

***These Meetings Minutes are not official until approved by the
Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration/Juneteenth Celebration
Advisory Committee***

REGULAR MEETING OF THE
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND
JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

January 15, 2025
6:30 P.M.

Call to Order and Roll Call

Vice Chair Hearn called the regular meeting of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee to order at 6:38 P.M. at the Culver City Senior Center.

Present: LaToya Hearn, Vice Chair
Karna Bibbins-McKeever, Member
Lisa Gordon Cain, Member
Christian Green, Member
Curtis Raynor, Member
Andrew Weiss, Member

Absent: Amber Kearney, Member
Carissa Joy Smith, Member

Staff: Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community
Services Manager
Adam Ferguson, Senior Management Analyst
Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst

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Pledge of Allegiance

Member Raynor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice Chair Hearn extended her thoughts to those affected by the devastating fires.

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Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, reported that no public comment had been received for Items NOT On the Agenda.

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Receipt of Correspondence

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, reported that no correspondence had been received.

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Consent Calendar

Item C-1

Approval of Minutes for the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee Meeting of November 20, 2024

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR, SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING OF NOVEMBER 20, 2024.

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Order of the Agenda

No changes were made.

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Action Items

Item A-1

MLKJCC – Election of the Chair and Vice Chair of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

MOVED BY VICE CHAIR HEARNS, SECONDED BY MEMBER GREEN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPOINT LATOYA HEARNS TO SERVE AS CHAIR OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding a previous nomination for Member Kearney; a nomination for Member Raynor; a previous expression of interest to serve by Member Kearney; and clarification that Member Kearney had to evacuate to northern California.

MOVED BY MEMBER GREEN, SECONDED BY MEMBER RAYNOR AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPOINT AMBER KEARNEY TO SERVE AS VICE CHAIR OF THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE FOR THE REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025.

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Item A-2

MLKJCC – (1) Drafting of a Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration & Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee Biannual Report to the City Council, including Accomplishments During the Period July through December 2024, and an Update on the Upcoming 2025 Plans; and (2) Authorization of Transmittal of the Report to the City Council

Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community Services Manager, indicated that snacks were available for Committee Members due to the lengthy nature of the meeting, noting that no City funds were used, she and Associate Analyst Dorian Jackson had paid for them out of pocket.

Adam Ferguson, Management Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding support for adding selection of representatives for the Olympics Subcommittee; efforts to update Committee Bylaws; clarification on the origin of the Committee; consultation with the City Clerk to gauge interest in creation of an ad hoc subcommittee of the City Council; clarification that a City Council Member is not assigned to the Committee; advantages to having a Council Member involved; a suggestion to add preparation for the MLK Celebration to the list of accomplishments; updating the dates on the report; level of detail around entertainment secured; and making the focus of the Committee clear.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR, SECONDED BY MEMBER CAIN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE:

1. APPROVE THE STAFF-PREPARED DRAFT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION & JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE BIENNIAL REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL WITH ADJUSTMENTS, INCLUDING ACCOMPLISHMENTS DURING THE PERIOD JULY THROUGH DECEMBER 2024, WITH AN UPDATE ON THE UPCOMING 2025 PLANS; AND,
2. AUTHORIZE TRANSMITTAL OF THE REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding including the proclamation in the report; the need for a new motion if that item is added; whether the proclamation counts as an accomplishment; and indicating that the Committee Members attended the January 13, 2025 City Council meeting to receive the proclamation.

MOVED BY MEMBER GREEN, SECONDED BY MEMBER RAYNOR AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT

THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE ADD THE FOLLOWING TO THE DRAFT MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION & JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE BIENNIAL REPORT TO THE CITY COUNCIL: "COMMITTEE ATTENDANCE OF THE JANUARY 13, 2025 CITY COUNCIL MEETING TO RECEIVE THE PROCLAMATION FOR MLK DAY CELEBRATION 2025."

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Item A-3

MLKJCC - (1) Consideration of a Budget Letter to City Council Regarding the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Respective Adopted Budgets, and (2) Consideration of Selecting a Committee Member to Draft a Letter to City Council with Fiscal Year 2025/2026 Budget Adjustment Recommendations

Adam Ferguson, Management Analyst, provided a summary of the material of record; discussed the Fiesta La Ballona Committee; receipt of sponsorships; and the updated budget list.

