

MINUTES

**CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUARTE
REGULAR MEETING – MARCH 14, 2006**

At 5:00 p.m., a workshop was held to review post-employment health benefits.

The City Council of the City of Duarte met in a regular meeting in the Council Chambers, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, California. Mayor Paras-Caracci called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

**RECORDATION OF
ATTENDANCE**

The following were in attendance:
PRESENT: Fasana, Gaston, Reyes, Paras-Caracci
ABSENT: Finlay
ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: City Manager
George, City Attorney Slater

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

Nita Norgard led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

A silent moment of reflection was observed.

FITNESS WARM-UP

Frank, YMCA staff member, led the group in a series of warm-up exercises.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Gaston moved, Reyes seconded to adopt the agenda, and carried unanimously.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pui-Ching Ho, Duarte Library, announced Live Homework Help Program on March 18 at 2:00 p.m., and Book Sale on April 1.

Jan Wight, Duarte Chamber of Commerce, announced upcoming Chamber events and names of public service employee award honorees.

Nita Norgard, Friends of the Duarte Library, stated the deadline for One Town One Book is March 18, thanked the Duarte Historical Society, and stated she looks forward to the statue of Andres Duarte.

Deputy Steve Remige, President of ALADS (Association for Los Angeles Deputy Sheriffs), presented a plaque to City Council in recognition of its outstanding support of quality public safety, and wished Don Anderson well on his upcoming retirement.

Bill Baca, Senator Romero's office, announced Senior Citizen Town Hall Meeting on March 17 at Grace Black Auditorium in El Monte.

Don Anderson announced Public Safety Fair about Emergency Preparedness on April 1, 10:00 a.m., at the Community Center.

Lino Paras, Duarte, stated the beautification program is in April, and announced Route 66 Parade meeting on March 22, 7:00 p.m., at the Elks Club.

Claudia Heller, Duarte Historical Society, announced Gateways to Southern California event on April 1, 12:00 noon, at Royal Oaks Manor.

FISCAL AFFAIRS

Gaston moved, Reyes seconded to approve Fiscal Affairs, and carried unanimously.

**SPECIAL ITEMS
Proclamation – Red Cross Month**

Mayor Paras-Caracci presented the Proclamation for Red Cross Month to Nimfa Rueda, Director of Public Affairs, and congratulations were extended.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Fasana moved, Reyes seconded to approve the Consent Calendar, as follows, and carried unanimously.
Approve Items A, B.

COUNCIL BILLS

Council Bill 06-R-08
Intent to Levy Assessments
Landscape/Lighting 2006-2007
Sets Public Hearing – 5/16/06

Slater read by title Council Bill 06-R-08:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUARTE, CALIFORNIA, DECLARING ITS INTENTION TO LEVY AND COLLECT ASSESSMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006-2007 WITHIN THE CITYWIDE LANDSCAPE AND LIGHTING MAINTENANCE DISTRICT, PURSUANT TO THE LANDSCAPE AND LIGHTING ACT OF 1972; AND FIXING A TIME AND PLACE FOR THE PUBLIC HEARING TO HEAR OBJECTIONS THERETO

Ed Cox, Director of Community Development, provided a staff report about the Citywide Landscape and Lighting District, including its history, areas covered, categories, reasons for the proposed increase, and typical proposed increase amounts, and stated Resolution No. 06-08 sets a Public Hearing for May 16, 2006, for counting of the ballots with the results to be announced at the May 23, 2006, City Council Meeting.

Lino Paras, Duarte, stated he has reservations about the increase, adjustments were made prior to Prop 218, felt recycled water and efficient light bulbs could be used to reduce costs, and stated signals should be paid by gas tax.

There was discussion about fixed costs since 1997, subsidizing costs, beauty and safety of the City and our parks, clarification about transfer of funds, and additional park space.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-08

Fasana moved, Gaston seconded to waive further reading and adopt Resolution No. 06-08, and carried unanimously.

Council Bill 06-R-09
Duarte In Bronze Statue

Slater read by title Council Bill 06-R-09:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUARTE CONSENTING TO THE PAYMENT BY THE REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF DUARTE FOR THE INSTALLATION AND CONSTRUCTION OF A PUBLICLY OWNED IMPROVEMENT KNOWN AS THE DUARTE IN BRONZE STATUE

George provided a staff report about the proposed financing for the Duarte in Bronze statue, and discussed the findings that must be made in order to use Redevelopment Agency funds.

Lino Paras stated he supports the use of redevelopment funds.

There was discussion about public art, restrictions for use of redevelopment funds, contract, fundraising, and timeframe.

Slater stated tonight’s action pertains solely to funding, and a formal contract will be brought back to City Council at a future meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 06-09

Gaston moved, Fasana seconded to waive further reading and adopt Resolution No. 06-09, and carried unanimously.

CITY MANAGER
Agreement – Barrow/Hoffman

Fasana moved, Reyes seconded to approve the Agreement with Barrow/Hoffman Public Relations for professional services, and authorize the City Manager to execute the necessary contract documents, and carried unanimously.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The following spoke on items not on the Agenda:

Karl Uhlig – Landscape and Lighting District.

Lino Paras – Redevelopment funds, post-employment health benefits, union.

Harb Thind – Junk mail.

ITEMS FROM COUNCIL

REYES: 1) Stated the Duarte Mediation Task Force needs volunteers and mentors; and 2) Announced DYAC Opening Day on March 18 at Duarte Park.

FASANA: 1) Provided a letter to the City Manager that was received from Huntington 76 Car Wash, and asked that a copy of the response be given to Councilmembers; 2) Commended Senator Romero for the upcoming workshop about Medicare procedures; 3) Stated we are working with the County to make sure the region is ready for the Avian flu; 4) Stated a resolution pertaining to the Metro Gold Line will be brought to the City Council at a future meeting; and 5) With regard to labor negotiations, stated the technical expertise of department heads is needed whether they are at the table or not to bring forth an agreement that is beneficial to employees and the community.

GASTON: 1) Thanked the Duarte Library for its online tutoring program; 2) Stated the website podcast is great, and the website looks good; 3) Inquired if mentor program requirements are on the City’s website. Georgino responded yes; 4) Stated she is pleased with Roasty Toasty’s food and video game lounge; 5) Congratulated Don Anderson and the deputies; and 6) Congratulated the Route 66 Committee.

PARAS-CARACCI: 1) Stated it is exciting to listen to Duarte news on the podcast; 2) Stated she appreciates Councilmember Finlay representing our City in Washington, D.C.; 3) Stated she is concerned about the safety of youth holding signs near the curbs for car washes, and wants to make sure drivers are also safe; 4) Announced Women’s History Month event on March 27 at Mt. Olive High School for ladies of the City Council; 5) Stated she is going through the process of becoming a mentor; 6) Stated Terry Blackwood indicated the City of Hope is open to extending the lease at the Pavilion site; and 7) Announced Community Information Meeting at City of Hope on March 21.

ADJOURNMENT

Reyes moved, Fasana seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 p.m., and carried unanimously.

Mayor Tzeitel Paras-Caracci

ATTEST:

City Clerk