



Santa Fe Springs Sister City Committee  
Town Center Hall – Meeting Room 1  
Monday, October 1, 2018

## MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – Chairperson Peggy Radoumis called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m.
2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – DORIS YARWOOD
3. ROLL CALL – MICHELLE SMITH, COMMUNITY SERVICES SUPERVISOR

*Members Present:* Debra Cabrera, Francis Carbajal, A.J. Hayes, Susan Johnston, Andrea Lopez, Jacqueline Martinez, Beverly Radoumis, Peggy Radoumis, Laurie Rios, Martha Villanueva, Jeannette Wolfe, Doris Yarwood, Charlotte Zevallos, Manny Zevallos

*Members Absent:* Marcella Obregon, Mary Reed

*Staff:* Michelle Smith, Community Services Supervisor/Executive Secretary

*Council Liaison:* Jay Sarno, Mayor

4. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS – PEGGY RADOUMIS- CHAIRPERSON
  - Nothing to report

5. APPROVAL OF AUGUST 6, 2018 MINUTES\*

A motion was made by Francis Carbajal, and seconded by A.J. Hayes, to approve the amended Minutes of August 6, 2018 as amended. The motion was carried unanimously.

**Section 13: Announcements amend to read:**

- “Doris Yarwood announced that there will be a Pachanga Casino trip on Tuesday, August 28. \$15 per person.”

**Section 5: Approval of Minutes, amend to strike:**

“Ms. Radoumis will contact Sister City International to gain access to a current mission statement and to make sure that they are able to alter it from the International mission statement.”

6. COUNCIL LIASON REPORT

Mayor Jay Sarno reported on the following:

- Six candidates are running for elections: Blake Carter, Ralph Aranda, John Mora, Mayor Pro Tem Juanita Trujillo, Mayor Jay Sarno and Annette Rodriguez. There are four candidates running for School Board: Peggy Radoumis, George Buchannan, Hilda Zamora, and Gabriel Jimenez. Mayor Sarno encouraged all members to vote.
- On Saturday, September 29 there was a drive-by shooting on Pioneer and Blue Jay. Whittier Police Department has a suspect in custody. The victim is in the hospital with his condition unchanged. Mayor Sarno asked the members to stay vigilant and if they see something, report it.
- Francis Carbajal asked for an update on the traffic issue caused by the Starbucks drive-thru. Mayor Sarno stated that Rudy Camano, the owner was looking at multiple options to remedy the issue. One idea on the table is to rebuild as a mixed use facility. The City has made it clear that putting in a market on the site is number one priority once the rebuild begins.
- Francis Carbajal asked Mayor Sarno if Council has discussed the fireworks booth issue of a twenty member minimum as it relates to Sister City Committee. Mayor Sarno stated that Sister City will be on the list and therefore able to have a booth.
- Peggy Radoumis asked Mayor Sarno if he had more information about the new law which will not require bail. As of January 1, 2019 if a criminal claims hardship they will not need to produce bail. Mayor Sarno encouraged the committee to vote and be heard.
- Council approved a Packer System to be installed to water well #12. The City will insert a pipe to stop the bad water coming in so that we are able to use the water from the lower level of the well. The City is working on locating areas to dig new wells and will also team up with other cities such as Whittier or Downey to purchase water from them instead of Metropolitan Water which will be doubling its water rate in January.

#### 7. OFFICER ELECTIONS - MICHELLE SMITH

After the August 6 meeting the nominating committee consisting of Andrea Lopez, Marcella Obregon, Susie Johnston, Jeannette Wolfe, Peggy Radoumis, and Charlotte Zevallos met and suggested the following nominations:

Chairperson: Peggy Radoumis

Vice-Chairperson: Andrea Lopez

Treasurer: Jeanette Wolfe

#### TREASURER

The floor was then opened for nominations via a form for Treasurer. All nominations were written on the board for the Committee to view. Michelle Smith explained the process for nominations via a written nomination.

The following members were nominated for the position of Treasurer:

Doris Yarwood accepted nomination

Francis Carbajal declined nomination

Jeannette Wolfe accepted nomination

Ballots were passed out for the Committee to vote on the position of Treasurer.

Jeannette Wolfe was elected Treasurer for the Sister City 2018-2019 Term.

Francis Carbajal made a motion to nominate and vote on Chairperson before Vice-Chairperson. Debra Cabrera seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

#### CHAIRPERSON

The floor was then opened for nominations via a form for Chairperson. All nominations were written on the board for the Committee to view. The following members were nominated for the position of Chairperson:

Peggy Radoumis accepted nomination  
Francis Carbajal accepted nomination  
Andrea Lopez declined nomination

Ballots were passed out for the Committee to vote on the position of Chairperson.

Peggy Radoumis was elected Chairperson for the Sister City 2018-2019 Term.

#### VICE-CHAIRPERSON

The floor was then opened for nominations via a form for Vice Chairperson. All nominations were written on the board for the Committee to view. The following members were nominated for the position of Vice Chairperson:

Doris Yarwood declined nomination  
Francis Carbajal declined nomination  
Andrea Lopez accepted nomination

Running uncontested, Andrea Lopez will be the Vice-Chairperson for the Sister City 2018-2019 Term.

