

## MINUTES

### CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUARTE REGULAR MEETING – TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2002

The City Council of the City of Duarte met in a regular meeting in the Council Chambers, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, California. Mayor Pro Tem Chapjian called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m.

- PLEDGE TO THE FLAG** Gordon Whitby led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- MOMENT OF REFLECTION** A moment of reflection was observed.
- CITY CLERK RECORDATION OF ATTENDANCE** The City Clerk recorded the following in attendance:  
PRESENT: Chapjian, Fasana, Finlay, Paras  
ABSENT: Reyes  
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Duff, City Attorney Ralph Leech
- ADOPTION OF AGENDA** Finlay moved, Paras seconded to adopt the Agenda, and carried unanimously.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
Jan Wight, Duarte Chamber of Commerce, thanked the City Council for allowing City staff members from the Field Services and Planning Departments to assist with the Hats Off event.  
Kristen Petersen, Assistant to the City Manager, announced the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast on November 27 at 7:00 a.m.
- FISCAL AFFAIRS**  
Finlay moved, Paras seconded to approve payment to the Southern California Edison Company, and carried with Fasana abstaining due to a declared conflict of interest.  
Finlay moved, Fasana seconded to approve the remainder of Fiscal Affairs, and carried unanimously.
- ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**  
Alan Heller, Duarte, stated he was disappointed that the statue at Mount Olive was not approved at the last Council Meeting, asked if there were legitimate reasons for not approving it, and stated he hopes plans for an Arts Commission progress.  
Ernie Martinez, Duarte, suggested the City get an outside opinion as to where the hillside ordinance pertains, stated there is an important meeting on December 10 and we need to find out if the hillside ordinance pertains to these properties, and stated he thinks there should be a horse with the statue of Andres Duarte.  
Filippo Fanara and Jim Kirchner, Co-Chairs, Downtown Duarte Task Force, addressed City Council questions about public participation and the focus of location for Downtown Duarte, stated flyers have been sent out, it has been advertised on DCTV, the next public meeting is December 11 and they would like more to attend, stated all in attendance are allowed to offer input, and stated letters about upcoming meetings will be sent to block captains and City Commissioners.  
There was discussion about multi-lingual capability for attendees, translators at meetings, holding meetings at

schools, having the consultants use a microphone, and having meetings in the community with the intent to get feedback.

Mr. Fanara and Mr. Kirchner stated flyers are printed in English and Spanish, the venue is felt to be appropriate since there are multi-media presentations made by the consultants, in the group dynamics, people around the room are talking at different times, there are two more meetings scheduled, the task force would then be making a recommendation to the City Council, and stated the task force meetings have received more exposure from the media than other events.

Dori Neuman, Duarte, stated some task force members do not meet the criteria of being a resident or business owner, stated she thinks that issue is why some people do not attend the meetings, stated Mr. Fanara's family owns a restaurant in Duarte and he does not, and stated she has questions about funding for properties on Highland.

Fasana stated his recollection had been that task force members had to own a business or be a resident of the community, and upon checking the minutes in detail, he found that the City Council did not place that restriction in the requirements.

Lino Paras, Duarte, stated he thinks in general the task force is doing its best as far as outreach, stated there are updates on the website, and stated if people are interested, they will attend.

Mark Montgomery, Duarte, thanked Mr. Reyes for a great year as Mayor, wished Mr. Chapjian good luck, stated Ruth's funeral was well attended, and stated ordinary citizens are discriminated against in decorating the float.

Susie Bence, Duarte, stated she enjoyed seeing Sister Michelle attending the last meeting about the seniors, and thanked Mrs. Finlay for the information about the robbers of the 7-11 on Highland being caught.

SPECIAL ITEMS  
Election of Mayor

Ernie Martinez, Duarte, stated three years ago when Mr. Chapjian ran for City Council, he was very impressed with him, and stated Mr. Chapjian has done a great job on the Council and would represent all citizens well as Mayor.

Duff assumed the chair and announced that nominations were open for election of Mayor.

Finlay nominated George Chapjian for Mayor.

Mayor George Chapjian

There being no further nominations, the motion to elect George Chapjian as Mayor carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras, Fasana, Finlay, Chapjian

NOES: None

ABSENT: Reyes

Election of Mayor Pro Tem

Mayor Chapjian assumed the chair and announced that nominations were open for election of Mayor Pro Tem.

Finlay nominated John Fasana for Mayor Pro Tem.

