MVCC Renters Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

March 20, 2021

1. Call to order (2:08 pm)

Tyler Laferriere (TL) and Derl Clausen (DC) in attendance; Kalani Whittington (KW) joined at 2:27.

2. Announcements

None

2.1 Co-Chair Introductions

• Tyler Laferriere

3. Reading and Approval of Minutes from previous meeting - February 20th, 2021.

- All materials presented at the meeting are available at the MVCC Renters' page.
- Meeting minutes for the this meeting have been posted both under the meeting date and on today's meeting.
- 4. Unfinished Business and General Orders

4.1 Discussion and Possible Action concerning a rental standards guide for prospective developers in Mar Vista

TL: I've been very behind in getting this, but my general thought around this item is to create some sort of guideline we could present to developers of rental units looking to build in Mar Vista some sort of list of amenities or preferences we find most appealing or desirable.

DC: I think there's a lot we could do with that. What is Mar Vista looking for?

TL: I think that may be a better angle.

DC: Besides lowering the price of rent, there are several questions we could ask about green space and other amenities. Those sort of things would be great. Is this going to be the next meeting.

TL: No our last will be in May since the new Board will be sat before the next meeting in June.

DC: Let me know if you want to take a look. Even if we could dress up some things are marketing material or buildings that aren't rainbow colored office buildings.

5. New Business -

5.1 Discussion concerning LA City 2021 COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program (ERAP)

TL: In case those attending did not know, the City of LA has finally created a second renters' assistance program for low income renting and condo-owning households. Please spread the word around through your networks that this is happening.

DC: I will definitely let my network know that this is taking place

5.2 Discussion and Possible Action concerning data and reporting of the Rent Escrow Account Program

TL: When putting the agenda together for this meeting, I was searching through LA City agendas and did not know that program existed. Apparently when a property is a repeated violator of safety, health or housing codes, they are put into this program until they are brought into compliance. What I want to do is have HCID recreate some sort of reporting mechanism on the properties in this program.

DC: I completely agree with this. As you have talked about in the past, there is information asymmetry between renters and landlords. Landlords ask for all sorts of information when you rent, but you often know next to nothing about them. There is a candidate running for City Controller who is big into data transparency, and I would definitely be on board to help this happen.

TL: My other hope also is to make data from HCID more accessible.

DC: I've worked a lot with City Clerk data, and it suffers from the same problems. I make the motion to approve this.

TL: Second.

Motion passes 2-0-0.

6. Public Comment for Items NOT on This Agenda

KW: LA DWP is embroiled in another water dispute with the Owen Valley. Los Angeles would not have been able to grow without stealing water from the Owen Valley and Own Valley farmers. We are starting another drought here. We have limited resources, and unless we grow those resources we will end up looking like a third world country. Governor Wilson put us on a sliding scale with the oil markets. All of these things, though they seem trivial, will grow if we do not address them. We have had residents demanding to know when this is going to be done.

TL: Before I forget, the LA City Council is hearing a motion next Wednesday, March 24, at 3 p.m. a motion to establish a tenant anti-harassment ordinance in the City. The Council File in question is 14-0268-S13. Please let everyone know to call in and support if possible.

7. Adjourned at 2:42 pm