Edgar Varela, Special Events Manager, discussed budget responsibility for each event and the amount of money currently in the budget.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the Parks, Recreation and Community Services (PRCS) budget vs. the Economic and Community Development budget; the current amount available; budget cuts; making a department recommendation; making additional requests; enhancements; anticipated questions; the intended budget; the windfall; making a request that the additional funding be retained; challenges with working with such a small budget for the MLK Celebration; asking entertainment and vendors to subsidize their price in order participate; cancellation fees; funding transfer; the financial impact of rescheduling; a suggestion to have the subcommittee discuss the budget letter and coordinate with staff; concern with timing issues related to forming a subcommittee to work on the letter; requesting an increase in funding for Juneteenth; additional costs if the MLK Celebration had been able to be done in its full capacity; and Member interest in working on the budget letter.

MOVED BY CHAIR HEARNS, SECONDED BY MEMBER GREEN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: FORM AN AD HOC BUDGET LETTER SUBCOMMITTEE TO DRAFT A BUDGET LETTER TO THE CITY COUNCIL FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 AND APPOINT CHAIR HEARNS AND MEMBER GREEN THERETO.

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Item A-4

MLKJCC – Approval of the Rescheduled Event Date for the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration

Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community Services Manager, provided a summary of the material of record; noted that the Inglewood Black History Month Celebration would be held on February 22; and discussed performer availability.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding availability of the master of ceremony and performers; concern with competing with Inglewood; the inability to hold the event on President's Day; availability of Assembly Member Isaac Bryan and Congresswoman Sydney Kamlager Dove; a suggestion to not do the event and instead place the Committee's focus on the Juneteenth celebration; collaboration with Inglewood; negative press at past Inglewood events; adding a theme of love to the event due to the proximity of the rescheduled event to Valentine's Day; the need to hold a special meeting in order to make changes to the event; determining the date so that staff can work on contract amendments to move forward with the event; concern with sacrificing attendees by choosing the event date to accommodate the availability of the master of ceremony; Member availability for the dates proposed; competitive booking for the performers; filling gaps for entertainers; the inability to have an open mic for people to come up and perform; and the need for contracts for any performers.

MOVED BY MEMBER GREEN AND SECONDED BY MEMBER BIBBINS-MCKEEVER THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE FEBRUARY 22, 2025 AS THE RESCHEDULED DATE FOR THE 2025 MLK CELEBRATION.

THE MOTION FAILED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, CAIN, GREEN
NOES: HEARNS, RAYNOR, WEISS
ABSENT: KEARNEY, SMITH

MOVED BY MEMBER GREEN AND SECONDED BY CHAIR HEARNS (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE FEBRUARY 15, 2025 AS THE RESCHEDULED DATE FOR THE MLK CELEBRATION.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: CAIN, GREEN, HEARNS, WEISS
NOES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, RAYNOR
ABSENT: KEARNEY, SMITH

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding performer availability; finding a new master of ceremony; having the Ad Hoc Entertainment Subcommittee meet with staff this week; those available for February 15; extending time slots to cover any gaps; the ability to provide entertainment suggestions; and staff agreement to contact all entertainers about the new date and request rescheduling.

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Item A-5

MLKJCC - Approval of the Event Date for the 2025 Juneteenth Celebration

Edgar Varela, Special Events Manager, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding previous MLK events in Culver City; competition with other events; efforts to include participation by Holly Mitchell in the event; location; potential dates; demographics in Culver City; consideration of having an evening event; having a family-friendly event; support for having the event on the weekend; clarification that school gets out on June 13;

family-friendly events on Thursdays and Fridays; support for trying something different; being inclusive for all age groups; lack of clarity about what other cities and entities are planning at this point; and ensuring inclusivity.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR, SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE SATURDAY, JUNE 21, 2025 AS THE DATE FOR THE 2025 JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION.

