

**MINUTES**  
**COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**Monday, January 25, 2016, 6:00 PM**  
**Human Resources Community Room, 300 West Third Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor, Oxnard, California 93030**

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

Present at the meeting were Commissioners Kelly, Moreno, Quintana, Reynoso, Sorkin

Commissioner Theadora was absent.

Luis Guereca, Secretary was present.

Guests present included Mayor Pro-Tem Ramirez, Councilman MacDonald, Sergio Martinez (Oxnard Fire), Susan Duenas (Oxnard Fire), Karl Lawson (Oxnard Housing) and Abel Magaña (Oxnard Downtown Management District).

**B. ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

1. SUBJECT: Election of Commission Chair and Vice Chair.

ACTION: Commissioner Kelly was voted in as Chair and Commissioner Reynoso as Vice Chair.

**C. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. SUBJECT: Minutes from November 16, 2015 - Regular Meeting.

ACTION: Minutes approved by all CRC Commissioners.

**D. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

A person may address the Community Relations Commission (CRC) only on matters within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. The presiding officer shall limit public comments to three minutes. The Commission cannot enter into detailed discussion or take action on any item presented during public comments that is not on the agenda. Such items may only be referred to the Commission Secretary for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda for discussion. Unless otherwise approved by the Commission, persons wishing to speak on items on the agenda should do so during public comments.

**E. COMMISSION NEW BUSINESS**

1. SUBJECT: Set date, time, and location of regular meetings for 2016 and annual meeting for 2017.

ACTION: Resolution was approved establishing regular CRC meeting dates for 2016 and annual meeting in January for 2017. All Commissioners voted and approved.

2. SUBJECT: Assignment of CRC subcommittees.

ACTION: CRC Commissioners kept same assignments of Commission subcommittees. Subcommittees for 2016 include the following:

Youth Subcommittee - Commissioners Quintana and Moreno

Fair Housing Subcommittee - Commissioners Sorkin and Quintana

Public Safety Subcommittee - Commissioners Kelly and Reynoso

Multicultural Festival Subcommittee - Commissioners Reynoso, Moreno and Kelly

Bylaws Subcommittee - Commissioners Davitt-Cornyn, Sorkin and Quintana

3. SUBJECT: Receive written report from Karl Lawson, Fair Housing Officer, City of Oxnard, regarding a follow-up to his presentation at the November 16, 2015 CRC meeting.

ACTION: Copies of the report were provided to the Commissioners. Karl spoke about community development funds that will be allocated to non-profits and other entities. There will be a public hearing scheduled during the City Council meeting on February 19.

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4. SUBJECT: Discuss and vote on a one-to-two-year hiatus of the Multicultural Festival (MCF) beginning in 2016. The hiatus will allow the CRC to regroup and refocus its efforts with the event and allow more time to create and develop new community-based collaborations.

ACTION: Commissioners discussed pros and cons of the festival and importance of keeping the festival going. Commissioner Sorkin said the CRC needs to find a new organization to take it over because it takes too much City staff time to organize. He wants it to move forward towards privatizing the event. Commissioner Quintana said the festival is an important event and that the community relies on it. Commissioner Moreno does not want to see it end. He's not interested in turning the event into a money making machine. It should be more community based. Commissioner Reynoso said the MCF Subcommittee met with the City Manager to see what kind of commitment there is from his office for the CRC and MCF. Reynoso said the City Manager wants to see the MCF continue and that the CRC needs to work more closely with other cultural groups and Commissions to make it happen. Chairman Kelly said he is fully committed to continue the festival. He wants to have more community involvement to help with the logistics of organizing the event. He also wants to change the dynamic of how it's organized. Abel Magaña from Oxnard Downtown Management District (ODMD) said he would like to see the festival return to downtown. A vote was taken for the CRC to put the MCF on hiatus beginning this year in 2016. All CRC Commissioners voted against a hiatus and in the process will keep the MCF going, including in 2016. Martha Guillen, the MCF's director for the past 10 years, had previously stated she will not continue as director of the event. CRC Commissioners will take on more responsibility in the organizing of the festival. It was noted that the CRC would like the festival to return to Plaza Park in downtown Oxnard. Staff will plan a meeting ASAP to discuss the planning of the event. The MCF is always scheduled on the first Saturday of October. This means the event will take place on October 1, 2016.

