

MINUTES

JOINT CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY OF THE CITY OF DUARTE REGULAR MEETING – AUGUST 14, 2007

At 6:30 p.m., two Closed Sessions were held (as stated below). Mayor Gaston called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m., with three members present (Fasana and Finlay arrived during the Closed Sessions).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA	Paras-Caracci moved, Reyes seconded to adopt the Agenda, and carried unanimously.
CLOSED SESSION Anticipated Litigation Real Property Negotiation	Marticorena stated the first Closed Session is pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.9(b)(1): Conference with Legal Counsel; Anticipated litigation/Significant exposure to litigation; Number of potential cases: 1. The second Closed Session is pursuant to Government Code Section 54956.8; Conference with Real Property Negotiators; Regarding 919 Lewiston, Duarte; Agency negotiators: Darrell George and Ed Cox; Negotiating parties: Redevelopment Agency of the City of Duarte and Bertha M. Reese; Under negotiation: Price and terms of payment. The Closed Sessions concluded at 6:58 p.m. The City Council/Redevelopment Agency of the City of Duarte met in a regular meeting in the Council Chambers, 1600 Huntington Drive, Duarte, California. Mayor Gaston called the meeting to order at 7:16 p.m.
RECORDATION OF ATTENDANCE	The following were in attendance: PRESENT: Fasana, Finlay, Paras-Caracci, Reyes, Gaston ABSENT: None ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF PRESENT: City Manager George, City Attorney Marticorena
PLEDGE TO THE FLAG	Aida Torres led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.
MOMENT OF REFLECTION	A moment of reflection was observed.
FITNESS WARM-UP	Finlay led the group in a series of warm-up exercises.
PUBLIC REPORT OF CLOSED SESSIONS	Marticorena stated during the first Closed Session, the City Council unanimously authorized the approval of a settlement agreement with Charter Communications, and during the second Closed Session, the Redevelopment Agency Board conducted a discussion, with no action taken.
ANNOUNCEMENTS	Jan Wight, Duarte Chamber of Commerce, stated the Chamber has moved into the new building, and thanked City staff. Karen Herrera announced Household Hazardous Waste Round-up on August 18, Foothill Unity Center event on August 23, Small Business Forum hosted by Hilda Solis on September 13, Veteran's Care Day on October 3, and stated Duarte's Promise is recruiting for Promise Fellows. Mark Montgomery stated the Duarte Historical Museum has a variety of restaurant menus on display.
SPECIAL ITEMS Recognition – Boxing Program	Donna Georgino, Director of Parks and Recreation, described the Boxing Program at the Duarte Teen Center, introduced staff members, and announced the Second Annual Youth Boxing Show on August 19. Mayor Gaston presented Certificates to the boxing program participants.
Recognition – Life After High School	Brian Villalobos, Director of Public Safety Services, introduced Deputy Art Valenzuela, who described the Life After High School program, and presented Certificates to the participants.

Mayor Gaston presented Certificates of Appreciation to Deputy Art Valenzuela, Deputy Rob Maclean, Aida Torres, and Moses Gavia for their dedication to youth.

ORAL COMMUNICATIONS

The following spoke on items not on the Agenda:
Steve Hernandez – Youth, election.
Lino Paras – Grand Marshal Larry Wilson, election.
Rick Forintos – Mailbox, National Night Out, septic tanks.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Reyes moved, Paras-Caracci seconded to approve the Consent Calendar as follows, and carried unanimously.
Approve Items A, B, C, J, K.
Receive and File Items D, E, F, G, H, I.

PUBLIC HEARING Council Bill 07-R-22 2007 General Plan Update

Mayor Gaston announced this was the time and place set for a Public Hearing to consider adoption of the Duarte Comprehensive 2007 General Plan Update and certifying the Final Environmental Impact Report.

City Attorney Marticorena asked City Clerk Akana if notice of the hearing had been given. Akana stated the notice had been given and the affidavit was on file. Mayor Gaston asked if any written communications had been filed in the matter. Akana stated there were none.

Marticorena read by title Council Bill 07-R-22:

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF DUARTE, CALIFORNIA, CERTIFYING THE FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT (SCH 2007031064) PREPARED FOR THE DUARTE 2007 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE, AND APPROVING AND ADOPTING THE DUARTE 2007 GENERAL PLAN UPDATE

Ed Cox provided a brief report about the General Plan process, and introduced Art Rangel, Economic Development Specialist, Collette Morse, RBF Consulting, City Planner Silvia Hurtado, and Senior Planner Irma Hernandez.

Art Rangel, Economic Development Specialist, provided a detailed presentation about the Draft General Plan, including looking into the year 2020, purpose of the General Plan, Duarte's General Plan update, process overview, conclusion observations, community values, guiding principles, workshops, round table and visioning exercise outcomes, and steps required to complete the process.

Collete Morse, RBF Consulting, introduced Tiffany Johnson and Leah Price, and made a presentation about the Draft General Plan Environmental Impact Report, including objectives of CEQA, EIR requirements, advantages and purpose of a Program EIR, General Plan and EIR objectives, overview, analysis, conclusions, alternatives, and Program EIR process.

Mayor Gaston asked if there was anyone in the audience who wished to be heard on the matter.