Francis Carbajal wanted it stated on the record that she objected to this type of election due to the confusion it created. In future elections the Committee should be made aware of the method of nominating and voting. Peggy Radoumis agreed that it was a bit more confusing than the usual format.

Manny Zevallos stated that the slips made it confusing.

Michelle Smith informed the committee other committees are doing it in this manner. If this voting practice is to be used in the future then it will be explained at length.

A.J. Hayes stated that he was confused and did not know what position he was nominating or voting for. Peggy Radoumis stated that each form handed out had the position written on it.

Francis Carbajal suggested that nominations be verbal and the vote be on ballots.

#### 8. EXECUTIVE SECRETARY REPORT – MICHELLE SMITH

**a. Fashion Friday – Friday, October 5, 5-10 p.m., Town Center Plaza** – Andrea Lopez shared that Fashion Friday will be held in the Town Center Plaza on Friday, October 5 from 5 – 10 pm. There will be 35 vendors selling fashion, food and various other things. There will be a fashion show and special guests which will speak on cancer awareness.

**b. Haunted House – Activity Center**

- Friday October 26 to Sunday, October 28 from 6-9 pm, Full Scare Experience
- Monday, October 29 and Tuesday, October 30, from 3-5 pm, Lights on Walkthrough
- Wednesday, October 31 from 5-10 pm, Full Scare Experience

Michelle Smith reported on the Haunted House in the Activity Center at Los Nietos Park. This year the City has added a lights on walkthrough for anyone who would like to see the Haunted House without the scare experience.

**c. Halloween Carnival and Costume Parade – Wednesday, October 31 from 5:30-9 pm**

- **Costume Parade will begin at 6:30 pm**

Michelle Smith reported that there will be games for the kids to win candy and prizes, photo areas, food vendors, and crafts.

**d. Brown Act Training for Committee Chairs and Vice-Chairs**

- The Brown Act Training will be held on Wednesdays, October 3 from 4-5 pm in Council Chambers. This training is required of all Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons and must be taken once every two years.

9. OLD BUSINESS – PEGGY RADOUMIS

**a. Fundraising Ideas – Peggy Radoumis –**

- Casino Trip – Update – More information at next meeting.
- Popcorn Fundraiser – Ms. Radoumis stated that the committee would need to have \$600 in sales in order to get free shipping. The students will receive the flyers/order forms. Members were given order forms and asked to write clearly.

**b. Candy Bar Fundraiser – Update –** All boxes were sold. Income will be reflected in the financial report as the money is turned in.

**c. Fiestas Patrias Fundraiser - Recap -** Peggy Radoumis reported Fiestas Patrias went very well. Each student made approximately \$100. Almost all products were donated. A total amount of sales will be shared when taxes are taken out.

9. NEW BUSINESS – PEGGY RADOUMIS

**a. Committee Holiday Dinner – Peggy Radoumis –** Ms. Radoumis opened discussion to change the date of the dinner to November so that Christmas Float Volunteers would be able to attend. Members were asked to bring an unwrapped gift for a child to the dinner to be donated to the Neighborly Elf Program at the Gus Velasco Neighborhood Center. Charlotte Zevallos made a motion to have the Committee Holiday Dinner at Geezers on Monday, November 26. The motion was seconded by Andrea Lopez. The motion passed unanimously.

10. FINANCIAL REPORT\* - JEANNETTE WOLFE – TREASURER

- a. **Bills/Invoices** – Treasurer Jeannette Wolfe distributed the Finance Report for period ending in September 2018 and gave a brief overview of the youth account and the committee account.

A motion was made by Francis Carbajal, and seconded by A.J. Hayes to receive and file the financial report of July 2018. The motion carried unanimously.

11. SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT – PEGGY RADOUMIS

a. **Young Ambassadors Subcommittee Report** –

- Sabina expressed concern over the low number of students interested in the exchange program. There are currently 7 students going to Germany.
- A student from Downey has expressed interest in joining the program and going to Germany. Francis Carbajal made a motion to allow a non-resident of Santa Fe Springs to join the program. The motion was seconded by Manny Zevallos.

b. **Navojoa Subcommittee Report** – Peggy Radoumis

Francis Carbajal spoke with Gerardo. Gerardo is requesting a letter of recommendation from the City of Santa Fe Springs in order to gain a position in the Navojoa Sister City Committee and the new government team in Navojoa.

12. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS – PEGGY RADOUMIS

- a. Roberts Rules of Order – Elections
- b. Tree Lighting
- c. Financial Report explanation of candy sales deposit
- d. Speak to City attorney regarding what would happen to Sister City Committee funds should the committee disband

13. ANNOUNCEMENTS – PEGGY RADOUMIS

- Andrea Lopez announced that the Fire Department will host a beer garden at the Fashion Friday event and that the drinks will be available by donation.
- A question was asked by a committee member. If there are not enough students going to Germany will we cancel? Ms. Radoumis responded that they will go with the seven students interested in going.

14. ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Peggy Radoumis adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

**The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 5, 2018 at the Town Center Hall at 6:30 p.m.**

  
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Prepared by:  
Amanda Lascano, CSPL III

  
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Michelle Smith, Executive Secretary

