



EMPIRE MUNICIPAL ADVISORY COUNCIL

P.O. BOX 1841

Empire, CA 95319

TheEmpireMAC@gmail.com

Members:

Christopher Nunes, Chair

Dorothy Roberts, Secretary

Fabian Tamayo, Vice-Chair

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, October 26, 2022 @ 6 PM

Empire Community Library, 98 I street, Empire, CA 95319 - Community Room.

Present: Christopher Nunes, Fabian Tamayo, and Dorothy Roberts

1. Meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM by Chair Nunes.
2. The pledge of allegiance was recited by all in attendance.
Community Manager, Erica Inacio, offered translation for non-English speakers.
3. Chair Nunes welcomed the public and MAC members introduced themselves.
4. August 24, 2022, Meeting Minutes were unanimously approved.
5. Public Comment
 - Kelly Alvarado with the Community Services Agency gave a presentation on the Empire Cold Weather Shelter.
 - The Shelter will open in early to mid-December 2022 and closing early to mid-March.
 - It uses 22 of the 90 units that are vacant for the winter because those are the only units that have a heater.
 - The shelter houses families with minor children, provides wrap around services, including daily case management.
 - There is property management and office hours onsite.
 - The shelter partners with Stanislaus County Affordable Housing Corporation, Community Housing and Shelter Services, Stanislaus County Community Services Agency, the Housing Division and the Stanislaus Regional Housing Authority.
 - The Empire Cold Weather Shelter has been in operation for five years and have documented that families who participate in this program have a successful rate to obtaining permanent housing – approximately 80% peryear.
 - Steve Marrow with Stanislaus Regional Transit Authority introduced himself and stated that the Transit Authority is redesigning the bus system, offering a \$2 per day ride and a \$1 senior/disabled all day ride. You can reach Steve at smarrow@stanrta.org if you have more questions.
 - Juan Alanis introduced himself as running for Assembly District 22 and reminded everyone in attendance about election day and to get their ballots in so they can be counted on time.

6. Community Reports

- Public Safety:

- i. Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office

- Deputy Babbit introduced himself and let everyone know that deputy Davis has been reassigned. He reported that there were only 7 neighborly dispute calls and a few suspicious people calls.

- ii. California Highway Patrol

- Officer Eric introduced himself and reported there were 3 non-injury crashes, 3 racing/reckless driving calls, 3 stolen vehicles, 1 recovered vehicle, and few towed cars for various reasons. A question was asked about the 4-way in front of the school as it gets blocked by parents picking up their children, causing a traffic jam. Officer Eric stated that he would pass the information on to the officer in charge in the school area.

- iii. Stanislaus Consolidated Fire

- Captain Josh Tucker introduced himself and stated that they received 1,059 calls with 213 of them being for engine 22, with a majority of them being EMS calls and a fire on South Abbie.

- Local Government:

- i. Board of Supervisors –Channce Condit

- Russel Fowler reported for Supervisor Channce Condit. He stated that on Saturday November 5th at Empire Park they will be doing a free movie night for the community, with consolidated fire giving out free hotdogs to the public.

- ii. Chief Executive Office

- Erica Inacio, Community Manager, shared that she is preparing the 2023 MAC meeting calendars for approval. She reminded that it is election time and to get ballots in as soon as possible so they can be counted. She then stated that there were no applications submitted for the open MAC seats, therefore according to the bylaws, we will move from electing MAC members to appointing MAC members. Anyone interested can apply at StanCountyMACs.com under the Empire tab, and in the second paragraph there will be a link to download the application. Once completed you can email the application to her at inacioe@stancounty.com.

- iii. Public Works

- Brian England introduced himself and stated that they will start working on chip and seals in 2024. He also shared that Public Works will be purchasing a one man patch truck that they are hoping to have in June of next year.

- iv. School District

- Claudia Manzo, Principle of Empire Elementary, stated that the school is still doing the food distribution on the 1st and 3rd Fridays of every

month, and recognized the volunteer support. She also let the public know that every student can get free breakfast and lunch at the school. She then stated how the cameras are up and working and how they are linked to the sheriff's office.

The school put on a movie night that was very successful. Mrs. Manzo invited the community to their Dia de los Muertos dance and pop up they are having on Wednesday November 2nd from 5pm-7pm. She was also very excited to share to the public their academic hour, where students can receive help with Language Arts and Mathematics and as of right now, they have 150 students who stay after school to receive help.

She informed the community about the after-school enrichment clubs that include Jr. chefs, bugs and critters, and a sky dome. She also let the public know that Golden Valley Health is open and receiving new patients.

v. Library

- Diane Ramirez, Library Assistant, informed the public that the friends of the library will be hosting a Harvest Festival from 2-3:30 and at 3 they will be doing a costume parade. She also stated that the festival will include carnival-like games and crafts available for those in attendance.

7. Informational Items – None.

8. Action Items

- The MAC approved the 2023 Meeting Calendar for Empire.

9. Council Comments & Recommendations for Future Agenda Items

10. Adjournment: 6:25 pm

Next Regular Meeting – January 25, 2023, at 6:00 PM.