
Economy & Efficiency Commission Meeting Minutes

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING ECONOMY AND EFFICIENCY COMMISSION

THURSDAY, JUNE 1, 2000
ROOM 830, KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION

Editorial Note: Agenda sections may be taken out of order at the discretion of the chair. Any reordering of sections is reflected in the presentation of these minutes

I. CALL TO ORDER OF COMMISSION MEETING

With the presence of a quorum of commissioners Chairman Philibosian called the Commission meeting to order at 10:15 a.m

II. APPROVAL OF COMMISSIONER'S ABSENCES

Chairman Philibosian asked for a motion to approve absences.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Hope J. Boonshaft
John Crowley
David W. Farrar
Jonathan Fuhrman
Jaclyn Tilley Hill
Jeanne L. Kennedy
Chun Lee
Tony Lucente
Royal F. Oakes
Roman Padilla
William J. Petak
Robert H. Philibosian
H. Randall Stoke
Julia Sylva

COMMISSIONERS REQUESTING TO BE EXCUSED

David Abel
Michael Jimenez
Marc A. Seidner
G. Thomas Thompson

Tony Tortorice

COMMISSIONERS NOT REQUESTING AN EXCUSE

Fred Balderrama

It was Moved, Seconded, and Adopted: **The Commission members requesting an excuse, be excused.**

III. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any corrections or amendments to the minutes. Hearing none, the following motion was Moved, Seconded and Adopted: **The minutes of the May 4, 2000 Commission meeting be approved.**

IV. INTRODUCTIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chairman Phillibosian said that the first announcement is the retirement from the Commission of Ms. Carol Ojeda-Kimbrough who has been a long and active member. Chairman Phillibosian then presented Ms. Klmbrough with a five signature scroll and the thanks and good wishes of the Commission for her eight years of service. He also presented her with her commission name block.

Vice Chair Lucente interjected the he had a conversation with Ms. Kimbrough some months back where the possibility of her move to another commission was discussed. He said that Ms. Kimbrough's move to the Commission on Public Social Services was in keeping with her personal goals and asked if she would comment on her new assignment

Ms. Kimbrough said that the Commission on Public Social Services was much like the Economy & Efficiency Commission in that it was an advisory commission to the Board of Supervisors. She added that the difference was that the Commission on Public Social Services was singularly focused on the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS) and was also advisory to DPSS. She shared that her personal interests were in social services and this would help her in her pursuit of her doctoral degree. She thanked the Commission and its members for their support and friendship saying she felt that she had gained more from the Commission than she gave.

V. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

Chairman Philibosian said that there had not been a meeting of the Executive Committee since the last Commission meeting because the task forces have been busy with their business.

Chairman Philibosian said that in place of Mr. Dan Wall speaking on legislation, Mr. Jonathan Freedman with the Legislative Affairs Section of the Chief Administrative Office will discuss legislation that affects the County.

Chairman Philibosian stated that taff had compiled and distributed an index of all commissions and if anyone had not received a copy to let the staff know. He felt that it would be helpful for the commissioners to know which other commissions there are in the County. He then announced the appointment of Mr. Tyler McCalley, who was the Assistant Auditor-Controller, as the new Auditor-Controller.

Chairman Philibosian said that it was reported that there was some difficulty in getting participation in conference calls for task force meetings. He commented that conference calls were suggested as a means of eliminating travel, saving time, and increasing participation. He asked that everyone make an effort to participate in these calls.

VI. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Staniforth stated that there was an organization within the County Library, called FYI. He said that they have been contracted to do some conversion work on commission documents. Mr. Staniforth reported that this group was also assisting in the redesign of the commission's website. This effort is being coordinated with Vice Chair Lucente.

Mr. Staniforth informed the commission that he would be working from home for a few days beginning June 13. He suggested that if he were needed, he could be contacted there.

Commissioner Sylva asked who was going to redesign the website. Mr. Staniforth replied that it would be Ms. Maria Ny of FYI. Commissioner Sylva asked what the cost would be. Mr. Staniforth said that it was to be approximately \$4,000.

Commissioner Padilla wanted to know what the major change would be. Mr. Staniforth said that he had studied other web sites and felt that the Commission's could be made more appealing and user friendly. He added that the

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Chairman Philibosian mentioned that at the Commission's July meeting Mr. David Janssen would be the guest speaker. He asked that the Commission make every effort to attend. He said that Mr. Janssen would speak about the budget, but that he was sure that he would answer questions on other issues.

Commissioner Boonshaft reminded the Commission that this was the week of the Fourth of July and it may be difficult for some to attend.

Chairman Philibosian, after listening to comments from various commissioners, suggested that it might be advisable to move the meeting date forward one week to July 13th. He polled the Commission for attendance both for July 6th and July 13th. After determining that July 13 was a more desirable date, he asked Mr. Staniforth to contact Mr. Janssen to see if he would be available on July 13th. If arrangements can be made, commissioners should be notified of the change of date for the July meeting

X. PUBLIC COMMENT

Chairman Philibosian said that although it was not on the agenda he would like the liaison individuals to give a report. He called first on Mr. John Andes, liaison from the Commission on Local Governmental Services. Mr. Andes said that the Commission on Local Government services has not had a meeting recently so he had nothing to report.

Chairman Philibosian then asked Commissioner Crowley, liaison to the Commission on Local Government Services. Commissioner Crowley said he had nothing to report

Chairman Philibosian asked Commissioner Sylva, liaison to the Quality & Productivity if she had a report. Commissioner Sylva replied that there had been a celebration on May 12 and a reception at Dodger stadium. The Quality & Productivity Commission participated in the Tech-Expo at the Staples center that was well attended. The County was well represented and the Quality & Productivity Commission's theme was "Best Practices". She asked Commissioner Hill, Chair of the Quality & Productivity Commission, if she would like to elaborate on this subject.