Steve Hernandez discussed traffic impacts on the 210 Freeway and Huntington Drive, need to look at development on Huntington, possible gridlock, pedestrians crossing on Huntington, and need for more signals and contingency plans.

Harb Thind complimented Art Rangel on the tremendous job, stated traffic is not due to Duarte residents and businesses, the population will be 400 million in 8 to 9 years, and most will settle in Los Angeles County.

Finlay moved, Reyes seconded to close the Public Hearing, and carried unanimously.

City Council thanked staff, citizens, and volunteers for the comprehensive document, and discussed traffic, managing growth, and affordable housing.

RESOLUTION NO. 07-22

Fasana moved, Finlay seconded to adopt Resolution No. 07-22, and carried unanimously.

CITY COUNCIL ITEMS
Contract – Bartel Associates
Healthcare Actuarial Services

Reyes moved, Fasana seconded to approve the contract with Bartel Associates for actuarial services for retiree healthcare plan valuation, in an amount not-to-exceed \$12,000, per staff recommendation, and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the City, and carried unanimously.

Agreement – Tivo Boer Goats
Goat Brush Clearance

Karen Herrera, Interim Deputy City Manager, presented a staff report about the proposed goat brush clearance pilot program, and introduced George Gonzales, owner of Ranchito Tivo Boer Goats, who answered questions from City Councilmembers.

Joe and Marcy Roschitch stated they were glad the problem was being addressed, as it is a great insurance policy.

Rick Forintos stated this is a good contractor, and he will be getting a brochure distributed to the neighbors.

Fasana moved, Finlay seconded to approve the services agreement with Ranchito Tivo Boer Goats for a goat brush clearance pilot program subject to minor changes from the City Attorney's office, per staff recommendation, and authorize the City Manager to execute the agreement on behalf of the City, and carried unanimously.

Award of contract
All American Asphalt
Royal Oaks and Mt. Olive Drive
Pavement Rehabilitation

Fasana moved, Paras-Caracci seconded to award the contract to All American Asphalt for Royal Oaks and Mt. Olive Drive Pavement Rehabilitation, per staff recommendation, and authorize execution by the Mayor, and carried unanimously.

ITEMS FROM CITY COUNCIL/
CITY MANAGER

REYES: Asked that an update about the Duarte Mediation Team, and recognition of Rodney Jefferson and China delegation sponsors be on the next Agenda; thanked staff for the boxing program and announced boxing show on August 19; thanked all involved with National Night Out; attended City of Hope program for youth and inquired as to how many Duarte students are part of the City of Hope's medical and science programs; stated he attended the League conference in Monterey, where there was a redevelopment session about the retirement of baby boomers and shortage of jobs, and suggested collaborating with schools and businesses to prepare youth.

PARAS-CARACCI: Stated the National Night Out event was awesome; attended the concert and thanked staff for the shirts; stated the City of Hope summer internship program keeps growing; and stated providing good community work is due to having a good team, and congratulated Councilmembers Fasana and Gaston.

FINLAY: Stated Councilmembers Fasana and Gaston have done a good job and City Manager George has shown great leadership in managing conflict; asked that the Rotary Youth Exchange students be recognized at the next Council Meeting; attended Board Meeting of the Institute for Local Government, where housing, land use, and public confidence were discussed; provided statistics about West Nile Virus, and stated helicopter flyovers check for green pools; attended the Small Cities Steering Committee Meeting in Indiana and the NLC Board Meeting, and noted an upcoming conference will be held in New Orleans; and inquired about the City's participation in the All America City program.

FASANA: Attended the party for Dr. Welles at Westminster Gardens; stated the Bridge Party was a great event; thanked staff for programs such as Youth Boxing and Life After High School; and thanked his colleagues for the congratulations and thanked voters and workers in the community for their confidence and support.

GEORGE: Stated since there will not be an election, asked that Council adjourn the meeting to either August 21 or 22 to adopt a resolution appointing the nominees; thanked Council for the kind words, and stated the team of staff and City Council work together; stated Edison indicated the spike in power outages is due to animals and birds, and they will install bird guards on the conduit; and noted the Los Angeles Times had a great article on Dr. Welles.

With regard to the adjournment, City Council determined that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday, August 21, 2007, at 8:00 a.m.

GASTON: Asked that the meeting be adjourned in memory of Rosario Frias Penaloza; thanked citizens for placing their trust in her, she appreciates the open communication with citizens, and looks forward to serving four more years; congratulated the Parade Committee for selecting Larry Wilson as Grand Marshal; thanked staff for the Bridge Party, concerts, shirts, and all summer activities; stated the Rocktown reunion committee has been working hard; congratulated Julie Davey on the Channel 4 presentation about her Writing for Wellness class, and asked that she be recognized at a future Council Meeting; invited all to attend the 50th Anniversary Reception on August 28; attended Contract Cities Executive Board Meeting in Pico Rivera and League Conference in Monterey, where restructuring bonds and city debt was discussed; and thanked the professional basketball players who participated in Rodney Jefferson's basketball camp.

ADJOURNMENT

Paras-Caracci moved, Fasana seconded to adjourn the meeting at 10:06 p.m., in memory of Rosario Frias Penaloza, to August 21, 2007, 8:00 a.m., and carried unanimously.

Mayor Lois Gaston

ATTEST:

City Clerk