

**MINUTES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, February 24, 2014, 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers, 305 West Third Street, 1st Floor, Oxnard, California 93030**

A. ROLL CALL/POSTING OF AGENDA/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Baxter, Dozier, Kelly, Robinson and Stein.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

C. INFORMATION/CONSENT AGENDA

1. SUBJECT: Minutes from January 27, 2013 - Regular Meeting
RECOMMENDATION: Approved

D. PRESENTATIONS

1. Sofia Balderrama, City of Oxnard, presented highlights and a final budget report regarding the 2013 Multicultural Festival (MCF). The CRC also discussed the possibility of moving the festival to another month to avoid any bad weather. Vice Chair Robinson reminded the Commissioners that the festival was moved several times in previous years to August, September, until it was decided by the CRC that the first Saturday of October would be the best time to hold the MCF. Vice Chair Robinson also commented that weather should not be a reason to move the event since there is no control over the weather on any date. Commissioner Stein commented that if you look at the trend over the last couple of years, the festival has been in the red and personally he doesn't think it would be a bad idea to discuss other ways to make the event more successful and personally he would like to discuss possibly moving the event to August where it is more in the summer time. Christina Aerenlund, Public Information Officer, commented that over the years the CRC has looked into other dates for the festival but considering other events taking place and considering available sponsorship, the conclusion by the CRC over the years has been to stick to October. Even considering the weather, the MCF organizing committee has found that people still attend the event even if the weather is a challenge at times. Aerenlund also said that moving the date for the festival doesn't necessarily have to do with staff and what's more comfortable for staff. Instead, it has to do with evaluations made over the years by the Commissioners and what they felt was important such as the association with Multicultural Month and a whole set of discussions that have happened over the years. And, August is not always good because everybody is gone and Councilmembers are not always on site. Vice Chair Robinson made a motion to maintain the date currently established for the MCF. Public comments followed by Abel Magana and Steve Nash. *(See video for details on public comments).*

E. COMMISSION/NEW BUSINESS

1. SUBJECT: Multicultural Festival 2014.
MOTION: The CRC discussed the benefits of moving the MCF to a new location. Vice Chair Robinson amended his original motion of maintaining the date for the MCF as the first Saturday in October and to include that this year the festival be moved to its new location at Collection Park at The Collection at River Park, Saturday, October 4, 2014, from 11 AM – 6 PM. Public comments were provided by Theadora Davitt-Cornyn. *(See video for details on public comments).*
The motion was seconded by Commissioner Baxter. Voting results on the motion was as followed: Yay 5, No 0.