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Item A-6

MLKJCC - Approval of the Venue for the 2025 Juneteenth Celebration

Edgar Varela, Special Events Manager, provided a summary of the material of record.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding space available for use; keeping the event compact when attendance levels are low; the ability to expand; attendance of the Tree Lighting event; vehicle accessibility and safety; taking every safety measure possible; parking; potential venues; benefits to different locations; amenities included and costs associated with different spaces; previous locations; allowing space for community tabling; inviting Black-owned businesses to participate; providing a wall of education; having a central area; food trucks; the LED wall at One Culver which is an indoor location; and support for having an outdoor event.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR, SECONDED BY MEMBER GREEN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: APPROVE IVY STATION AS THE LOCATION FOR THE 2025 JUNETEENTH EVENT.

THE MOTION CARRIED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: BIBBINS-MCKEEVER, GREEN, HEARNS, RAYNOR, WEISS
NOES: CAIN

ABSENT: KEARNEY, SMITH

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding potential dates for a site walk-through for the subcommittees; the public space that is accessible for anyone interested in checking it out; and staff agreement to distribute a layout with pictures of the space.

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Item A-7

MLKJCC - Receipt and Filing of an Update from the Juneteenth History and Culture Ad Hoc Subcommittee

Chair Hearn provided an update from the Juneteenth History and Culture Ad Hoc Subcommittee; discussed participation of community partners in the event; vendors; tangible resources for the community; connecting people to services; tangible things for purchase applicable to the event; creation of an educational wall; and providing written, verbal, and acted out education.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding different ways to engage; providing the history of Juneteenth; activities; partnerships; the Black Doll Association; and cultural aspects of Juneteenth beyond entertainment.

Committee Member Raynor indicated that he had not received notice of the meeting until the meeting was happening, and he expressed his desire to be notified of meetings in advance so that he would be a part of the meetings as a Member of the Juneteenth History and Culture Ad Hoc Subcommittee.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding scheduling; Member availability; staff facilitation of subcommittee meetings; in-person vs. Zoom meetings; attendance lists; and subcommittee assignments.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR, SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH

CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: RECEIVE AND FILE THE UPDATE
FROM THE JUNETEENTH HISTORY AND CULTURE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

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Chair Hearn received clarification that agenda items could
not be moved around at this point in the meeting.

Item A-8

**MLKJCC - Receipt and Filing of the Martin Luther King Jr.
Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee 2025
Meeting Calendar and the Upcoming Agenda Items List, With
Adjustments, If Any**

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, discussed upcoming agenda
items.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members
regarding the ability to hold special meetings; staff
availability; previous agreement on the run of show for the
MLK event; agreement to send an adjusted run of show to the
Committee; subcommittee agreement to meet this week to confirm
attendees for the event; promotion; collaboration with staff
to execute the marketing strategy now that the alternate date
has been agreed upon; updates from staff; email blasts sent by
the Communications and Public Information Officer; flyers and
posters with the new date; communication with previous RSVPs;
staff assigned to distribute flyers and talk to community
members; a reminder of Brown Act Rules and the need to focus
on the current agenda item; additional questions about the MLK
event; providing emailed updates to the Entertainment Ad Hoc
Subcommittee Members; receipt of information from a different
department for distribution to Committee Members; assurances
that staff is present to work in alignment with the Committee
and works to complete all assignments; moving the staff report
on the MLK Celebration to the March meeting; receipt of a
report from the Juneteenth Fundraising and Sponsorship Ad Hoc
Subcommittee; staff coordination; the request for a report on
the previous Juneteenth celebration; consideration of
logistics, rules, and delegation of responsibilities for
events at the February meeting; the Brown Act review;
clarification on what is allowable in terms of engagement as
a Committee with performers and contracts; resolving

confusion; the standing item to receive reports from the various subcommittees; allowing each ad hoc subcommittee time to provide an update, but not to vote on items for approval; designating a representative from subcommittees to provide an update on activities; the budget letter to the City Council; the need to agendize items to be voted on by the full Committee; the amount of lead time needed to execute entertainment contracts; meeting City requirements to get to the contract stage of the process; focusing on entertainment and the speakers in March and a draft run of show in April with rules and responsibilities; and meetings with the Special Events Manager.

