
Minutes of the Meeting on December 8, 2020

OPENING ITEMS

Murray shared instructions for listening to and providing public comment during the meeting.

1. Call to Order.

Murray called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Present: President Melinda Murray
Vice President Shedrick Davis
Commissioner Jeffery Daar
Commissioner Laura Genao
Commissioner Andrea Sheridan Ordin

2. Multiple agenda item comment.

Public comment was provided by Suzanne Holley regarding Item 8, Emily Gibson regarding Item 8, Shawn McMorris regarding Item 8, Jim Sutton regarding Item 8, Arnie Berghoff regarding Item 8, Christopher Larson regarding Item 8, Rob Quan regarding Items 8 and 10, Aaron Green regarding Item 8, Clara Karger regarding Item 8, and Debbie Dyner Harris regarding Item 8.

3. Approval of minutes for the meeting on October 20, 2020.

Genao moved to approve the minutes, and Daar seconded. The minutes were approved 5-0.

4. Possible discussion with authorized neighborhood council representatives.

No neighborhood council resolutions or community impact statements were submitted or discussed.

ACTION ITEMS

5. Proposed stipulation in Case No. 2020-01, *In the Matter of Daniel Ahadian and nūr Corporation* (alleged failures to register as lobbying entities and file lobbying disclosure reports).

Staff recommended approving a stipulated order imposing administrative penalties totaling \$45,000.

Action: Ordin moved to approve the stipulation, and Daar seconded. The stipulation was approved 5-0.

6. Review of recusals by Susana Reyes, the vice president of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners.

Staff provided an analysis of the financial interests that led to a Charter § 707 recusal review for Vice President Reyes and recommended finding that the conflict is not significant at this time.

Action: Daar moved to adopt a resolution finding that a significant conflict does not exist at this time, and Genao seconded. The resolution was adopted 5-0.

7. Continued consideration of proposed amendments to the Campaign Finance Ordinance, in light of changes to the election schedule.

This item was continued from the October meeting. Staff recommended updates to the campaign laws, to accommodate changes in state and City election schedules.

Action: Genao moved to approve the recommended updates, and Ordin seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

8. Consideration of the 2018 lobbying recommendations.

Staff requested direction from the commissioners regarding the 2018 lobbying recommendations. The commissioners asked staff to conduct interested persons meetings, meet with the City Council president, and create a plan for evaluating the lobbying laws. Commissioner Daar was named to an ad hoc subcommittee to assist staff with this review.

9. Professional services agreement with LexisNexis.

Staff recommended approving a professional services agreement with LexisNexis (No. 5-17-70-12), with a two-year term and payments by the City not to exceed \$36,000.

Action: Daar moved to adopt a resolution approving the agreement and authorizing the executive director to execute it, and Davis seconded. The resolution was adopted 5-0.

10. Regular meeting schedule for 2021.

Staff recommended a schedule based on standard protocols for conducting commission meetings. The commissioners asked staff to look into the possibility of other meeting dates and times and to bring the 2021 schedule back for further discussion at the next meeting.

Action: Genao moved to schedule the next regular meeting for 9:30 a.m. on February 16, 2021, and Ordin seconded. The motion passed 5-0.

INFORMATION ITEMS

11. Election update (regular 2020 and 2022 City and LAUSD elections).

The staff report was received and filed.

12. Lobbying summary (3rd quarter 2020).

The staff report was received and filed.

13. Recusal summary (3rd quarter 2020).

The staff report was received and filed.

14. Pre-confirmation statements of economic interests.

The staff report was received and filed.

15. Policy and legislation update.

The staff report was received and filed.

16. Executive director's report.

Murray noted the Charter's ten-year limit on serving as the executive director, and the commissioners thanked Executive Director Heather Holt for her decade of outstanding service in that role.

CLOSED SESSION ITEM

17. Discussion and possible action regarding a public employee appointment of an Executive Director, pursuant to Los Angeles City Charter section 701(a) and California Government Code section 54957(b).

The commissioners entered a closed session at 11:35 a.m. At 1:10 p.m., at the conclusion of the closed session, Murray announced that the commissioners had unanimously selected Deputy Executive Director David Tristan as the next executive director and that he had accepted the offer.

CLOSING ITEMS

18. Commissioner announcements and requests to schedule items on future agendas.

No announcements or requests were made.

19. Adjournment.

Ordin moved to adjourn, and Genao seconded. The meeting was adjourned by a vote of 5-0 at 1:15 p.m.

A complete recording of this meeting, excluding closed sessions, is on file as a public record and may be accessed at ethics.lacity.org.