Mayor Pro Tem John Fasana

There being no further nominations, the motion to elect John Fasana as Mayor Pro Tem carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Paras, Finlay, Chapjian, Fasana

NOES: None

ABSENT: Reyes

Mayor Chapjian thanked City Councilmembers for their confidence, expressed deep gratitude to family and friends, stated the effectiveness of a team relies on everybody working together with no one person more important than another, stated one common goal of the City Council is the betterment of the City, and stated he feels the City will move in a positive direction. He further discussed the general fund, the City's reserves, economic opportunities, acquisition and preservation efforts, soundwalls, elimination of blight, general plan update, task force recommendation, affordable senior housing, enhanced senior services, prioritizing of children and youth services, skate park, youth programs, partnership with School District for reading programs, joint use library, Duarte Reads Program, taking City Council meetings into the community, Saturday block party-style meetings, official quarterly City newsletter, annual survey, and encouraged residents to become actively involved in City government.

#### RECESS

Mayor Chapjian called a Recess at 7:55 p.m. City Council reconvened at 8:10 p.m. with four members present, and Reyes absent.

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

Finlay moved, Paras seconded to approve the Consent Calendar, as follows, and carried with Fasana abstaining from the minutes of the November 19, 2002, City Council meeting:

Approve Items A, B, C.

#### CITY MANAGER Duarte Outreach Center Funding Agreement

Kristen Petersen, Assistant to the City Manager, provided a detailed staff report about the Duarte Outreach Center, and discussed the original funding agreement, the proposed funding agreement and addendum, and reports required by the agreement.

Benjamin Jimenez, Duarte, stated he used the services of the Duarte Outreach Center to open a non-profit organization, and was helped by Dr. Jayasinghe.

Juan Hernandez, no city given, stated when he was unemployed, he received assistance from the Duarte Outreach Center, stated many people need advice, and stated he now has a job.

Margarita Adair, Duarte, stated Dr. Jayasinghe always directs people needing help in the right place, stated the Duarte Outreach Center is needed for those who are down and out, and stated Dr. Jayasinghe would give that support.

Carmen Paz, Duarte, encouraged the City Council to approve the funding for the Duarte Outreach Center, and stated the volunteers try to help people, the program is remarkable, the reward is in serving, and there is no other place in Duarte for these services.

Terry Michaelis, Duarte, stated he serves on the Board and is the accountant for the Duarte Outreach Center, stated Dr. Jayasinghe works many hours, he is not paid and he is enthusiastic, stated lives can be turned around, and stated he hoped that the City Council would continue to fund the program and let it see its full maturity.

Lino Paras, Duarte, stated the concept and purpose of the Duarte Outreach Center is excellent, it is a cheap investment compared to the benefits reaped, commended Dr. Jayasinghe for a job well done, encouraged Council to support this, felt Dr. Jayasinghe could be compensated, suggested the contract include minutes of the Board meeting, and felt the audit is a compilation report.

Finlay moved, Fasana seconded to approve the funding agreement and addendum with the Duarte Outreach Center, per staff recommendation.

There was discussion about the success of the Duarte Outreach Center, volunteers, the importance of continuing the great work, appreciation of the community, adding minutes to the reporting requirements, reports being made public on an as-needed and requested basis, Promise Fellow, and attendance list, with the consensus to wait until the next quarter to discuss some of the suggestions made tonight so as not to overburden the tremendous level of effort made.

Finlay stated she did not originally vote for this as she was skeptical and concerned, stated we will be facing a severe handicap with regard to financing from the State, stated Dr. Jayasinghe has vision and courage to follow through, stated she wholeheartedly supports the Duarte Outreach Center, read a portion of a report about the investigation of the Duarte Outreach Center stating there is no basis for the allegation of misappropriation of funds, stated this should be followed up on as the allegations had no basis and are meant to hurt, and congratulated all staff at the Duarte Outreach Center for a job well done.

Chapjian stated the phrase “service above self” applies to Dr. Jayasinghe and the Duarte Outreach Center, and suggested the hiring of a professional fund raiser or development director.

The motion to approve the funding agreement between the City of Duarte and the Duarte Outreach Center, effective December 1, 2002 – June 30, 2003, as well as the addendum for the placement of an AmeriCorp Promise Fellow, per staff recommendation, carried by the following Roll Call vote:

AYES: Finlay, Fasana, Paras, Chapjian

NOES: None

ABSENT: Reyes

Teen Nutrition Council  
policy recommendation

Donna Georgino, Director of Parks and Recreation, provided a staff report about the Teen Nutrition Council’s policy recommendation, and introduced Teen Nutrition Council members Michelle Yee, Sameea Kamal, Neerali Patel, and Garrett Campbell, who provided information about goals, food reviews, food drive, policy for healthy refreshments, health risks, research, price comparisons, and effects of unhealthy eating.