5. SUBJECT: Consideration of changes to the CRC Community Recognition Awards program. Discuss outreach efforts and deadline for 2016 program.

ACTION: Staff was directed to get all CRC Commissioners to vote on last year's submissions and choose the winners even if not enough applications were returned. Staff will also prepared the applications for the 2016 program and provide copies at the next CRC meeting in February. Commissioner Moreno asked for a list of past winners. Chairman Kelly asked for a list of meeting dates/times of all the other City Commissions so that the CRC can do outreach and promote the community awards program. The deadline for the 2016 awards will be on June 23. Winners will be announced at the July 18 CRC meeting and presented at the July 19 City Council meeting.

6. SUBJECT: Update on annual CRC report to City Council.

ACTION: Staff was directed to submit report to City Council as is (report was created by Commissioner Quintana in 2015).

7. SUBJECT: Review staff prepared resolution with the proposed changes to the CRC bylaws as requested by the CRC members and the Bylaws Subcommittee. The changes being recommended involve CRC procedural changes regarding motions from the floor for future agenda items. If adopted, a copy of the resolution will be forwarded to the City Manager with a request to agendize the item for Council review and consideration.

ACTION: There was no representative from the City Attorney's Office at the CRC meeting. The City Attorney had previously said his office was going to prepare a resolution for review and approval. This item was tabled until the February 22 CRC meeting.

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8. SUBJECT: Consideration of guest speakers for future CRC meetings.  
ACTION: Commissioner Moreno would like to invite the person in charge of hiring for the Police and Fire departments. He would also like to invite representatives of the Police training academy. Commissioner Moreno would also like an update from Police regarding community outreach. Commissioner Sorkin would like to invite Police Department and Police Chief to talk about what the City is doing in regards to improvements with the leadership of the new City Manager. Chairman Kelly would like the suggested invites to be considered for future CRC meetings.
9. SUBJECT: Consideration of future agenda items for scheduled CRC meetings.  
ACTION: Commissioner Sorkin would like to invite Ashley Golden to come and talk about the licensing division at the City's Service Center. Commissioner Sorkin said that the people at the Service Center need to be more nice to the public. He also added that the public isn't being talked to with empathy and respect. Sorkin wants to know why City employees are not working with the public and that there is too much blocking and delaying. Commissioner Moreno would also like to invite a representative from the Gull Wings Museum and a representative from Parks in regards to the building of new parks. Chairman Kelly would like to invite a representative from Interface to talk about child trafficking. Chairman Kelly also brought up comments he has heard about the senior living conditions at the Sycamore center located on the site of the old St. John's Hospital.

#### **F. REPORT OF COMMISSION SECRETARY**

The Commission Secretary shall report on items of interest to the Commission occurring since the last meeting. The Commission cannot enter into detailed discussion or take action on any item presented during this report. Such items may only be referred to the Secretary for administrative action or scheduled on a subsequent agenda for discussion.

#### **G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Youth Subcommittee: Commissioners Quintana and Moreno – N/A

Fair Housing Subcommittee: Commissioners Sorkin and Quintana – N/A

Public Safety Subcommittee: Commissioners Kelly and Reynoso – N/A

Multicultural Festival Subcommittee: Commissioners Reynoso, Moreno and Kelly – Met with City Manager to discuss the MCF and broader outreach by the CRC.

Bylaws Subcommittee: Commissioners Davitt-Cornyn, Sorkin and Quintana – N/A

#### **H. COMMISSIONER NON-SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS**

Commissioners shared their experience in attending many of the City's Christmas events in and around downtown. They had fun and it was great to see so many people in attendance. Chairman Kelly thanked the CRC for voting him in as Chairman. He expressed his thoughts about wanting to make the CRC a more collaborative effort.

#### **I. ADJOURNMENT**

Commissioner Quintana motioned to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:15 PM, seconded by Commissioner Moreno. The next regular Community Relations Commission meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 22, 2016, in the City Council Chambers, 305 West Third Street, 1st Floor, Oxnard, California, at 6:00 PM.