



San Francisco SRO Task Force

1660 Mission Street, 6th Floor
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(415)558-6220

Members:

Rosemary Bosque, J.D.
Department of Building Inspection

Jeff Buckley
Central City SRO Collaborative

Bruce Burge
SRO Operator

Angela Chu
Chinatown SRO Collaborative

Vacant
Tenant Representative

Seth Katzman
Nonprofit SRO Owner/Manager

Joyce Lam
Families in SROs Collaborative

Victor Nelson
Tenant Representative

Johnson Ojo
DPH Environmental Health Services

Sam Patel
SRO Operator

Jorge Portillo
Mission SRO Collaborative

Charles Siron
Tenant Representative

Alex Tse, J.D.
City Attorney's Office

Scott Walton
Human Services Agency

Eric Whitney
DPH Housing & Urban Health

Chair:

SRO HOTEL HEALTH & SAFETY TASK FORCE COMMITTEE

MINUTES – July 21, 2011

1650 Mission Street, Room 403

Chair: Rosemary Bosque

Members Present: Jeff Buckley (Central City SRO Collaborative); Bruce Burge (SRO Operator); Angela Chu (Chinatown SRO Collaborative); Seth Katzman (Conard House); Joyce Lam (SRO Families United Collaborative); Victor Nelson (San Francisco Black Out Migration Task Force); Johnson Ojo (DPH-BEHS); Sam Patel (Independent Hotel Owners & Operators); Charles Siron (HIV Health Svs); Alex Tse (City Attorney's Office); Scott Walton (HSA-Housing & Homeless Programs)

Absent: Unexcused-None; Excused: Jorge Portillo (Mission SRO Collaborative); Eric Whitney (DPH)

Guests: Tomas Picarello (SRO Tenant); Charles Pitts (SRO Tenant); Mario Oblena (Environmental Health-DPH)

Minutes: Bernedette Perez (DBI-HIS)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Rosemary Bosque at 9:05AM.

2. Roll call/Determination of Quorum

Roll call was taken and there was a quorum.

3. Approval of Minutes of April 21, 2011 (Action)

No action taken due to lack of quorum.

Since there was not a quorum April 21, 2011 SRO Task Force meeting there are no corresponding minutes. A record of what was discussed at the meeting can be obtained SRO Task Force through the Administrative Support Bernedette Perez at 415 558-6165.

Public Comment: Thomas Picarello commented that his last name was misspelled. The correct spelling is Picarello.

Point of Order was made by Seth Katzman stating that you cannot vote to approve minutes without being present. Rosemary Bosque indicated that she would research this further with the City Attorney.

Thomas Picarello said that he agreed with Seth Katzman commented that in order to vote on the Minutes there should be a quorum.

4. Administrative Announcements (Discussion)

Rosemary Bosque asked if there were any suggestions regarding the Conference room.

There were no comments made.

5. Proposed amendments to SRO Task Force By-Laws- *Discussion & Action*

Rosemary Bosque restated the final changes of the By-Laws were the following: Page 1 Article II- Section 1 strike out plus a chairperson; Page 1 Section 2 No. #6 strikes out; Page 2 Section 5. Strike out; Page 3 changes to Section 2 membership suggested to add underline to SRO Task Force; Page 4 Section 1 Article IV . In-the event of a tied, vote, the Chair will cast the deciding vote. Page 5 striking out January 10, 2010, April 21, 2011 substitute with July 21, 2011.

Seth Katzman commented that we should follow Roberts Rules in abstaining from voting if we are not present.

Rosemary Bosque asked if there were any public comments.

Public Comment:

Thomas Picarello encouraged that everyone attend especially if it an action item. He also felt that the excused absences were being abused by the Task Force and he recommended that six (6) absences are too many. He suggested that if the member's miss three (3) meetings excused or unexcused they should be recommended to the Board for removal.

There was motion to approve the SRO Task Force By-laws.

Motion carried unanimously.

6. Challenges and Target Issues related to Bed Bug Infestation –*Discussion & Possible Action*

Rosemary Bosque said that we need to develop a SRO Task Force Bedbug Report. She stated that she will put together a template for the Task Force review. She also stated that everyone should participate and make comments because our goal is to encourage the SRO Task Force to do quarterly reports, then prepare annual reports on various issues as appropriate.

Scott Walton stated that we should get the frame work and recommendations and incorporate the recommendations made by the departments and follow up with DPH.