Finlay moved, Fasana seconded to adopt the Duarte Teen Nutrition Council’s 2002 Food Policy Recommendation for the City of Duarte, and authorized the Teen Nutrition Council to participate in the policy’s implementation, and carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

Jack Collins, Duarte, stated the Sunday paper will include an article about the junior cross country runner from

Duarte High School being in the State finals, stated there will be a tape of him and his coach shown on DCTV, thanked the City Council for carrying on for the betterment of Duarte during the past year, and read an excerpt about pressing toward the mark.

Lino Paras, Duarte, congratulated those receiving awards at the Mayor's Thanksgiving Breakfast, and suggested the civic award include Ed Cox, as he has done a lot of good things for the community on his own time.

Antonio Ogaz, Duarte, congratulated Mr. Chapjian, suggested the task force meet in other parts of the City, provided copies of flyers that were distributed by LULAC about the task force meetings, offered the assistance of LULAC for translating, and stated he thinks the Duarte Outreach Center is an evolution that came from the Duarte Diversity Group meetings, and was a vision of Mr. Reyes.

Finlay stated Mr. Kirchner and Mr. Fanara gave a report earlier in the meeting about the situation with regard to having the meetings in other parts of the City.

Harb Thind, Duarte, congratulated Mayor Chapjian and Mayor Pro Tem Fasana, quoted an excerpt from Abraham Lincoln about doing one's best, stated he is confident the City Council will do its best for the betterment of the community, and stated whatever he proposes is in the best interests of the community.

#### ITEMS – CITY COUNCIL

PARAS: 1) Stated the Hats Off to Duarte event was well-attended and a wonderful event; 2) Attended the College Fair, stated the youth received valuable information, and thanked Becky Evans and all involved; 3) Attended the Open House at Temple Sheriff's Station, and expressed appreciation to staff who participate in the ROP class; and 4) Congratulated Mr. Chapjian and Mr. Fasana, and stated she believes Council can work toward the common goal for the betterment of the community.

FASANA: 1) Congratulated the Chamber and City staff for the extremely successful Hats Off event; 2) Commended staff on the College Fair, and stated people from Duarte and surrounding communities attended; 3) Congratulated Mohamed Trafteh on his being the number one ranked runner in the State; 4) Stated his recollection of the origins of the Duarte Outreach Center was the Duarte Diversity Group and Ms. Fay Goodin, who relentlessly made sure the Diversity Group continued to discuss it, and stated Dr. Jayasinghe separately initiated discussions with Reverend Fulson and City Manager Duff; 5) Attended a meeting with David Hall of the MAD Town Council to discuss the perceived increase in gang activity, as well as strategies to mitigate the situation; and 6) Stated he arrived late and missed the voting at the Special Meeting held on November 19, stated the purpose of the meeting was to approve the agreement with the labor organization, stated he thinks it is a great contract, it is a competitive package and is fair to employees, stated one item that would keep him from supporting it was the adjustment to the retirement pension formula, provided detailed information about the formula, applauded the employees for coming forward with their request, and stated he felt he could not approve it at this point in time.

FINLAY: 1) Commended the Chamber for the great Hats Off event and upcoming Mayor's Prayer Breakfast; 2) Thanked City staff, the four school districts, and David Dreier's office for the great College Fair; 3) Stated she appreciated attending the meeting in the County area regarding the increase in gang activity; 4) Requested a resolution of support for Assemblymember Rebecca Cohn's bill pertaining to stroke and the clot buster 'tPA'; 5) Stated the State League Board of Director's identified the three top priorities of study as housing, protecting revenues for municipalities, and ethics; 6) Stated the League has a video available called "Ethics and the Elected Official", and stated the League's website has a self-test on legal and ethical issues; 7) Congratulated Mohamed Trafeh for his fabulous running; and 8) Congratulated Mr. Chapjian and Mr. Fasana.

CHAPJIAN: 1) Thanked the Chamber for the Hats Off event; 2) Thanked staff for the College Fair; 3) Thanked City Councilmembers for having confidence in him as Mayor, and stated his style is consensus-building; and 4) Asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Councilmember Reyes' mother-in-law Consuelo Luna.

ADJOURNMENT

Chapjian moved, Paras seconded to adjourn the meeting at 9:26 p.m., in memory of Consuelo Luna, and carried unanimously.

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Mayor George Chapjian

ATTEST:

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City Clerk Marla Akana