MOVED BY MEMBER RAYNOR, SECONDED BY MEMBER BIBBINS-MCKEEVER AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: RECEIVE AND FILE THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2025 MEETING CALENDAR AND THE UPCOMING AGENDA ITEMS LIST, WITH ADJUSTMENTS.

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Item A-9

MLKJCC – Receipt and Filing of Updates from the Members of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration & Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee Ad Hoc Subcommittees

Dorian Jackson, Associate Analyst, indicated that Members could form a new ad hoc subcommittee if so desired.

Discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding creation of a Marketing Strategy Ad Hoc Subcommittee; the ability to adjust the existing PR and Marketing for Juneteenth Ad Hoc Subcommittee to include the MLK Celebration; and the ability to add Members to the ad hoc subcommittee.

MOVED BY MEMBER GREEN, SECONDED BY MEMBER WEISS AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: RENAME THE PR AND MARKETING FOR JUNETEENTH AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE TO THE PR AND MARKETING FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATIONS AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

Additional discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding changes to ad hoc subcommittee assignments.

MOVED BY MEMBER WEISS, SECONDED BY MEMBER GREEN AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED (ABSENT MEMBERS KEARNEY AND SMITH), THAT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. CELEBRATION AND JUNETEENTH CELEBRATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE: RECEIVE AND FILE UPDATES FROM THE MEMBERS OF THE AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEES AND REMOVE MEMBER GREEN FROM THE ENTERTAINMENT AND TALENT FOR JUNETEENTH AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE AND ADD MEMBER RAYNOR; REMOVE MEMBER GREEN FROM THE HISTORY AND CULTURE FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE; AND ADD CHAIR HEARNS TO THE SPONSORSHIP/DONATION FOR MARTIN LUTHER KING JR AND JUNETEENTH AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE.

Member Cain provided an update on the Sponsorship/Donation for Martin Luther King Jr. and Juneteenth Ad Hoc Subcommittee noting that she had been in communication with someone at Apple and would have more information by the end of the week.

Further discussion ensued between staff and Committee Members regarding the need to meet with staff before conducting outreach; staff outreach to subcommittee members; and appreciation to staff for their efforts.

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Public Comment - Items Not On the Agenda (Continued)

Chair Hearns invited public comment.

The following members of the public addressed the Committee:

Autumn indicated attending the meeting in honor of the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; wanted to find out about the upcoming celebration; provided background on herself; discussed the importance of Dr. King in her life; historical events; the loss of her cousin in Chicago; and she thanked the Committee for their work.

Chair Hearns extended her deepest condolences and thanked the speaker for coming, expressing hope that she would be able to attend the MLK Celebration on February 15, 2025.

James Richardson provided background on himself; discussed helping people affected by the wildfires; the events leading up to the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.; being a living extension of his dream; and he wanted to see what the Committee was doing and support.

Chair Hearn expressed appreciation for Mr. Richardson's support of community and for his interest; noted the Committee's commitment to create special celebrations; and she asked everyone to attend the event and provide feedback to the inaugural Committee noting the intent to grow the programs.

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Items from Members/Staff

Francisca Castillo, Recreation and Community Services Manager, discussed the Martin Luther King Jr. proclamation presentation at the January 13, 2025 City Council meeting; expressed gratitude to the Committee for working in alignment with staff; and she thanked the Chair for her heartfelt speech.

Chair Hearn reported sending out the video and discussed group pictures.

Member Green was happy that the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration date had been moved; was looking forward to building up the Juneteenth event and seeing the subcommittees coming to fruition; wanted to hold true to the proclamation; and he felt that everyone should get a copy of the proclamation.

Member Raynor echoed previous comment about the Chair's acceptance speech.

Chair Hearn thanked the Committee for their commitment and staff for their efforts to reschedule the MLK Celebration event; expressed appreciation for staff guidance; and thanked those who were able to attend the proclamation.

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Adjournment

There being no further business, at 9:42 P.M., the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee adjourned to a meeting to be held on February 19, 2025.

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Dorian Jackson
SECRETARY of the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration and
Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee

APPROVED _____

LATOYA HEARNS
CHAIR of the Culver City Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration
and Juneteenth Celebration Advisory Committee
Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of said meeting.

Jeremy Bocchino
CITY CLERK

Date