Commissioner Hill stated that Quality & Productivity has begun a major outreach program to enhance the County's image and that their participation at the Tech-Expo was one of the venues to accomplish this. She said that the Quality and Productivity Commission has a mandate to work directly with all departments within the County

Commissioner Petak asked who the Commission was benchmarking. Commissioner Hill replied that "Best Practices" are identified through departments. Commissioner Petak asked whether this was internal or external. Commissioner Hill said that internal departments are identifying those activities that they do well. She added that in the example of the Tech-Expo they had the opportunity to showcase these "Best Practices". Commissioner Petak thought that the commission was benchmarking County functions against "Best Practices" elsewhere. Commissioner Hill said that they were not.

Commissioner Hill said that she wanted to share that the reception and celebration at Dodger Stadium was a Quality and Productivity Commission event in partnership with the Board of Supervisors. The event was called the Elected Officials Reception designed to showcase the County to the younger generation.

Chairman Philibosian aware that the speaker Mr. Jonathan Freedman had arrived, asked Mr. Staniforth to introduce him.

VIII. PRESENTATION (a)

[Mr. Jonathan Freedman Legislative Affairs, Chief Administrative Office \(CAO\)](#)
[Topic: : Recent Legislative Actions Concerning Los Angeles County](#)

Mr. Staniforth introduced Mr. Freedman with the Legislative Affairs Office of the CAO. He will present a general overview of the Federal legislative issues, in particular the Federal health care waiver.

Mr. Freedman explained that a delegation of the Board of Supervisors and other officials went to Washington to lobby the interests of Los Angeles County. He then gave a brief analysis of each of the issues involved in this effort.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

Finance Task Force

Chairman Philibosian asked Commissioner Padilla, Chair pro tem of the Finance Task Force for his report.

Commissioner Padilla reported that there had been numerous conversations regarding the task force looking into issues related to child welfare. Contact has been made with Ms. Anita Bock the Director of Children and Family services in order to establish a preliminary scope of such a project. It has also been determined that there might be an overlap between the efforts of the Finance Task Force and the Organization and Accountability Task Force. These things will need to be worked out before making a decision as to direction.

Organization and Accountability Task Force

Chairman Philibosian stated that some coordinated efforts could be helpful. There is no reason to have a project exclusively with one task force, there could be two working together. He asked Commissioner Oakes, Chair, Organization & Accountability Task Force, if he would like to make some comments

Commissioner Oakes said that the Organization & Accountability Task Force met in teleconference on Wednesday, May 31, during which both general and specific issues were discussed. Commissioner Oakes stated that the task force would continue to review past projects for additional ideas. He said that the task force has been looking into the possibility, either jointly with the Finance Task Force or alone, of contributing to the conclusions of the Auditor Controller's audit of the Department of Children and Family Services Independent Living Program. He said that there was information that the program has had problems in the past. He added that the Auditor Controller will be completing an audit of the program by late June. The Auditor-Controller's report will be focusing on identifying opportunities for improvement. Using this approach could provide an opportunity for the task force to work on further enhancements to the program. The conclusion of the conference call was to establish a preliminary plan, evaluate the audit and resolve the issue of whether the Finance Task Force should be working with the Organization and Accountability Task Force or whether either should pursue it alone.

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any further discussion on the activities of the Finance or Organization & Accountability Task Forces. He then requested Commissioner Hill to report on the Grand Jury Task Force.

Grand Jury Task Force

Commissioner Hill reported that the Grand Jury Task Force has participated in several teleconference meetings. It has also been keeping abreast of the press coverage on current Grand Jury issues. She said that the consensus for task force study is whether to review the Grand Jury's administrative oversight function works. Commissioner Hill stated that the task force understands that this could be an emotional, very sensitive and highly delicate issue. She added that the group is extremely interested in pursuing the question. Commissioner Hill hoped that the Commission will understand that this is an opportunity to review a subject matter that is highly relevant.

Chairman Philibosian asked Commissioner Hill if the Grand Jury Task Force was looking for a consensus to proceed. Commissioner Hill answered that it was. Chairman Philibosian, after polling the Commission, said that the Grand Jury had the approval of the full Commission to conduct further investigation into this matter.

Policy Task Force

Chairman Philibosian asked Commissioner Sylva, Chair, Policy Task Force to give a report

Commissioner Sylva reported that the task force had met via teleconference. She said that the next meeting will be on June 12th at USC, hosted by Commissioner Petak. She said that during the teleconference the Speakers Commission on State and Local Government Report and Risky Business: Providing Local Public Services in Los Angeles County, by Mark Baldassare was discussed. It was decided that each commissioner should read these reports with a focus on ways to make the County more fiscally independent. They will also consider how to enable the County to better coordinate Federal State fiscal opportunities. Commissioner Sylva stated that her area of expertise is redevelopment, economic development and public finance. As such, she is interested in pursuing this aspect of policy review. The task force hopes to find a way for the County to utilize and maximize their existing resources and hopefully become more fiscally independent.

Chairman Philibosian asked Commissioner Sylva if she was planning on submitting a report and proposed project at the next meeting. Commissioner Sylva said that she was.

Chairman Philibosian asked if there were any further announcements or new business. Hearing none he asked for a motion to adjourn.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

None

XI. ADJOURNMENT

Upon a motion from the floor, Chairman Philibosian adjourned the meeting at 12:00 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted.



Bruce J. Staniforth
Executive Director

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