

MEASURE J OVERSIGHT COMMISSION

CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA

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MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, JUNE 21, 2012, 4:00 pm
LARGE CONFERENCE ROOM, CITY HALL

CALL TO ORDER: Clerk Thompson called the June 21, 2012 meeting of the Measure J Oversight Commission of the City of Palm Springs to order at 4:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Commissioners Bloomer, Cohen, Dada, Hammond, Marshall, Moon, Towner, Vogel, Williams, Glass and Watts.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Secretary Cairns, Director of Finance Kiehl, City Manager Ready, City Clerk Thompson.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Dada led the Pledge.

ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA: Motion Commissioner Dada, seconded by Commissioner Cohen and unanimously carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Jack Webster, Palm Springs, commented on providing coverings for those waiting for busses, and also better sidewalk-to-street handicap access.

Sheila Cobrin, Palm Springs, commented on the Commission choosing a Chairperson who has experience in leading, particularly government experience.

Jer Rahn of Ocean Properties Development Corporation inquired about the submittal process and commented on creating a traffic signal with signalized public access crosswalk at the intersection of Calle Alvarado and Tahquitz Canyon Way, and a public access and street from Tahquitz to the main entrance to the Convention Center.

Seeing and hearing no additional speakers, Public Comments was closed.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Motion Commissioner Williams, seconded by Commissioner Cohen and unanimously carried.

1. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1.A. ADOPTION OF BYLAWS, REGULAR MEETING DATES, AND RULES OF PROCEDURE:

Commissioner Moon commented that the public speaking time of five (5) minutes may be too lengthy and suggested a limit of three (3) minutes. Commissioner Watts commented on amending the Bylaws to move Staff Member Comments before Commission Member Comments. Commissioner Williams commented on the number of affirmative votes needed to place an item on a future agenda, and inquired on the process of a member adding an item to the agenda. Clerk Thompson and City Manager Ready provided further information and clarification. Commissioner Hammond recommended adding a second public comment period at the end of meetings and Clerk Thompson provided information on the purpose of an advisory board. Commissioner Moon commented on alternates being given authority to make and/or second motions, and City Manager Ready informed the Commission of the need to inquire with the City Attorney to determine if there is a public policy prohibition.

ACTION: Adopt Resolution No. 001, "A RESOLUTION OF THE MEASURE J OVERSIGHT COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF PALM SPRINGS, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING BYLAWS, ESTABLISHING REGULAR MEETING DATES, AND CONDUCT OF MEETINGS", *amending Bylaws by appending §1.1 to read, "A majority of the membership of the Measure J Oversight Commission shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business."; appending §2.3 on Alternate Members to read, "...alternate members are appointed and shall participate in discussions and deliberations of the Commission, may make or second a motion, and may be appointed to any subcommittees created by the Commission.", pending City Attorney ruling; appending §3.3 to read, "The Measure J Oversight Commission, by a majority of members present and voting, may direct a matter to be placed upon a future agenda."; appending §3.3 to include a second Public Comments Period (i), following Reports and Information Items (h); appending §3.3(j) to read "Staff Member Comments" and §3.3(k) to read "Measure J Oversight Commission Member Items and Requests"; appending §3.6(d), allocating three (3) minutes for each individual speaker; appending §5.5 to read, "...the Measure J Oversight Commission may reconsider any vote taken either at the same meeting or at the next regularly scheduled meeting...".* **Motion Commissioner Dada to adopt the Bylaws as amended, seconded by Commissioner Marshall and unanimously carried.**

1.B. ELECTION OF CHAIRPERSON AND VICE-CHAIRPERSON:

ACTION: Elect Commissioner Moon to serve as Chairperson for the term ending June 30, 2013. Elect Commissioner Towner to serve as Vice-Chairperson for the term ending June 30, 2013. **By consensus of Commission.**

Chairperson Moon conducted the remainder of the Measure J Oversight Commission meeting.

