money, we usually get it through Harris County but in this case we are getting it through GLO. He stated that what this document would do from this point forward was serve as a guide, not a statutory law type of situation but simply a guide. He discussed some of the thing that we were going to have to do, nothing real major, things like holding a hearing, which we are doing and there are a few other things that we have accomplished in the past. When we had the meeting about the trailer court, we talked to GLO and they actually told us that we could count that as a public education meeting about fair housing so that counts. He stated that in general it was just a guidance document, there were a few other things that we have to do, we have to develop one little policy statement, it was a guiding council for the Planning and Zoning Commission but it was just that, a guidance Statement and he explained what this involved. He stated that it also had things addressing Issues about how to handle fair housing complaints and to avoid the city having to have an arbitration group and all of these sort of things, we are basically having a gentlemen's agreement with Harris County who does all these things and they basically conned Joyce or him or one of us switching back and forth to sit on theirs some of the time if anything comes up dealing with anyone in our community and that way they would have a advocate on that Harris County Panel, nothing official, we don't have to appoint anybody to a board

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or anything, it was just a way to address the issues and be in compliance with HUD requirements. He stated that between Ms. Raines and him, he thought we could probably answer a lot of questions about it if they had any.

He reminded everyone that this was a document that we were required, by the grant, to establish and it was something we were going to have to have from this point forward even if we didn't do it for the HUD money for the Round 2.2 IKE money, we would have to do it by the summer for the next round of normal HUD money.

Mayor Nunez adjourned the Public Hearing at 5:40 p.m..

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Joyce Raines". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Joyce Raines
City Secretary