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2. SUBJECT: Update on the progress of establishing a social media policy for the City and availability of online streaming and archiving of CRC meetings.
MOTION: Christina Aerenlund said there is no update on the media policy at this time. Commissioner Stein asked if there is anything preventing the CRC from pursuing a Facebook page at this time even though the media policy is not yet in place. Rahsaan Tilford, Assistant City Attorney, said there are a lot of first amendment issues and brown act issues related to a Facebook page. City Attorney's office would like to see a policy in place because of those issues. In terms of live streaming, staff has been experiencing many issues with Granicus regarding live and archived streaming. And, until these issues are resolved staff cannot move forward to offer these services to the CRC.
3. SUBJECT: Discuss outreach efforts and criteria for all categories regarding the CRC Community Recognition Awards program for 2014.
MOTION: The deadline dates will stand as recommended by staff. In regards to the Senior category, the CRC will collaborate with the Senior Commission to help in choosing a winner in that category. During the March meeting, the Chair will assign CRC Commissioners to serve on the Community Awards subcommittee.
4. SUBJECT: Discuss and review CRC brochure.
MOTION: Staff will continue working on the brochure and will provide an updated copy at the March meeting.
5. SUBJECT: Revamp and discuss CRC subcommittees.
MOTION: Table this item until the March meeting to allow the newly assigned Commissioners to participate in the discussion.
6. SUBJECT: Discuss the possibility of conducting CRC meetings at various locations throughout the City of Oxnard.
MOTION: The Commission voted to conduct one special meeting per quarter. The first to be held during the month of April 2014 with location to be determined by staff and that the agenda for that special meeting be reviewed and discussed by the board before it is published. Rahsaan Tilford reminded the CRC that the meeting needs to be held in a publicly owned building. City facilities would be easier to reserve. Motion was brought forward by Vice Chairman Robinson to vote on this item and seconded by Commissioner Kelly. Voting results on the motion was a followed: Yay 5, No 0.
7. SUBJECT: Discuss ideas for annual CRC report to City Council.
MOTION: CRC recommended that staff write a report to include CRC accomplishments, MCF, community awards and a recommendation to City Council for additional funding. The report to City Council should be as a line item on the City Council agenda and stand alone from annual budget report. Commissioner Stein said the CRC should start having discussions to make this report in May or June and it should be done on a PowerPoint. Rahsaan Tilford recommended that Commissioners send items to staff that should be included in the report and staff will organize them in a PowerPoint and then CRC can approve the final report. Further discussion regarding this item will continue in the March agenda.
8. SUBJECT: Consideration of guest speakers for future CRC meetings
MOTION: Staff has already confirmed representatives from the Children's Wall of Tears for the March agenda. Chairman Dozier would like to invite representatives from the recently established Youth Commission to come present at a future CRC meeting.

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F. REPORT OF COMMISSION SECRETARY
N/A

G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION EVENTS REPORT

Community Intervention and Awareness Subcommittee - N/A

Multicultural Festival Subcommittee - Staff will inform the CRC about upcoming MCF Planning Committee meetings.

Public Safety Subcommittee – Commissioner Baxter reported on Oxnard Police Department's Explorers Post 9286 is currently recruiting for volunteers between the ages of 14-21 and maintain a GPA of 2.0. Applicants can obtain an application at the police department lobby or online at www.oxnardpd.org, or email Jacob.Juneth@oxnardpd.org

Commissioner Baxter also reported on how Oxnard Police gathers and organizes their complaints via a complaint form that is available online.

Commissioner Stein reported that Fire has purchased a new hook and ladder truck and preparations are being made for breaking ground at the future site of Fire Station #8. On the police side of things, Stein was appointed to Community Advisory Board for Oxnard Police and training was offered by the Department of Justice that could also serve the CRC. And, the City of Oxnard was recently named as one of the top 10 safest cities.

Youth Subcommittee - N/A

Neighborhood Councils Subcommittee - N/A

Fair Housing Subcommittee - N/A

H. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Stein asked about a possible RFP regarding the public access cable channel issue that may come to City Council and asked if CRC would be involved. From his recollection, the CRC voted to pass a resolution to ask City Council to be involved with the public access issue and Commissioner Stein asked if that resolution would come to Council anytime soon. Staff said they would look into it and report back to the CRC in March. Vice Chair Robinson reminded everyone that February is Black History Month. Commissioner Baxter commented that the CRC has an opportunity to be more involved in the community and should also get involved in the Characters Unite program from the USA Network. Commissioner Kelly congratulated Chairman Dozier on running a successful first meeting and hopes the CRC will be very viable in this city and much respected in the future. Chairman Dozier said he appreciates all the support and intends to follow up on public questions that are raised at these meetings. For example, starting from the discussions held at the January meeting, the CRC will look into working more with the school district to protect against bullying, attend school district meetings, clearly define the CRC mission, review business and management ethics, have City Hall explain complaint process, do a police ride along, seek federal funding, speak to City Council, etc.

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I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:29 PM. The next regular Community Relations Commission meeting will be Monday, March 17, 2014, in the Oxnard City Council Chambers, 305 West 3rd Street, Oxnard, at 6 PM.

Orlando Dozier, Commission Chair

Luis Guereca, Secretary