

MINUTES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, September 21, 2015, 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 Davitt-Cornyn, Moreno, Quintana and Sorkin. Absent was Commissioner Reynoso. Luis Guereca, Secretary, and Rahsaan Tilford, Assistant City Attorney, were present.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

C. INFORMATION/CONSENT AGENDA

1. SUBJECT: Minutes from August 17, 2015 - Regular Meeting.
ACTION: N/A. Minutes will be provided next month.

D. PRESENTATIONS

1. Mike Ramirez, City of Oxnard, Recreation Coordinator, shared information regarding classes available in the fall, PAL programming events, programs for special needs youth, and details from the recently released Recreation Guide. A vast majority of the PAL programs and events are free. PAL also offers transportation to many of its programs. Copies of the Recreation Guide were provided. The guide is not distributed by mail to the entire City. Copies are available at various sites and can be downloaded from the City's website. Oxnard PAL and City Corps offer programs to youth all over the City. Commissioner Kelly asked what specific programs are offered to special needs youth. Mr. Ramirez said several sports activities such as soccer, basketball, golf, indoor soccer and flag football. They also have Fun Club and Day at the Park. Chairman Quintana asked about recent budget cuts to Recreation. Mr. Ramirez said it was about 20% in cuts that included some staff. The main contact for Recreation is (805) 385-7995.
Please refer to the video for more details.
2. Sergio Martinez, City of Oxnard, Fire Department, Battalion Chief, shared details on the upcoming Fire Prevention & Disaster Preparedness Training Academy and Fair, scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2015, at Fire Station 8, 3000 South Rose Avenue, from 10 AM – 3 PM. Copies of the event flyer were provided. Fire Station 8 will also provide Disaster Preparedness classes in both English and Spanish.
Please refer to the video for more details.
3. Martha Guillen City of Oxnard, City Manager's Office, and Director of the Multicultural Festival (MCF), provided information about this year's event scheduled for Saturday, October 3, 2015, at College Park, from 10 AM – 5 PM. A PowerPoint presentation was used. Commissioner Moreno said he will provide student volunteers to help with festival setup and other responsibilities. More information is available online at: oxnardmulticultural.weebly.com, or, by calling at (805) 385-7434.
Please refer to the video for more details.

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E. COMMISSION/NEW BUSINESS

1. **SUBJECT:** Continue discussion regarding CRC's future involvement with the annual Multicultural Festival. Discussion will include, but it not limited to the following: consideration of an outside organization to run the festival, revamping of festival subcommittees, more involvement from the Commissioners in planning the event, and reorganize the selection process of the entertainment lineup for more transparency.
ACTION: Commissioner Kelly noted that he would like to propose in the future that the CRC take proposals from outside organizations to take on the MCF and take the workload off of the City. He said that organizing this festival every year is a tremendous burden on City staff and that there's no question about that. He also noted that City staff already has other duties and a tremendous workload just from the City. He would also like to see a definite criteria setup for those that are going to participate in the festival, such as entertainers. Chairman Quintana commented that he doesn't see any private organization lining up to take over the festival. He said he see this festival disappearing because there's really no money in it such as other festivals. Without City input he sees this event going away. As far as whether or not they can move this festival to be a publicly run festival, does the CRC have to approach City Council? Rahsaan Tilford, Assistant City Attorney, commented that it would be most appropriate for the CRC to make a recommendation to Council and let Council decide on how they want to approach the issue. Commissioner Kelly said that they won't know if anybody out there is interested to run the MCF until they advertise it. He said the City has done an excellent job in organizing the event, but City staff only has so much time in the day to commit to the MCF because they have so many other things on their plate. He said that the CRC needs to try to see if anybody else is interested in running the event. Commissioner Sorkin noted that there is a big difference between the MCF and the Strawberry and Tamale Festival. He said the MCF is a feel good event that is a product of the CRC. He feels that the MCF and the CRC go hand-in-hand and without it, it diminishes the CRC. He said it will be tough thing to commercialize the MCF. Commissioner Moreno said he feels the MCF needs to be kept within the City. Mr. Tilford recommended that if the CRC wants to explore having an outside group coordinate the MCF, it would probably be through an RFP process. Chairman Quintana directed staff to keep this item on future agendas for continued discussion.
2. **SUBJECT:** Consideration of guest speakers for offsite meeting tentatively scheduled for Monday, November 16, 2015 at the South Oxnard Center.
ACTION: Commissioner Kelly noted that Commissioner Reynoso did request the person who handles police academy training, how they choose recruits, what qualities do they look for in recruiting. Commissioner Moreno a person to come talk about how NextDoor.com works with the community. Chairman Quintana recommended something more focused on south Oxnard.
3. **SUBJECT:** Consideration of guest speakers for future CRC meetings.
ACTION: Chairman Quintana requested a representative from Battleground Inc.

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F. REPORT OF COMMISSION SECRETARY

Commissioners will be emailed with a shift schedule to assist with the MCF setup on Friday, the day before the event, and a schedule for the day of the event.

G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Youth Subcommittee: No report.

Fair Housing Subcommittee: No report.

Public Safety Subcommittee: No report.

Multicultural Festival Subcommittee: Commissioner Kelly reported that they had their meetings for planning the MCF.

Bylaws Subcommittee: Commissioner Theadora is looking forward to meet with Chairman Quintana and Vice Chair Sorkin.

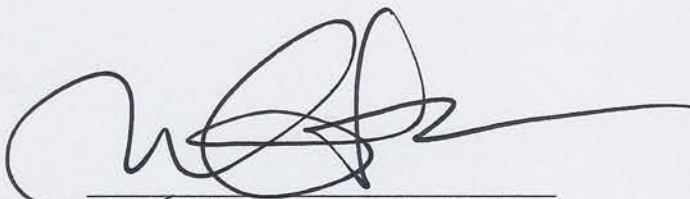
H. COMMISSIONER NON-SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

Commissioner Sorkin said that about a year ago the Public Safety Subcommittee were holding meetings, but unfortunately those discussions ended. He would like to see those meetings start up, again. Commissioner Kelly is still interested in inviting Todo Poder to a future CRC meeting.

I. ADJOURNMENT

Vice Chairman Sorkin motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Commissioner Moreno. The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:44 PM.

The next regular Community Relations Commission meeting will be Monday, October 19, 2015, in the Oxnard City Council Chambers, 305 West 3rd Street, Oxnard, at 6 PM.



Mario Quintana, Commission Chair



Luis Güereca, Secretary