

MINUTES
REGULAR JOINT MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL, SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE
DISSOLVED REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, HOUSING AUTHORITY, & COMMUNITY
FACILITIES FINANCING AUTHORITY OF THE CITY OF DUARTE, CALIFORNIA

Tuesday April 27, 2021

5:30 p.m. – Planning Commission Interviews
7:00 p.m. – Open Session

5:30 P.M. PLANNING COMMISSION INTERVIEWS

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Via teleconference the 5:30 p.m. Planning Commission Interview meeting was called to order by Mayor pro tem Finlay at 5:32 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, California 91010

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers Present:	Finlay, Kang, Lewis, Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Truong, (arrived at 5:43 p.m.) Urias (arrived 6:15 p.m.)
Councilmembers Absent	None
Staff Present:	Victoria Rocha, Assistant to the City Manager Annamarie Porter, Interim City Clerk

2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

3. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Adopted by unanimous consensus of the Council

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON COMMISSIONER INTERVIEWS - NONE

5. PLANNING COMMISSIONER INTERVIEWS

Mayor and Council interviewed applicants Francisco J. Figueroa, Luis Alonso Guevara, Kyle Bryan Kwasnick, Robert Lawrence Meinert, and Danny George Ramirez, asking what they liked best about the City of Duarte, what they would do to improve in the City, and why they wanted to be on the Planning Commission. Each answered questions and offered brief autobiographies about themselves.

Councilmembers then discussed each candidates' attributes and made a decision.

Motion by Mayor pro tem Finlay, seconded by Councilmember Scultz to appoint Danny Ramirez to the Position of Planning Commissioner for the term to December 31, 2023. Motion approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES:	Finlay, Kang, Lewis, Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Truong, Urias
NOES:	None
ABSENT:	None

Mayor Urias recessed the meeting at 7:04 p.m. for a brief break

7:00 PM OPEN SESSION - REGULAR MEETING

8. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Via teleconference the 7:00 p.m. Open Session meeting was called to order by Mayor Urias at 7:16 p.m. in the City Hall Council Chamber, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, California 91010

ROLL CALL:

Councilmembers Present: Finlay, Kang, Lewis (arrived at 7:19 p.m.), Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Truong, Urias

Councilmembers Absent: None

Staff Present: Daniel Jordan, City Manager
David Cosgrove, City Attorney
Victoria Rocha, Assistant to the City Manager
Craig Hensley, Community Development Director
Manuel Enriquez, Director of Parks and Recreation
Brian Villalobos, Director of Public Safety Services
Annamarie Porter, Interim City Clerk

6. SPECIAL ITEMS

City Manager Jordan made a request to hear items 6C first, followed by item 6A.

6C. Mayor's Youth Council update

Recreation and Parks Director Enriquez introduced Mayor's Youth Council President Faith Peoples who reported on efforts to assist the homeless, a Cinco de Mayo event, and a Summer kick-off BBQ.

6A. Youth Week Proclamation

To accept the proclamation on behalf of the Elks' Club were John McEntire and Irene Lozano. The Elks work closely with youth year-round to provide supplies, hold contests, provide drug use education, assist with the Duarte Holiday Christmas Stockings, and partner with the City of Duarte for the drive-through Easter event as well as other events.

6B. Sexual Assault Awareness and Prevention Month, and Denim Day Proclamation

City Manager Jordan presented a brief summation of the proclamation that drew attention to the fact that sexual violence remained a serious issue, and called attention to misconceptions and misinformation about sexual violence.

6D. Monthly Financial Report

City Manager Jordan presented the Monthly Financial Report for the Month of March, 2021 highlighting the Treasury Report – Cash and investment activity for the month; and the Budget to Actual Report of revenues and expenditures, pointing out the activity year-to-date in development revenues.

6E. Public Safety Status Report April 2021

Public Safety Services Director Villalobos gave the report highlighting Crimes, Crime Trends and Notable Arrests, Catalytic Converter identification measures, Measure H and Outreach Coordination, Riverbed areas, 2020 LAHSA Homeless Count, Emergency Preparedness, and the housing of a homeless person.

He responded to Council's inquiries regarding the mentally ill in the area, the increase in graffiti, the increase in crime and he confirmed that the City of Duarte was not unique in seeing an increase in crime in the Los Angeles County. He also reported on the Bear breach into a home with doors that were left open.

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS OF UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

Community Library Manager Joanna Gee stated limited in-person services had resumed and upcoming events could be viewed on the Website.

Assistant to the City Manager Rocha announced the upcoming events that could be viewed on the City's website to include a blood drive, the Community Clean-up and Shred event, and the May 3rd Budget Workshop.

8. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Kyle Kwasnick wished to advise City Council regarding utilizing chloramines (also known as secondary disinfection) which are disinfectants used to treat drinking water and they are most commonly formed when ammonia is added to chlorine to treat drinking water. They provide longer-lasting disinfection as the water moves through pipes to consumers, and he was requesting that Council consider its use.

9. ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE CONSENT CALENDAR – NONE

10. CONSENT CALENDAR

10.A Approve Minutes – April 13, 2021; April 19, 2021; and April 20, 2021. (CC/HA/SA/FA)

10.B Approve Warrants - April 28, 2021 (CC/HA/SA/FA)

10.C Motion to read all Resolutions and Ordinances presented for consideration by Title only and waive further reading. (CC/HA/SA/FA)

10.D Approve Public Safety Status Report (CC)

10.E Approve Monthly Financial Report (CC)

10.F Approve a letter of support for the City of Hope's Community Project Funding request, and authorize the Mayor to execute on behalf of the City.

10.G City Council/City Manager Conference Attendance and other items suggested by Council. (CC)

PUBLIC COMMENT ON CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS– NONE

Finlay moved, Paras-Caracci seconded to approve Consent Calendar items 10A – 10G. Motion carried unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Finlay, Kang, Lewis, Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Truong, Urias

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT CALENDAR FOR DISCUSSION – NONE

12. BUSINESS ITEMS

12.A City Council Appointment to the Planning Commission

Mayor Urias announced that after Council deliberation and vote, applicant Danny Ramirez was appointed to the position of Planning Commissioner for the term to December 31, 2023.

12.B Discussion and Possible Action regarding Prohibited Fencing

Public Safety Services Director Villalobos gave the report detailing the current Development Code regarding prohibited fencing materials and the number of legal non-conforming fences. For the purposes of the discussion his report's only focus was on those non-conforming properties north of Royal Oaks, which numbered 253 properties. He presented options to Council and asked for direction.

Council deliberated on whether to take action only when the fencing was being replaced, or; sending a letter from Code Enforcement notifying property owners of the non-conformity, and asking for voluntary replacement, or; an amendment to the existing ordinance to specify which properties needed to comply.

Council considered cutting off the offending spikes; allowing them to remain for the property owners sense of security and protection; potential liability if someone were injured by wildlife that breached the conforming fencing; subsidizing any fence remedies; applying for grants; merely educating the property owners regarding the Development Code and possible cures; a time-line for educating the property owners, then another period to consider enforcement, or; requiring notice when property transfers; consulting with neighboring cities' ordinances, utilizing Staff time to cut tips off, or contracting with a fencing company to do the work less expensively.

City Attorney Cosgrove cautioned against using Staff to perform work on private property for liability reasons and referenced legal ramifications when abating a non-conforming use, which would require further research. He further explained that there needed to be a defined abatement period and enforcement.

Moved by Mayor pro tem Finlay, seconded by Councilmember Schulz to direct Staff to pursue an ordinance that would abate the legal non-conformity of non-compliant fencing materials; define an abatement period; explore a trigger for when a house transfers ownership, and incorporate an enforcement period. Motion carried unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES: Finlay, Lewis, Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Truong, Urias

NOES: Kang

ABSENT: None

12.C Discussion and Possible Action regarding a Memorial Piece in Dedication of Gordon Loyd Gibbons.

Parks and Recreation Director Enriquez gave a report, providing a background of Mr. Gibbons who worked out of his bicycle shop to the very end. He presented an option of a bicycle shaped bike-rack with a personalized tribute, the costs associated, and possible placement locations.

Council discussed and then provided direction to Staff regarding whether the “rider” option could be removed from the silhouette, additional language added to the dedication, placement options, colors, stylization of the object, the possibility of two racks, and symbolic vs. utilization features.

12.D Discussion and Possible Action regarding an Independence Day Celebration and Fireworks Show on July 3, 2021.

Parks and Recreation Director Enriquez gave a report regarding the prior show’s success, the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, the positive change in the Pandemic tier color, capacity, social distancing, ticketing, multiple venues, and sponsorships and a request for a budget amendment to pay for the event.

Parks and Recreation Director Enriquez then answered questions and received direction from Council regarding virtual access, security, costs of entry, vaccination requirements, physical distancing, and “drive-in” parking possibilities.

Moved by Councilmember Paris-Caracci, seconded by Councilmember Lewis to approve a budget amendment of \$32,500.00. Motion carried unanimously with the following roll call vote:

AYES; Finlay, Kang, Lewis, Paras-Caracci, Schulz, Truong, Urias

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

13. CONTINUATION OF ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – NONE

14. ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCIL SUCCESSOR AGENCY TO THE DISSOLVED REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY, HOUSING AUTHORITY, & COMMUNITY FACILITIES FINANCING AUTHORITY MEMBERS AND CITY MANAGER/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR.

Reports on trips, conference attendance, and meetings, per California Government Code Section 53232.3)

City Attorney Cosgrove reported on the status of the Stormwater case, and that the Supreme Court gave itself an extension of time for consideration.

Councilmember Lewis offered condolences to Mayor pro tem Finlay on the passing of her mother.

Councilmember Kang thanked Public Safety Services Director Villalobos for removing the flower-sellers from the freeway off-ramp. He also asked for representation from the City to advocate to the Governor to allocate more money for fire safety.

Mayor pro tem Finley thanked everyone for their support.

15. ADJOURNMENT – at 9:54 p.m.



Annamarie Porter, Interim City Clerk



Bryan Urias, Mayor