



Rent Stabilization Board

RENT STABILIZATION BOARD
Special Meeting Minutes
(Approved)

Maudelle Shirek Building
2134 Martin Luther King Jr. Way
Council Chambers, Second Floor
Broadcast Live on KPFB – 89.3 and BTV Cable Channel 33
Live Webcasting at www.cityofberkeley.info/rent

Monday, February 27, 2017
7:00 p.m.

In accordance with the Brown Act, CA Government Code Section 54953(b)(2), this meeting was also teleconferenced from the following location: 1600 South Joyce Street, Apt. 328, Arlington, VA 22202

1. **Roll call** – Chair Selawsky called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
Aimee Mueller called roll.
Commissioners present: Chang, Laverde-Levine, Murphy, Simon-Weisberg, Soto-Vigil, Townley, Tregub (via teleconference), Selawsky.
Staff present: Brown, Mueller, Shoquist
2. **Approval of Agenda** – M/S/C (Townley/Chang) APPROVE AGENDA AS WRITTEN. Roll call vote. YES: Chang, Laverde-Levine, Murphy, Simon-Weisberg, Soto-Vigil, Townley, Tregub, Selawsky; NO: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None. Carried 8-0-0-0.
3. **Public Forum** – There were nine speakers. Sabrina Aller, a candidate for the vacant Rent Board seat, shared information about her life and project management experiences/skills. Wyndy Knox Carr shared concerns over potential cutbacks in federal housing subsidies and ideas to raise funds to help close potential gaps. Maria Poblet, a candidate for the vacant Rent Board seat, spoke about her experience with tenants’ rights and racial justice work. Mel Cole, a candidate for the vacant Rent Board seat, spoke about her experience as an attorney, navigating both sides of laws meant to protect people. Tim Kingston, a candidate for the vacant Rent Board seat, spoke about how his work and life experiences have given him the ability to see both sides of issues and the ways in which laws intersect with the lives of people. Christine Schwartz, a candidate for the vacant Rent Board seat, spoke about her experiences with landlord harassment and her desire to help others in similar situations. She also spoke about rental housing parking issues and the proposed Tenant Protection Ordinance. Stefan Elgstrand, a candidate for the vacant Rent Board seat, spoke about his political activism and involvement in legislative efforts around housing policy. Rajib Chowdhury, a candidate for the vacant Rent Board seat, spoke about being an advocate for immigrants in Berkeley and the need for the Board to more fully address Berkeley’s changing demographics. Krista Gulbransen, Executive Director of the

Berkeley Rental Housing Coalition, spoke about the need for a diversity of experiences on the Board and suggested that, if the Board wanted a tenant to fill the vacant seat, they choose someone who has a good relationship with their landlord.

4. ACTION ITEMS

a. From Board Members, Executive Director and Committees

- (1) Proposed Process to Nominate Candidates for Consideration to Replace Outgoing Rent Board Commissioner Harr (Chair Selawsky)

M/S/C (Soto-Vigil/Townley) UTILIZE TWO ROUNDS OF THE STANDARD ROLL CALL VOTING PROCEDURE TO MAKE NOMINATIONS, EXCEPT THAT ROLL WILL BE CALLED IN REVERSE ORDER FOR THE FIRST ROUND. Roll call vote. YES: Chang, Simon-Weisberg, Soto-Vigil, Townley, Tregub, Selawsky; NO: Laverde-Levine; ABSTAIN: Murphy; ABSENT: None. Carried: 6-1-1-0.

- (2) Discussion of applicants and nomination of eligible candidates to be considered by the Ad Hoc Replacement Committee to fill the vacant seat on the Board (Executive Director)

Commissioner	Round One Nomination	Round Two Nomination
Chang	ABSTAIN	ABSTAIN
Laverde-Levine	Tim Kingston	Eleanor Walden
Murphy	Poki Namkung	Christine Schwartz
Simon-Weisberg	Maria Poblet	Christine Schwartz
Soto-Vigil	Maria Poblet	Alfred Twu
Townley	Rajib Chowdhury	Mark Beckwith
Tregub	Shoshana O’Keefe	Stefan Elgstrand
Selawsky	Christine Schwartz	Stefan Elgstrand

THE FOLLOWING APPLICANTS WILL BE FURTHER CONSIDERED BY THE AD HOC COMMITTEE TO FILL BOARD VACANCY: Mark Beckwith, Rajib Chowdhury, Stefan Elgstrand, Tim Kingston, Poki Namkung, Shoshana O’Keefe, Maria Poblet, Christine Schwartz, Alfred Twu and Eleanor Walden.

- 5. **ADJOURNMENT** – M/S/C (Tregub/Selawsky) to adjourn the meeting in memory of Dora Bibbs and Gary White who lost their lives to carbon monoxide poisoning.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.