



Wednesday, June 12, 2024

A Regular Meeting of the Sister City Commission was held in the Council Chambers, 6615 Passons Boulevard, Pico Rivera, California.

CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Perez called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Lopez, Perez, Tirado, Ascencio

ABSENT: Arellano

STAFF PRESENT: Alvaro Betancourt, Director of Community & Economic Development
Julia Gonzalez, Deputy Director of Community & Economic Development

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

The pledge of allegiance was led by Chairperson Perez.

PUBLIC HEARING(S): None

NON-AGENDA ITEMS PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CONSENT CALENDAR: None

SISTER CITY COMMISSION REPORTS:**1. Commissioners Reports:**

Chairperson Perez provided an update on his attendance to the Sister City International Summit in San Antonio, Texas. He advised that the visit was at his own expense. He informed the commission that he attended various sessions and met several dignitaries. He stated that Pico Rivera is not a member of Sister Cities International and hopes that in the future the City will consider joining.

2. Director Reports:

- a. Director Betancourt provided update on the upcoming visit from Sister City Chapala, Mexico on June 27, 2024.
- b. Director Betancourt informed the Commissioners that the city will order and purchase business cards for the commission. The city is working on a policy statement on how the business cards should be used and will distribute to Commissioners as soon as it is available.

- c. Director Betancourt provided an overview of the Pico Rivera Sister Cities and dates of inception.

Chairperson Perez asked what the responsibility as a Commission is.

Director Betancourt responded that the City has established relationships however since the Sister City Commission has just been reformed, how and when the Commission interacts with these groups is to be determined. City staff does not organize interactions with Sister Cities and it would at the discretion of the Commission to move forward with fundraising efforts, travel, or engagements that may occur.

Commissioner Tirado asked if the Commission had any stipulations regarding fundraising.

Director Betancourt responded that the city does not directly fund the Sister City Commission, it facilitates the meetings. The fundraising would fall entirely upon members of the Commission in order to have those discretionary funds to travel and participate in events.

Commissioner Ascencio stated that in the past the Sister City Commission was under a nonprofit organization and asked if the Commission is a nonprofit organization or if it is now nonexistent.

Director Betancourt responded that staff would have to investigate the nonprofit status.

Chairperson Perez asked Commissioner Ascencio if she has had contact with anyone prior that might have that information.

Commissioner Ascencio responded that Sandra Pena worked with Raymond Chavez.

Commissioner Tirado asked if the Commissioners could fundraise and who would control the funds.

Director Betancourt responded yes and would investigate if the Commission could fundraise without nonprofit status.

Deputy Director Gonzalez provided an overview regarding meeting absences from the Municipal Code under Sister City.

NEW BUSINESS:

Commissioner Ascencion asked if there is any other commission that has a budget.

Director Betancourt responded that there is no budget for the Planning Commission. They act on discretionary applications which the city processes.

OLD BUSINESS: None

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, Chairperson Perez adjourned the Sister City Commission meeting at 6:27 p.m. There being no objection, it was so ordered.



Bob Perez, Chairperson

ATTEST:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct report of the proceedings of the Sister City Commission Regular Meeting on June 12, 2024, and approved by the Sister City Commission on November 13, 2024.



Alvaro Betancourt, Director
Community & Economic Development Department

REC'D & FILED

12/10/2024