2. NEW BUSINESS:

2.A. REVIEW DISCUSSION FROM THE JOINT MEETING WITH THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON JUNE 20, 2012:

Finance Director Kiehl distributed bond schedule information, accepted as Item 3.A. Director Kiehl and City Manager Ready discussed inviting the City's financial advisor, Suzanne Harrell, to attend a future meeting to offer additional information regarding the bonding. City Manager Ready commented that this could also be accomplished in a Study Session if the Commission so desired. Clerk Thompson provided information and clarification on individual Commission members meeting and when official notice would be required. Commissioner Hammond asked if the City still offered bus tours, and Commissioner Dada asked if Measure J funds could be used for these types of expenses.

ACTION: Receive report from staff. **By consensus of Commissioners.**

3. INFORMATIONAL AND BACKGROUND ITEMS:

3.A. CITY MANAGER AND FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

City Manager Ready addressed the Commission regarding the following: the processes of the Community Development Block Grant and asking Dale Cook to attend the next meeting; discussion of the list of deferred capital projects and schedule for paving of City streets at the next meeting, with Dave Barakian to offer additional comments; maintenance and security costs for the parking structure and property recently acquired by the City. City Manager Ready recommended these be on the next meeting agenda, as well as a general summary discussion of the Brown Act from both Clerk Thompson and the City Attorney. Commissioner Watts commented on the list of projects the City has already begun that Measure J funds could supplement. City Manager Ready commented that there are no other funds available for these City projects other than Measure J funds. Commissioner Vogel asked for clarification on the debt service numbers, gross versus net. Finance Director Kiehl commented that debt service for the first year is \$3.3 million, leaving \$4.7 million available for expenses. Commissioner Hammond commented on the evaluation and approval process and the need for the Commission to adopt a process for reviewing these requests. Commissioner Cohen commented that the City's voice, however in need, needs to be a primary concern for the Commission.

ACTION: Receive report from staff. **By consensus of the Commission.**

BOARD MEMBER ITEMS AND COMMENTS:

Commissioner Hammond commented that the Commission will not have adequate time to get things accomplished by the City Council's requested time frame. City Manager Ready clarified that the City Council desires that processes be in place and another Joint Meeting could be scheduled at that time if necessary. Commissioner Vogel commented on subcommittees being conceptualized or formed at the next meeting, and Chairperson Moon commented that this topic needs to be on the agenda for the next meeting. Chairperson Moon asked the Commissioners to come to the next meeting with ideas and suggestions on subcommittees and different organizations/meetings the Commission should visit. Chairperson Moon also commented on a schedule for the City Council and would like this as a discussion item on the next meeting agenda. Chairperson Moon commented on Town Hall-style meetings and asked for more discussion at the next meeting, perhaps scheduling October's meeting in a Town Hall format. Commissioner Glass commented on getting procedures in place before scheduling a Town Hall meeting and recommended that these be separate from and in addition to the regular Commission meetings. Vice-Chairperson Towner commented that the Commission needs to be specific when asking for citizen comments. Commissioner Marshall inquired about the agenda for the next meeting. City Manager Ready advised the agenda will be reviewed with Chairperson Moon before it is finalized. Chairperson Moon commented on the items for the next meeting agenda: the importance of discussion of a methodology for data gathering and weighing that data, discussion of subcommittees and the volunteers for each subcommittee, schedules and goals for the subcommittees, and information on the organizations in Palm Springs with whom the Commission should communicate and visit. Commissioner Williams asked that the cost estimates for maintenance of the downtown parking be put on the next agenda. Commissioner Bloomer commented on adding a way for residents to communicate ideas and opinions online.

CITY MANAGER AND STAFF COMMENTS:

City Manager Ready suggested the Commission focus on agendizing the review of City projects, establishing a process for getting community input, and discussion of the maintenance costs for the downtown parking structure at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The Measure J Oversight Commission of the City of Palm Springs adjourned at 6:30 p.m. to the next regular meeting at 4:00 p.m., Thursday, July 19, 2012, Palm Springs City Hall, 3200 E. Tahquitz Canyon Way.



Cindy Cairns
Commission Secretary