Rosemary Bosque asked if there were any collaboratives that would like to participate in any of the sections.

Sam Patel stated that he would be interested in drafting the challenges for hotel owners and operators. Rosemary Bosque thanked him for his participation.

Alex Tse commented that Task Force recommendations should be made on the basis provided in the report.

Rosemary Bosque said that the report should delineate facts, findings, and recommendations.

Alex Tse stated that the Task Force should comprehensive recommendations that would be helpful with City Code Enforcement efforts so that the Board would find this information useful.

Scott Walton said that the Task Force needs to define the various stakeholder challenges to minimize difficulties in drafting report content.

Seth Katzman said that he would be interested in working with the service providers and housing providers. Rosemary Bosque thanked him for his offer to assist.

Rosemary Bosque commented that in order to use the Task Force meeting time efficiently members should email her with their information so that she can synthesize the information into the report.

Dr. Johnson Ojo asked for clarification regarding the timeline of conditions, requesting feedback from Task Force members, encouraging every member to participate.

Public Comment:

Thomas Picarello said that he liked the idea of a template to address the issues and recommendations associated with bed bug infestation. He suggested that members make suggestions and bring their recommendations to the next meeting to be included in the report. and give report to the Task Force and send recommendations and put on agenda, and have a consensus regarding bed bugs.

Charles Pitts commented that the Task Force should have a rolling list of additions to include in the quarterly reports.

7. Prioritization of Future Meeting Topics – *Possible Action*

Task Force members were in favor of focusing on the bed bug issue on the next meeting agenda.

Sam Patel commented that he has been waiting to have a guest speaker address community kitchens.

Scott Walton stated the mailbox item relates to the USPS litigation and it should be removed from the agenda.

Jeff Buckley commented that community kitchens have been on the agenda for awhile.

Seth Katzman said that Task Force should have a discussion regarding the violence in the SRO's.

Bruce Burge requested that tenant's relocation fees be placed on a future agenda.

Sam Patel suggested that someone from the Seniors Action Network be invited to a future SRO Task Force meeting to address elderly issues in SRO's.

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It was suggested that the Task Force invite Supervisor Jana Kim to a future meeting.

Seth Katzman asked if any of the members would like to invite other guests.

Task Force members commented on inviting the Fire Department to speak on egress obstructions, the residential sprinkler ordinance, and community kitchens.

Rosemary Bosque said that she will speak with the Fire Marshal.

Jeff Buckley said that there are changes in the police policy regarding surveillance in SRO's and that the issue came through the Public Defender's office.

Alex Tse commented that he has received numerous complaints regarding musical rooms in SRO's and would like to have more information from the community collaboratives, and tenants to see what kind of enforcement should be done and to have regular reports from the collaboratives, and make it a regular agenda item.

Victor Nelson agreed with Jeff Buckley's comments regarding the surveillance issues.

Public Comment:

Tina Cheung from CCDC stated that there are mental health issues associated with elderly tenants which also includes hoarding and cluttering. She recommended that these issues be put on the agenda for a future meeting.

Thomas Picarello suggested the Task Force focus on and develop a consensus on the bed bug issues and lack of enforcement before loading future agenda with additional items.

Rosemary Bosque asked if there were any other public comments.

Charles Pitts commented on the basic services to SRO's regarding hoarding and cluttering, violence in SRO's, and he asked for a report from the City Attorney's office. He also mentioned Supervisor Avalos proposed legislation be discussed at a future meeting.

Josh Vining stated musical rooms issue to be prevalent in the Mission. He has received reports that some hotels are not issuing rent receipts, and that it is very difficult to get resolution on some hotel visitor's policy issues.

Jeff Buckley stated that the Central City Collaborative has had similar issues with the hotel visitor's policy depending on who is leasing and managing the building.

Rosemary Bosque explained that the musical room is a term that describes residential owners/operators who do not allow a tenant to establish occupancy contrary to the provisions of Section 1940.1 of the California Civil Code. DBI has assisted the City Attorney with these investigations through producing records required by Chapter 41 of the San Francisco Administrative Code.

Seth Katzman informed the Task Force that he had worked on an ad hoc committee 12 years ago which addressed this issue and finds this practice appalling.

8. General Public Comment

Rosemary Bosque asked if there were any further general public comment.

There was no public comment.

9. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30AM.