

MINUTES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, July 15, 2013, 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 Castañeda, Dozier, Kelly, Mitchell, Robinson and Stein.
Absent was Commissioner Baxter.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Darlene Miller asked about what they can do to inform seniors about medical health care, but not just online, since not all seniors have access to computers. And, what are we doing to push energy wise programs like solar energy and new jobs to push our economy in Ventura County?

Tony Coral promoted his new company, Doña Cele, a new brand of refried beans. Asked if there are any kind of programs available for small businesses in Oxnard. Chairman Robinson informed him that staff could contact him with more information.

C. INFORMATION/CONSENT AGENDA

1. SUBJECT: Minutes from April 15, 2013 - Regular Meeting
RECOMMENDATION: Approved

D. PRESENTATIONS

1. Vincent Steward, Vice President, Black American Political Association of California (BAPAC), local chapter, shared history and information about the work and services at BAPAC and their involvement with the community, including sponsorship of the local Juneteen event. They are a multicultural group. They meet on the 3rd Monday of the month at the Oxnard Elementary School District at 6:30 PM. For more information, Don Montgomery (805) 824-1474 or Vincent Steward (805) 822-4167.

2. Sheila Jenkins, Oxnard Salsa Festival, with the Oxnard Downtowners, shared details about the upcoming festival scheduled for Saturday and Sunday, July 27 & 28, 2013 at Downtown Oxnard Plaza Park. The event is free. www.oxnardsalsafestival.com Other events related to the Salsa Festival include: Salsa in the Streets at the Collection in Riverpark, Oxnard Salsa Dash, and the Kick-off concert with Tito Puente, Jr.

E. COMMISSION/NEW BUSINESS

1. SUBJECT: Announce the winners of the 2013 CRC Community Awards.

MOTION: Chairman Robinson announced the winners: Voces da la Comunidad for Outstanding Organization, Darlene Elaine Miller for Outstanding Individual, Valita Stoke for Outstanding Youth, and Patricia Kosmo for Outstanding Senior.

2. SUBJECT: Appoint Commissioner Joseph Castañeda to available CRC subcommittees.

MOTION: Commissioner Castañeda signed up for the following two subcommittees: Neighborhood Councils and Fair Housing. Commissioner Stein removed himself from the Neighborhood Councils subcommittee.

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3. SUBJECT: Multicultural Festival (MCF) Youth Art Contest for the 2013.

MOTION: Discussed details about this year's contest, including more online outreach and working closely with the schools. Commissioner Stein commented on the importance of bringing back the youth art component to the festival. Chairman Robinson also agreed with the importance of having a youth art component as part of the festival. Martha Guillen reported on planned outreach efforts for the youth art component, including printing applications, using social media, and more. Prizes for awardees are yet to be determined but may include gift certificates from local businesses. Commissioner Kelly recommended more business sponsorship to cut down on the cost of the youth art component and possibly involvement by some of the individual Dallas Cowboys players. Commissioner Stein asked if the PIO office provided any MCF materials to the Dallas Cowboys for possible sponsorship funds. Christina Aerenlund, Public Information Officer, responded that the PIO's office only work with the Cowboys to ensure Councilmembers are able to participate in events and organize the various VIP passes for the camp. PIO has nothing to do with negotiating of contracts, which is done with the City Manager's office, and PIO has nothing to do with that portion. Aerenlund will provide a copy of the MCF sponsorship packet to the Dallas Cowboys organization to ask if they might be available to participate as a supporter.

4. SUBJECT: Discuss the various CRC outreach opportunities in the community.

MOTION: Commissioner Stein asked for an update on Public Access Television and the social media policy. Christina Aerenlund reported that the Public Access Television item is going in front of City Council at the July 23 meeting. She reminded the CRC that this is an operations contract that has already been awarded to a non-profit, so the discussion is just an update on the status of the channel. The social media policy is still a work-in-progress and the first draft of that policy is still under review and then needs to go to Council for discussion.

5. SUBJECT: Consideration of guest speakers for future CRC meetings.

MOTION: Commissioner Stein commented that he didn't know how weird it would be but maybe they could contact a representative from the Collection to help with CRC activities.

F. REPORT OF COMMISSION SECRETARY

Martha Guillen, acting secretary, reminded the CRC that she has more sponsorship packets for each Commissioner to go out and recruit sponsors for the MCF. Guillen also informed Mr. Coral that the City's website has information on the upcoming MCF and hope he is available as a vendor.

G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION EVENTS REPORT

Community Intervention and Awareness Subcommittee - Chairman Robinson reported on low activities being reported from local law enforcement in regards to crime.

Multicultural Festival Subcommittee – N/A

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Public Safety Subcommittee – Commissioner Robinson reported that Commissioner Baxter continues to be ill at this point in time and is not available to attend the meetings. But, he is available for important issues that need his participation. Commissioner Stein reported that the VC Start reported on 78 DUI arrests during the July 4 weekend. The Explorers also recently conducted their graduation ceremony. The Oxnard Firefighters is holding a beach cleanup on July 20 from 9 – 11 AM on 5th street where the street meets the ocean. Fire Station #8 was approved by City Council and will be constructed the intersections of Channel Islands Boulevard and Rose Avenue.

Youth Subcommittee – Commissioner Kelly has nothing to report. Commissioner Mitchell reported on the availability of the homework center at the Main Downtown Library available during the summer from June 24 - August 17, Monday-Thursday from 1-5 PM and Saturday from 1-5 PM. The Recreation Guide is available for summer activities and they can be contacted at (805) 385-7939. Commissioner Stein reported that the Oxnard School District just hired a new superintendent and that he is one of the youngest ever hired and that he will be an asset to the community.

Neighborhood Councils Subcommittee – Commissioner Stein reported that the Dallas Cowboys camp is taking place near the River Ridge neighborhood and to be cautious of all the traffic in that area. Residents have complained that dust is entering their homes in that area because of the traffic in the dirt parking lot. Stein informed that the dirt lot is being watered down regularly to minimize the dust.

Fair Housing Subcommittee – N/A

Bylaws Subcommittee – Chairman Robinson reported that the subcommittee would continue meeting. Commissioner Robinson informed the CRC that this subcommittee would meet and report to the entire CRC for further discussion and sharing of ideas. The collection of ideas will serve as a foundation for this subcommittee to move forward and eventually create a new bylaws draft for review by the CRC and then presented to City Council for review and discussion. Assistant City Attorney Rahsaan Tilford advised the subcommittee and the CRC to email questions and concerns or stop by the office at some time because the City Attorney's office is so under staffed at this time and it's becoming more difficult to attend all subcommittee meetings. CRC agreed.

H. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Dozier commented on the ongoing Trayvon Martin case and that he reminds this community that the CRC is available to help address these types of issues even if it's just to recommend professionals that may help. Commissioner Stein agreed with Commissioner Dozier's comments. He also requested a Public Access Television update at possibly the next CRC meeting in August. Commissioner Kelly agreed with Commissioner Dozier's comments and commented on how important it is for this Commission to work closely with City Council and serve this community/city by establishing the CRC as the go-to Commission for any complaints and concerns that the community might have. Commissioner Robinson reported on two students from Pacifica High School that ended up going to the United States Naval Academy and how important this is for the future of these students.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:31 PM. The next regular Community Relations Commission meeting will be Monday, August 19, 2013, in the Oxnard City Council Chambers, 305 West 3rd Street, Oxnard, at 6 PM.