

Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, December 1, 2005 ROOM 830, KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION 500 West Temple St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

Editorial Note: Agenda sections may be taken out of order at the discretion of the chair. Any reordering of sections is reflected in the presentation of these minutes.

I. CALL TO ORDER AS A COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Lacking a quorum of commissioners, Chairman Philibosian called the meeting to order as a Committee of the Whole at 10:30 a.m.

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

Chairman Philibosian asked for a motion to approve absences.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Clayton Anderson

Fred Balderrama

Hope J. Boonshaft

Robert Cole

Jaclyn Tilley Hill

Ronald K. Ikejiri

Charles Parks

Robert H. Philibosian

Julia Sylva

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

Joanne Baltierrez Isaac Diaz Barcelona Jonathan Fuhrman Chun Lee Royal F.Oakes Roman Padilla William J. Petak Tony Tortorice

COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING AN EXCUSE

None

V. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Staniforth introduced Mr. Tim McTighe, his new assistant.

Chairman Philibosian noted the passing of Commissioner Ray Considine, and the passing of the husband of former Commissioner Betty Trotter, and invited the Commissioners to sign sympathy cards. The Commissioners stood and observed a moment of silence as a tribute in their memory.

The Chairman congratulated Commissioners Hill and Sylva on their reappointments to the Commission.

VI. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

Chairman Philibosian stated that Dr. Thomas Garthwaite had resigned as the County's Director of Health Services. He noted the extreme difficulty of the position, and commented on the difficulty of finding a replacement. He recalled that a few years ago the Board of Supervisors had asked the Commission to review the Department of Health Services, but rejected the Commission's budget request for consulting costs. Commissioner Parks commented that during his service on the Grand Jury, the recommendation was made for an independent Health Authority.

VII. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Staniforth announced that all commissions can no longer use the eighth floor conference rooms. He invited the commissioners to look at Room 738, Room 374, and Room 140 as possible alternatives.

Commissioner Hill discussed her collaboration with Mr. Staniforth to refurbish the Commission's office. Mr. Staniforth presented brochures showing furniture selections and stressed that all choices were within the County standard. Completion is expected to be sometime in the beginning of the year.

Mr. Staniforth also noted the pending retirement of the Executive Officer, Violet Varona-Lukens.

VIII. <u>LIAISON REPORTS</u>

Local Government Services Commission

No liaison was present to make a presentation.

Quality and Productivity Commission

Commissioner Hill invited everyone to the Quality and Productivity Commission Holiday Luncheon saluting Quality and Productivity managers, network managers, and department heads. The event is on December 12, on the eighth floor Board of Supervisors patio, and begins at 11:30 a.m. RSVP should be directed to Mr. Staniforth.

IX. OLD BUSINESS - TASK FORCE REPORTS

Grand Jury Task Force

Commissioner Parks stated he had met with Commissioner Hill to discuss strategies for the Task Force and would meet with other members after the first of the year. He also reported that he had made contacts regarding the problem of domestic violence and abuse. Chairman Philibosian concurred in the need to coordinate efforts on a County-wide basis, specifically in terms of education, prevention, enforcement, and prosecution, along with post-prosecution and post-conviction issues such as anger management, probationary conditions, and jail time. Commissioner Parks suggested that domestic violence could be a component of continuing education programs.

Organization and Accountability Task Force

Commissioner Oakes was not present to make a report.

Economic Development Task Force

Commissioner Sylva stated that the next Contracting Connections Workshop in February is now being planned. The Small Business Commission has confirmed that the workshop will be held in the First District. She invited all Commissioners to provide input on finance, economic development, and business development in the County, especially in the First District.

Video Arraignment Task Force

Chairman Philibosian stated that he has been unable to meet with the Supervising Judge of the Criminal Court because the judge has been on vacation, but expects to meet with him soon. In this meeting he will attempt to determine if a more reasonable funding level would be acceptable to the Court.

X. PRESENTATION

A holiday luncheon following the meeting replaced the presentation for December, 2005.

XI. NEW BUSINESS

Problems with County Business Licensing

Commissioner Ikejiri related the experiences of a business owner who was cited for not paying a business license fee even though she had never received the bill. The owner said that she paid the license fee prior to her court appearance and attempted to pay the unpaid fees for the four previous years. As a result of misinterpretations an arrest warrant was issued for the owner. Commissioner Ikejiri pointed out that these inconsistencies in the County practices may result in a significant loss of revenue for the County. He also noted the considerable inconvenience to the business owner, as well as the burden on the Sheriff's Department and the courts.

Chairman Philibosian asked that this matter be considered by the Organization & Accountability Task Force, and requested Commissioner Ikejiri to inform Commissioner Oakes of the facts involved.

Chairman Philibosian praised the suggestion by Commissioner Ikejiri and encouraged all the Commissioners to bring forth further suggestions, noting that the Commission does not have to wait on the Board of Supervisors to recommend items for Commission action.

Utilization of Retired Law Enforcement Personnel in Emergencies

Commissioner Parks commented on the number of healthy retired law enforcement personnel at all levels of experience that reside within Los Angeles County. Since a significant number of law enforcement personnel live outside the community, in an emergency situation it might be difficult or impossible for those personnel to get to the community. Using the existing mutual aid model used by many law enforcement agencies where, in an emergency, personnel report to the nearest law enforcement agency, he proposed creating a Retired Officers Reserve Corps under the direction of the Sheriff's Department. This group could be mobilized in the event of an emergency. Commissioner Parks felt that costs would be minimal due to the fact that most retired personnel already receive pensions or have other careers providing income.

Chairman Philibosian praised the idea, but noted that it was not a subject for Commission action because the idea is uniquely part of the Sheriff's mission. The Chairman stated that Commissioner Parks should present the idea to the Sheriff and County Mayor Antonovich.

County Mayor Antonovich

Chairman Philibosian stated his desire to have Mayor Antonovich address the Commission at its January meeting, and stressed that, due to the Mayor's schedule; the meeting would have to begin promptly at 10:00 a.m. Notifications will be sent by e-mail if the Mayor can attend.

XII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on items of interest that is within the subject matter jurisdiction of the Commission. No members of the public commented.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Philibosian adjourned the meeting in the memory of Commissioner Considine at 11:20 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted.

Bruce J. Staniforth Executive Director

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