

MINUTES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, August 18, 2014, 6:00 PM
City Council Chambers, 305 West Third Street, 1st Floor, Oxnard, California 93030

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

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

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Please refer to the video for details.

C. INFORMATION/CONSENT AGENDA

1. SUBJECT: Minutes from May 19, 2014 - Regular Meeting and June 10, 2014 - Special Meeting

MOTION: Approved. With a minor change to a mistake in the May 19, 2014 Minutes. And, Commissioner Stein informed the CRC that he had an excuse for his absence.

D. PRESENTATIONS

1. Guest speaker, Greg Nyhoff, Oxnard City Manager, greeted the CRC and introduced himself to the board. Mr. Nyhoff provided a brief overview of his plans to work with the community to create positive outcomes and a better Oxnard.

2. Eddie Munizich and Carolina Orgarte, representatives from Ventura County Public Health presented information on the upcoming 6th Annual La Colonia 5k Community Walk and Health Fair. The presentation was conducted in English and Spanish. This and other events are being coordinated for Latino Health Awareness Month in September. For more information, visit the following website (in English) at cachampionsforchange.net and (in Spanish) campeonesdelcambio.net. Ventura County Public Health also offers a variety of year-round services to promote healthy living. These include nutrition classes, food and recipes demos, health screenings, Zumba classes, diabetes case management and more. For additional information, visit the Ventura County Public Health website at vchca.org/public-health. Information is also available on social media at [Facebook.com/VenturaCountyPublicHealth](https://www.facebook.com/VenturaCountyPublicHealth) and [Twitter.com/VCPublicHealth](https://twitter.com/VCPublicHealth). For regular updates and calendar listings, send an email to sara.rivera@ventura.org.

3. Carrie Sabatini, Interim Housing Director, City of Oxnard, provided a brief history and update on the housing relocation process in La Colonia. Initially, 114 families needed to be relocated during the first phase of the relocation process. As of today, only 18 families remain to be relocated temporarily. One public comment from the public followed the presentation by Carrie Sabatini. *Please refer to the video of the meeting for more details of the presentation and discussion.*

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E. COMMISSION/NEW BUSINESS

SUBJECT: Announce the recipients of the 2014 CRC Community Recognition Awards.

MOTION: The winners of this year's awards are: Antonio Ramirez (Outstanding Youth), Walter Fuller (Outstanding Senior), Lucy Cartagena (Outstanding Individual), Consulado de Mexico en Oxnard (Outstanding Organization), El Concilio Family Services (Outstanding Business). All CRC Commissioners are invited to assist with the awards presentation scheduled for Tuesday, September 16, 2014 at the City Council Meeting at 6 PM. There will be a pre-meeting reception in the Human Resources Activity Room beginning at 4:30 PM.

SUBJECT: Review CRC brochure.

MOTION: Copies of the brochure will be posted online on the CRC webpage under the City of Oxnard's website as well as distributed to local libraries, cultural centers and other venues. Copies will also be provided to each CRC Commissioner. This brochure will be used at upcoming events where the CRC will participate, including the Multicultural Festival on Saturday, October 4, 2014.

SUBJECT: Consideration of guest speakers for future CRC meetings.

MOTION: Staff will continue working on the current list of invited guest speakers for future months. One public speaker provided information on the upcoming Veteran's Day events scheduled for Tuesday, November 11, 2014.

F. REPORT OF COMMISSION SECRETARY

Multicultural Festival 2014 update. Staff and volunteers are currently working hard on organizing the event. More help is needed from the Commissioners to get the word out and to schedule themselves to recruit sponsors, assist with media interviews, etc.

G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION EVENTS REPORT

Youth Subcommittee (ad hoc) – Chairman Dozier reported that the City's Youth Commission has been getting attention in the media, especially with their current anti cyber-bullying campaign. Commissioner Quintana also added to the report regarding the recent National Night Out event.

Fair Housing Subcommittee (ad hoc) – Thanked Carrie Sabatini for providing an update to the CRC regarding the housing relocation process in La Colonia. The CRC is working on keeping people informed on this issue.

