

**MINUTES**

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUARTE  
REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 22, 2005**

The City Council of the City of Duarte met in a regular meeting in the Council Chambers, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, California. Mayor Finlay called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

- PLEDGE TO THE FLAG** Bill Ornelas led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
- MOMENT OF REFLECTION** A silent moment of reflection was observed.
- FITNESS WARM-UP** Paras led the group in a series of warm-up exercises.
- RECORDATION OF ATTENDANCE** The following were in attendance:  
PRESENT: Gaston, Paras, Reyes, Finlay, Fasana (7:22 p.m.)  
ABSENT: None  
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: City Manager George, City Attorney Slater
- ADOPTION OF AGENDA** Gaston moved, Reyes seconded to adopt the Agenda, and carried unanimously.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS** Pui-Ching Ho, Duarte Library, announced Easter Egg Hunt on March 24, 6:00 p.m., and March 25, 10:30 a.m., and event honoring Cesar Chavez on March 31 and April 1.  
Ernie Martinez, Duarte Rotary, announced Breakfast with the Easter Bunny on March 26, 8:00 a.m., at the Community Center.  
Jack Collins, Friends of the Duarte Library, announced Star Party on April 7, 7:00 p.m., at the Duarte Historical Museum, and thanked the City for its support of the Ray Bradbury event.
- FISCAL AFFAIRS** Gaston moved, Paras seconded to approve payment to the Southern California Edison Company, and carried with Fasana abstaining due to a declared conflict of interest.  
Reyes moved, Paras seconded to approve the remainder of Fiscal Affairs, and carried unanimously.
- SPECIAL ITEM** Donna Georgino, Director of Parks and Recreation, introduced Recognition – Dominga Alarcio 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday  
Dominga Alarcio, and presented her with a cake. Mayor Finlay presented her with a Certificate in recognition of her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday, and congratulations were extended.
- Recognition – Bill Ornelas 2005 Employee of the Year  
Mayor Finlay introduced Bill Ornelas, Field Services Manager, and presented him a framed Certificate of Appreciation for receiving the Chamber of Commerce 2005 Employee of the Year Award, and thanked him for his continued service to the City.
- Recognition – Mt. Olive High School – Model Alternative High School Award  
Mayor Finlay presented a framed Certificate to Mr. Scalise in recognition of Mount Olive High School receiving the California Model High School Award from the State Department of Education, and congratulations were extended. Paras presented a congratulatory certificate from Assemblymember Liu’s office to representatives from Mount Olive School.
- Recognition – John Steelesmith So. California Edison Company  
Mayor Finlay presented a framed Certificate of Appreciation to John Steelesmith for serving as the City’s representative from the Southern California Edison Company and congratulating him on his retirement. Mr. Steelesmith introduced Alissa Clifford, the new Region Manager for Duarte.
- CONSENT CALENDAR** Reyes moved, Paras seconded to add Conference Attendance for 2005 Congress of Cities Program Committee, April 15-16, 2005, in Charlotte, North Carolina, to the Consent Calendar, and carried unanimously.

Mayor Finlay read the Proclamation for Lu He High School.

Reyes moved, Paras seconded to approve the Consent Calendar, as follows, and carried unanimously.

Approve Items A, B, E.

Receive and File Items C, D.

CITY MANAGER  
Justice Assistance Grant  
Application

Don Anderson, Director of Safety Coordination, presented a staff report and recommendation pertaining to the Justice Assistance Grant Application.

Fasana moved, Reyes seconded to authorize staff to pursue the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant for fiscal year 2005-2006, and for the funds to be used for the School Resource Deputy position, and carried unanimously.

Gold Line Extension – Grade  
Crossing Subcommittee

Jason Golding, Senior Planner, presented a staff report about the final recommendation from the Grade Crossing Subcommittee pertaining to the impact of light rail on street intersections within Phase II of the Gold Line route.

Fasana moved, Gaston seconded to receive and file the staff report concerning the Grade Crossing Subcommittee recommendation, and carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The following spoke on items not on the Agenda:

Chris Russo – Ray Bradbury event.

ITEMS FROM COUNCIL

REYES: 1) Congratulated the staff at Mt. Olive High School, and thanked them for their compassion and caring for students; 2) Thanked John Mack for helping with the walkway east of Auto Zone; 3) Stated Dave Stewart from Cal-Am is retiring, and requested he be recognized at the next Council Meeting; 4) Stated Mayor Finlay did an outstanding job at the State of the City; 5) Inquired about the current status of the proposed Family Fun Festival, and asked if it would be coming to the Council; and 6) Asked that the Council Meeting be adjourned in memory of McCleda Munoz.

GASTON: 1) Congratulated the Friends of the Library and Library staff on the Ray Bradbury event, and suggested the possibility of a speaker's series; 2) Congratulated Mt. Olive High School for its award, and congratulated the students who ran in the L.A. Marathon; 3) Stated Vince Haydel, Edison Company, will be transferred out of the region in April; 4) Requested an update on the soundwall graffiti; 5) Provided a matrix with contact information to Councilmembers from the youth services organization meeting; and 6) Requested the CDBG resolution be sent to the Community Services Council and DYAC.

PARAS: 1) Stated the Ray Bradbury event was great, and she is in favor of a speaker's circuit; 2) Announced Fiddler on the Roof musical, April 21-23; 3) Congratulated staff and students at Mt. Olive High School, 4) Stated she would like the Family Fun event/farmer's market on the Agenda for public discussion of pros and cons; 5) Requested a future Agenda item addressing handheld signs to discuss safety issues and receive public input; 6) Stated her appointee to the Downtown Duarte Task Force contacted her and indicated she would like to continue serving, and inquired as to whether the Municipal Code includes current and future Task Force members; and 7) Wished the three Councilmembers going to China a good trip.

FASANA: 1) Congratulated Mayor Finlay on the State of the City address, and expressed appreciation to Bill Ornelas, his staff, and other community members who were recognized; 2) Stated two elected officials from Azusa have stepped down, and noted Dick Stanford served on Foothill Transit, and Christina Madrid was an advocate for open space and protecting rivers; 3) Stated the Ray Bradbury event was great; 4) Noted other events are held in the Performing Arts Center, and stated it might be beneficial for those groups to publicize their events in our community; 5) Congratulated Mt. Olive High School for being recognized at the State level; 6) Suggested the City look into signboards to determine whether they are portable and if there should be size limitations; and 7) Stated he hopes the next Council Meeting will include information about the status of Commissioners.

FINLAY: 1) Provided information from the Duarte Historical Museum to the City Manager about its ceiling; 2) Thanked the Friends of the Library for the Ray Bradbury event, and noted Mr. Bradbury said he would be willing to come back to Duarte; 3) Provided information to the City Manager from the Mayor of Pasadena about SB 148, pertaining to alcoholic beverages and licensing restrictions; 4) Stated if anyone finds a dead crow, do not touch it, and please call Vector Control so it can be tracked; 5) Stated she received an update about CDBG funding and the next steps, and suggested organizations that benefit from these funds contact their Congress members; and 6) Stated tickets for Fiddler on the Roof are available at all school sites and the Senior Center, and it is going to be a great program.

ADJOURNMENT

Gaston moved, Reyes seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 p.m., in memory of McCleda Munoz, and carried unanimously.

---

Mayor Margaret Finlay

ATTEST:

---

City Clerk