



MINUTES

CITY OF HUNTINGTON PARK HEALTH AND EDUCATION COMMISSION

Regular Meeting
Tuesday, November 27, 2012
5:30 p.m.

Chairperson Herrera called the meeting to order at 5:33 p.m. Present: Commissioners Leticia Martinez, Samuel Flores, Martha Walker, and Chair Victoria Herrera; Absent: Commissioner Victor Dominguez. Also present: Housing and Community Development Manager Manuel Acosta and Recording Secretary Genny Ochoa.

Approval of Minutes

None.

Public Appearances

Public Health Nurse Heidi Lopez of the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health presented campaign posters for the "Rethink Your Drink" campaign for distribution to local schools to use during the school district's "no soda day" drive.

New Business

A. Discussion and/or action regarding "No Soda/Sugar-free Concept."

The Commission concurred to recommend to the City Council that April 19, 2013 be designated as "Healthy Kids Day," officially called, "No Soda Day". Commissioner Walker recommended targeting schools and parks and that with the City's assistance handouts be distributed promoting the campaign. Commissioner Martinez volunteered to distribute posters to local schools.

Chairperson Herrera recommended that the California Department of Public Health "Champions for Change" project be included in the campaign promotions.

Commissioner Walker recommended soliciting water bottle donations from water companies. Commissioner Martinez stated that a potential resource would be the Central Basin Municipal Water District

Housing and Community Development Manager Manuel Acosta stated that 1) staff would present the Commission's recommendation to designate the "Healthy Kids Day" ("No Soda Day") to the City Council on January 22, 2013; 2) the City would make official notice to local schools of the campaign; and 3) follow up on potential donation resources to conduct a successful event.

Commissioner Martinez motioned, seconded by Commissioner Flores, to recommend to the City Council the adoption of “Healthy Kids Day” (“No Soda Day”) for April 19, 2013. The motion carried.

Unfinished Business, Discussion Items, or General Comments, Presented by Commissioners and/or Commission Liaison:

- A. Discussion and/or action regarding goals and objectives for the Health and Education Commission.

Chairperson Herrera stated that the Commission was considering having a community health fair instead of a senior health fair at the Raul Perez Memorial Park.

Mr. Acosta stated that staff would send the City’s Calendar of Events to the Commissioners and provide updates on upcoming City events.

(Commissioner Martinez stepped out of the meeting at 5:52 p.m.)

Commissioner Walker stated that a street fair is not a “healthy” atmosphere to conduct a community fair and that a better venue would be a park, such as the Senior Citizen Park. Chairperson Herrera suggested the Community Center to conduct the community fair event. Commissioner Flores suggested that the Commission consider holding the event at the City’s Fourth of July fireworks show because it is well attended.

(Commissioner Martinez returned to her seat at 5:59 p.m.)

Chairperson Herrera recommended to contact the Family Center for donations and to follow up with the community fair ad hoc committee in establishing a date and location for the event.

After further discussion, the Commission directed staff to follow up with the Parks and Recreation Department on the availability of parks, i.e., Senior Citizen Park and Salt Lake Park.

- B. Discussion and/or action regarding childhood obesity.

Commissioner Flores reported that September is National Childhood Obesity Awareness Month and committed to do research on how the City could promote childhood obesity awareness and bring back to the Commission.

Subjects Presented By Staff

Mr. Acosta reported that the walking path (trail project) construction at Salt Lake Park had begun and that park improvements included exercise equipment along the pathway.

Subjects presented by Commissioner

Commissioner Martinez reported on a proposed training program offered to local students by a manufacturing company in the City (Crown Poly, Inc., manufacturer of packaging supplies) in collaboration with Huntington Park High School and the cities of Huntington Park and Vernon. After a discussion, the Commission directed staff to send a letter to the City Council on behalf of the Commission supporting this effort and request a letter of support from the City Council.

Closed Session

None.

Adjournment

There being no further business, Chairperson Herrera adjourned the meeting at 6:20 p.m., to Tuesday, January 29, 2013, at 11:00 a.m.

Chairperson - Acting

Secretary