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Public Safety Subcommittee (standing) – Commissioner Stein reported that this Commission met for the first time, recently, as an official standing subcommittee. Stein reported that he was elected as Chair of the Public Safety Subcommittee. Stein also reported that Commissioner Sorkin provided some recommendations to provide a safer environment for the City of Oxnard to live and work. Stein presented eight points that were discussed by the subcommittee. Rahsaan Tilford, Assistant City Attorney, advised Commissioner Stein that this subcommittee is an advisory body to the full CRC. And, any items that are reported on, such as these eight points that Stein discussed that are desired to be the goals of the subcommittee, needs to be presented to the CRC to be placed on a future agenda so that the full Commission can decide if they want that to be the subcommittee's jurisdiction. Commissioner Stein also reported that the subcommittee also discussed the jurisdiction, or limits, of the CRC. There was a motion made by the Public Safety Subcommittee that it be involved with the Oxnard Police Department by taking a more active role in discussing reports and things of that nature. Commissioner Kelly added to the report that the motion taken the Public Safety Subcommittee was that it be involved in all Oxnard Police officer involved shootings and office misconduct. This would be done in cooperation and collaboration with the Police Chief and the Oxnard Police Department. Commissioner Kelly went on to say that the reason for this action is to give a sense of security and comfort level to the community regarding some of the things that have happened in the past with Police. Commissioner Kelly said they are not doing this to get involved with Police investigations or Police business. They want to do this in collaboration with the Police Chief. Commissioner Stein reported that a vote was taken on this item by the subcommittee members and the results were 2 yea and 1 nay, with Stein voting nay because there was no legal representation and because there were some legal issues that needed to be taken into consideration. Rahsaan Tilford informed Stein that this subcommittee is an advisory body to the whole CRC. And, right now, with the way the bylaws are written, the subcommittee and the CRC in full does not have jurisdiction over public safety issues. If they want jurisdiction, it will require an amendment of the ordinance and of the bylaws. And, a subcommittee can't have more jurisdiction than the whole commission. The CRC and any subcommittee are bound by the ordinance. Commissioner Stein also reported that the Public Safety Subcommittee plans on meeting every two weeks.

Commissioner Baxter reported on the crime map available online on the Oxnard Police website that allows visitors to view what's happening in their own neighborhood. He also reported on the upcoming Labor Day weekend and the how the task force will be looking for impaired drivers due to drunk driving.

Multicultural Festival Subcommittee (ad hoc) – N/A Report was already given during the Secretary's Report.

Bylaws Subcommittee (ad hoc) – Commissioners Stein and Kelly reported that recommendations were sent via email to the CRC Chairman and the City Attorney's Office and no response was provided. Chairman Dozier informed the Commission that he did receive the email and that is he still reviewing them because the recommendations were completely different from those made before.

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Multimedia Communication Subcommittee (ad hoc) – N/A

H. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Stein congratulated all the winners of this year's CRC Community Recognition Awards. Commissioner Stein asked if there was any flexibility from the City Attorney's Office to attend the CRC subcommittee meetings. Rahsaan Tilford said they don't typically cover subcommittee meetings because of staffing issues, but he will ask the interim City Attorney if that's his desire to cover those meetings.

Commissioner Kelly asked why the recommendations made by this ByLaws Subcommittee have not been agendized.

Commissioner Sorkin asked about agendizing recommendations made by the ByLaws Subcommittee for CRC discussion. Chairman Dozier said he has already stated that it will be agendized for a future CRC meeting, but that he hasn't said when, exactly.

Commissioner Baxter commented on the purpose of the CRC and the subcommittees, specifically the Public Safety Subcommittee. He also thanked the Oxnard Police Department for all their hard work to keep this community safe. On behalf of the CRC, he apologized to Police Chief Jerri Williams, the Oxnard Police Department, members of City Council, the Mayor and city staff, for what they had to deal with putting up with this Commission.

Vice Chair Robinson asked present members of the Oxnard Police and Fire Department to please stand and be recognized. He then commented on the personal agendas of people currently serving on the CRC. He also asked why there is a need from members of the CRC to have a police oversight committee. Commissioner Robinson stated that there is no need for such an oversight committee and that this Commission will not get a vote from him for creating one.

Commissioner Quintana asked what we are doing as a community to address the issues that need to be addressed. He stated that the conversation about oversight has been going on for a long time. He said every major city has this issue. The argument is not about an attack on the police department, but a protection of our residents. He agrees that this body shouldn't be the one that deals with police oversight, that it shouldn't have to be dealt with at this level. But, he said that nobody is talking about it and when you don't talk about it, unfortunately, the seeds start to grow of hatred. He expressed that healthy conversation is what's needed.

Chairman Dozier commented on agenda items. He said that there has not been one item that any Commissioner has sent him that has not been agendized, eventually. He needs to keep every agenda, manageable. There's a process in place and it works for every CAG in the city and it should work for the CRC.

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I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:35 PM. The next regular Community Relations Commission meeting will be Monday, September 15, 2014, in the Oxnard City Council Chambers, 305 West 3rd Street, Oxnard, at 6 PM.

Orlando Dozier, Commission Chair

Luis Guereca, Secretary