

MINUTES
COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING
Monday, March 18, 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 Baxter, Dozier, Kelly, Mitchell, Robinson and Stein.
Absent was Commissioner Castañeda.

B. PUBLIC COMMENTS

N/A

C. INFORMATION/CONSENT AGENDA

1. SUBJECT: Minutes from February 25, 2013 - Regular Meeting
RECOMMENDATION: Approved

D. PRESENTATIONS

1. Andrea Baltazar, Director of the Oxnard Student Digital Film Festival, and festival committee members, presented information on the schedule of events linked to this year's event. The festival will present a lineup of short films, created by students, on Friday, March 29, at the Oxnard College Performing Arts Building, at 6 PM. The mission of the festival is to educate and empower student of all ages by supporting development and exposure of their artistic expression and authentic individual voices. The festival showcases the works of emerging artists to provide a forum in the community. For more information, visit: www.studentdigifilmfest.org

2. Sofia Balderrama, from the City of Oxnard's Public Information Office, presented a wrap-up report for the 2012 Multicultural Festival (MCF). The discussion included, but was not limited to budget, attendance, sponsors, food vendors and entertainment. The presentation also included preliminary plans for the 2013 MCF scheduled for Saturday, October 5, at Downtown Plaza Park. Print out copies of the presentation will be made available next month to the CRC Commissioners.

E. COMMISSION/NEW BUSINESS

1. SUBJECT: Subcommittee appointments.
MOTION: Commissioners were appointed to serve on the following subcommittees:
Community Intervention and Awareness Subcommittee (Robinson & Kelly)
Multicultural Festival Committee (Dozier & Stein)
Public Safety Subcommittee (Baxter with Police/Crime & Stein with Fire)
Youth Subcommittee (Kelly & Mitchell)
Neighborhood Councils Subcommittee (Dozier & Stein)
Fair Housing Subcommittee (Mitchell & Robinson)
Bylaws Subcommittee (Kelly, Robinson & Stein)
Commissioner Castañeda was absent from the meeting and can sign up in April to serve on his choice of subcommittees.
2. SUBJECT: Discuss proposal for 2013 Candidate Forum hosted by the CRC. Candidate Forum will be held in place of the May 2013 Regular Meeting. The purpose of the Forum is to allow all local candidates running for office in the June 2013 election to share and discuss their views on community relations issues.
MOTION: Commissioner Mitchell motioned for the CRC not to host a Candidate Forum and was seconded by Commissioner Baxter. The votes were as follows: 3 yays (Commissioners Baxter, Mitchell and Robinson) 2 nays (Commissioners Kelly and Stein), and 1 abstained (Commissioner Dozier because he is currently campaigning for City Council).

cont'd on next page.

cont'd from previous page.

3. SUBJECT: Discuss proposal for CRC Commissioners to be appointed as Ambassadors of Goodwill to participate in events and conduct community outreach on behalf of the Commission.
MOTION: Create a subcommittee and appoint Commissioners. Commissioners Stein asked if the CRC would only be allowed to participate in free events, or if the CRC can have a budget allocated to be able to pay for participation in other events and to spend on items that will allow for better community outreach. Commissioner Dozier recommended that staff look into how other CAGs and Council handle participation and visits to community events based on a budget. Staff was directed to table this item and to return with information on how other CAGs handle outreach and if they have a budget.
4. SUBJECT: Discuss the creation of a CRC Facebook account, or, assign Commissioners to write content for inclusion in the City of Oxnard's Facebook site.
MOTION: Assistant City Attorney Tilford informed the CRC that his office and the PIO office is currently coordinating efforts to create guidelines and policy for CAGs and City Departments to create Facebook accounts and other social network sites. This item will be tabled until April, or until the social networking policy is completed.
5. SUBJECT: CRC participation in the 2013 Children's Day/Dia del Nino, scheduled for Saturday, April 20, 2013 at Cesar E. Chavez Elementary School in Oxnard.
MOTION: The following CRC Commissioners have volunteered to help run an information booth at the event from 10 AM – 2 PM: Mitchell, Robinson, Dozier and Kelly

Chairman Robinson invited a public speaker, which arrived late, to be allowed to present information on the upcoming Cesar Chavez Day scheduled for Sunday, March 24, 2013. There will be a mass starting at 9 AM at Cristo Rey Church, followed by a march starting at 10 AM from Roosevelt and Cooper Streets and ending at Cesar Chavez Elementary School. For more information, call the offices of the United Farmworkers Union (UFW) at (805) 486-9674.

6. SUBJECT: Consideration of guest speakers for future CRC meetings.
MOTION: Commissioner Stein requested Christina Aerenlund (City of Oxnard Public Information Officer) to discuss outreach activities happening in the city and with the Multicultural Festival and to answer questions about the possibility of CRC to sign up for an official Facebook account. Commissioner Baxter requested a representative from Victory Outreach. Commissioner Robinson requested Will Reed to come talk about his outreach efforts with the homeless.

F. REPORT OF COMMISSION SECRETARY

Announcement of the upcoming State of the City scheduled on Friday, March 22 at Embassy Suites at 11:30 AM being organized by Oxnard Chamber of Commerce. For more information call (805) 983-6118. Earth Day is scheduled for Saturday, April 6 at Downtown Plaza Park from 11 AM – 3 PM. Kids Day, Saturday April 20 at Cesar Chavez Elementary School from 10 AM – 2 PM. Commission Awards application still being worked on. A reminder to all CRC Commissioners to submit their bios for the CRC pamphlet.

G. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS/COMMISSION EVENTS REPORT

Community Intervention and Awareness Subcommittee (N/A)

Multicultural Festival Subcommittee – Commissioner Stein recommended that the CRC become more involved with this event and at the planning meetings. Requested Martha Guillen, Festival Director, to come talk about future endeavors regarding the festival.

cont'd on next page.

cont'd from previous page.

Public Safety Subcommittee – Commissioner Baxter reported that Oxnard Police conducted a DUI checkpoint on Friday, March 15 between 9 PM and 3 AM. Two checkpoints were conducted. There were 390 motorists screened and 5 drivers were arrested for DUI alcohol, one for DUI drugs and methamphetamines, and one was arrested for outstanding warrant. Citations were also issued to some drivers. More DUI checkpoints will be conducted throughout the year. These efforts are funded by grants from the California Office of Traffic Safety through the National Highway Transportation and Administration. For more information, contact Senior Officer, Jamie Brown, at (805) 385-7749, or at Jamie.Brown@oxnardpd.org

Youth Subcommittee – Commissioner Mitchell reported on the availability of the Homework Center at the Downtown Oxnard Library open for students from 1st – 12th grade. Hours are Monday – Thursday from 3 – 7 PM and Saturday 1 – 5 PM. The center provides homework assistance, internet access and computer assistance. Drop- ins are welcome and no appointment is necessary. Some bilingual assistance is available.

Neighborhood Councils Subcommittee (N/A)

Fair Housing Subcommittee (N/A)

H. COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

Commissioner Stein requested the Community Affairs Manager to attend CRC meetings in order to have a more streamlined response the Commissioners' concerns.

I. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:48 PM. The next regular Community Relations Commission meeting will be Monday, April 15, 2013, in the Oxnard City Council Chambers, 305 West 3rd Street, Oxnard, at 6 PM.

Ken Robinson, Commission Chair

Luis Guereca, Secretary