

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the City of Huntington Park
Health and Education Commission
held October 28, 2008**

.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Chairperson Arlene Savage. Present: Commissioners Samuel Flores, Enrique Murillo, Victoria Herrera, Vice Chair Cesar Zaldivar-Motts and Chairperson Arlene Savage. Also in attendance were Housing and Community Development Manager Manuel Acosta, Senior Planner Albert Fontanez and Assistant Planner Mercenia Lugo.

Minutes of the regular meeting held on September 23, 2008:

A motion was made by Commissioner Samuel Flores, seconded by Vice Chair Cesar Zaldivar-Motts, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held September 23, 2008. The motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes of the Special meeting held on October 13, 2008:

A motion was made by Commissioner Samuel Flores, seconded by Commissioner Enrique Murillo, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held October 13, 2008. The motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes of the Special meeting held on October 15, 2008:

A motion was made by Commissioner Samuel Flores, seconded by Vice Chair Cesar Zaldivar-Motts, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held October 15, 2008. The motion was unanimously approved.

Minutes of the Special meeting held on October 22, 2008:

A motion was made by Commissioner Samuel Flores, seconded by Commissioner Enrique Murillo, to approve the minutes of the special meeting held October 22, 2008. The motion was unanimously approved.

Public Appearances:

None.

Discussion and/or action on the current student drop-out rate at local schools:

Chairperson Arlene Savage invited Councilmember Elba Romo to attend tonight's meeting to discuss the current drop-out rate at local schools, as well as provide alternative careers to students that do not attend college. Councilmember Elba Romo was not able to attend the meeting.

There was a discussion amongst the Commissioners to host or co-host a career fair to inform students of professional careers that do not require a college degree. The following ideas were discussed to offer at the fair:

- College/University counseling;
- Career alternatives for students that cannot attend a College or University;
- Advise students of career incentives for finishing high school and the various skilled labor professions currently in demand and
- Coordinate with local vocational/trade schools to participate and possibly provide Huntington Park residents with an enrollment discount.

Vice Chair Cesar Zaldivar-Motts informed the Commission that Los Angeles Unified School Board Member Yolie Flores and the Southeast Cities School Coalition will be hosting a Career Fair in December and suggested that the commission co-sponsor the event.

Vice Chair Cesar Zaldivar-Motts will research and gather information for the proposed Career Fair in December and forward the information to the commission at the next scheduled meeting.

Housing and Community Development Manager Manuel Acosta informed the Commission that he attended the Los Angeles County Economic Development Corporation quarterly meeting which addressed the lack of skilled labor and how hospitals and business corporations are working with local schools by offering tailored training programs to students for positions that are in demand, at no cost to the student.

A motion was made by Vice Chair Cesar Zaldivar-Motts, seconded by Commissioner Victoria Herrera, to investigate the possibility of co-sponsoring the Career Fair in December 2008 and authorize staff to present the proposal to the City Council for approval. The motion was unanimously approved.

Discussion and/or action on the City of Huntington Park providing flu shots to City employees:

Chairperson Arlene Savage advised the Commission that taking preventative measures by providing employees with flu shots would be beneficial to the City. Chairperson Savage added that employees interact with the general public on a daily basis; therefore they should receive a flu vaccine for everyone's safety. Chairperson Savage indicated that Flu vaccines would cost \$67 per vial, approximately 10 shots per vial, with a total cost of \$1,340, however, staff time and needles are not included. Lastly, Chairperson Savage suggested that the Commission host an "Employee Flu Shot Day" which would reduce loss of personnel time, as well as health care costs for both the City and employee.

A motion was made by Chairperson Arlene Savage, seconded by Commissioner Samuel Flores, to inquire if staff is interested in conducting an "Employee Flu Shot Day" in late November 2008 and/or in October/November 2009, and if there is a popular response from City employees, staff shall present the proposal to the City Council for approval. The motion was unanimously approved.

Senior Planner Albert Fontanez advised the Commission that the proposal will be presented at the November 17, 2008 City Council meeting. Chairperson Savage added that if this item is approved by the City Council, the Commission would coordinate the event along with a local health provider and tentatively schedule the event for late November 2008.

Discussion and/or action on the outcome of the “Walk this Way” safety fair held on October 8, 2008:

The Commission discussed their satisfaction with the outcome of the “Walk this Way” safety fair that was held at Middleton Elementary. The Commission congratulated Marcela de la Torre and Vice Chairperson Cesar Zaldivar-Motts on a job well done. It was stated that approximately 600 students, grades First through Third, participated in the safety fair.

Discussion and/or action on the outcome of the Senior Fair held on October 24, 2008:

Chairperson Arlene Savage informed the Commission that approximately 86 seniors attended the Senior Fair and a total of sixteen (16) vendors participated. There was a discussion on the low attendance and considerations for future Health Fairs:

- Possibly hosting the Health Fair at the Oldtimers Foundation or Senior Center;
- Coordinate with neighboring cities and local organizations so as not to saturate seniors with numerous health fairs at one time;
- Possibly co-sponsor the event with local organizations and
- Provide a Health Fair for all ages, young and old

Chairperson Arlene Savage also discussed the City’s policy on temporary business licenses for vendors providing a “health service” at City events, such as the annual street fairs conducted by the Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Fontanez explained that the reason for requesting temporary business licenses from vendors is for identification and accountability purposes, particularly to vendors that require Health Department permits. A discussion ensued; however, no action was taken.

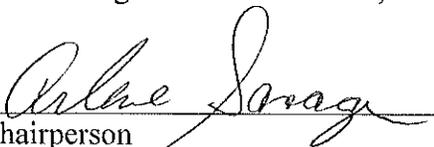
Information Items:

Vice Chairperson Cesar Zaldivar-Motts would like the Commission to have a banner to display at events. Mr. Fontanez stated that he would provide cost estimates at the next scheduled meeting.

Commissioner Samuel Flores requested an update on the “5k/10k, Walk/Run Against Obesity.” Mr. Fontanez informed the Commission that the applicant was not able to secure the required sponsorship to host the event this year and has therefore requested to postpone the event to August 1, 2009.

Mr. Fontanez reminded the Commission that they must submit their Ethics Training Certificate to staff.

There being no further business, Chairperson Savage adjourned the meeting at 7:00 p.m.


Chairperson


Secretary