

**CITY OF COMMERCE**  
**SPECIAL NEEDS COMMISSION**  
**MINUTES FOR MEETING HELD AUGUST 15, 2018, 6:30 P. M.**  
**City Council Chambers**

Call to Order

Chairperson Bojorquez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Flag Salute and Invocation

Commissioner Cisneros

Roll Call

Commissioners Present: Bojorquez; Cisneros; Madrigal; Lozano-Gonzalez; Villa

Commissioners Not Present: None

Staff Present: Liaison Moyra Garcia, Senior Office Specialist, Liz Chavez

Staff Not Present: None

Public Comment

None

**SCHEDULED MATTERS**

**1. Approval of Minutes**

Commissioner Madrigal motioned to approve the minutes of the meeting held August 15, 2018. Commissioner Cisneros seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**2. Sub titles to Public Movies Shown at all City Facilities**

Liaison Garcia asked the Commission if they would like for all movies to include sub-titles at all facilities including Camp Commerce. After the discussion Commissioner Bojorquez made a motion to include sub-titles to all movies. Commissioner Madrigal seconded the motion. Motion Passed. Liaison Garcia stated that it would be submitted as an item on the Agenda for Council approval.

**3. October National Down Syndrome Month**

Liaison Garcia shared with the Commission that there is an Agency called Club 21 Learning and Resource Center, that is have their 11<sup>th</sup> annual “Together is Better Walk” for National Down Syndrome Month, on October 20<sup>th</sup>. The festivities begin at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 1:00 p.m. She told the Commissioners that they could have a discussion and voice their opinions. Commissioner Cisneros mentioned that October was also Cancer awareness month and would like to see the Commissioners take part in the Club 21

“Together is Better Walk” and at the same time raise awareness for Cancer. Liaison Garcia stated that PIO could promote Club 21 and highlight their services in the October issue of the Commerce Connect. Commissioner Cisneros mentioned that the walk is to honor celebration and acceptance. Commissioner Bojorquez asked if it would be possible to invite the community. Liaison Garcia stated that it may be possible to get a bus to provide transportation for anyone who would like to attend, as long as they have 20 or more people. Commissioner Cisneros mentioned that this is her fourth year attending the walk and she has seen more and more families attend. She is certain that more than 20 people would participate and requested that the bus provides a handicap ramp so that no one would be left out. Commissioner Villa stated that Transportation does provide a bus with a ramp. Liaison Garcia mentioned that if people wanted to make a donation how would they do that? Commissioner Cisneros said that there is a link that anyone could access to make a donation and sign up for the walk. Sign-ups can also be done on the day of the “Walk.” Flyers inviting the community would be posted at all parks and Libraries. Sign-ups for the bus will be taken at the Public Safety and Community Services Department. After a discussion, all Commissioners were in agreement. Commissioner Cisneros made a motion to attend and invite the community to Club 21 “Together is Better Walk.” Commissioner Villa seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

#### **4. Commission Goals**

Liaison Garcia reminded the Commissioners that they could pick two goals that they could focus on and complete.

Commissioner Bojorquez stated that one of her goals would be to provide a one on one for the swimming program. Allow all children to enroll in the reading program. She also suggested on sending out a survey to the community to see what kind of response we would get. Commissioner Bojorquez made a motion to put this item on an agenda for further discussion. All commissioners were in favor. Motion passed

Commissioner Madrigal would like to see a ‘quiet room’ for all city events. Provide a letter once a month with special needs information for the community.

Commissioner Villa would like to see more literature promoting Special Needs throughout city facilities to help educate the community. There are lots of children and seniors with special needs that need to be aware of services and where they can go.

Commissioner Cisneros stated that she would like to have a barbecue in honor of the Commissions 1 year anniversary. After a discussion Commissioner Bojorquez made a motion to have a barbeque and she would get donations. Commissioner Madrigal seconded the motion. Motion Passed.

**5. National Stutter Association (tabled: presenter was running behind)**

Robin Sullivan gave a discussion on the services they provide. She stated that currently they have no chapter in or around the city. Chapters are located in West Los Angeles, Riverside and Sierra Madre. The Association provides a stutter social which allows the individuals to use a webcam to talk to others in the comfort of their own home. They usually have 10-15 individuals who attend the chapter meetings. Ms. Sullivan's job is to show them various ways to let others know that they stutter and the therapy provides them with basic tools to use when speaking. Everyone who stutters, stutters, in a different way. What works for one may not work for another stutterer. The therapy helps individuals feel more comfortable when speaking to people. Ms. Sullivan brought some pamphlets with information for each commissioner. The Commissioners asked the following questions. Why is it that when someone sings or talks in their sleep they don't stutter? How many individuals attend the chapter meetings? The presenter answered their questions and thanked the Commission.

**6. Sign Language Classes for the Community (tabled: Commissioner was running late)**

Commissioner Lozano-Gonzalez mentioned that before this Commission was established about 2 years ago she had attended a Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and suggested to have a class on sign-language for individuals who could benefit from it. Liaison Garcia mentioned that she would follow up with Parks and Recreation to see what was decided. In the meantime Liaison Garcia asked Commissioner Lozano-Gonzalez that before they can proceed she would need to provide a proposal with the following information:

Provide one class or ongoing classes? Who would be qualified to give the classes? What would be the cost? Would the class be open to anyone or just residents? How would it be advertised? How many people would have to participate in a class? Where the class would be held at? Would the instructor need to be someone who is certified?

Commissioner Lozano-Gonzalez suggested that she would be interested in teaching the class for one hour and focus on the teens. If it were to be a one-time class she would prefer to have the class for an hour and a half. Liaison Garcia asked Commissioner Lozano-Gonzalez when she would like to start a class. Commissioner Villa recommended trying to scheduling a class for December. Liaison Garcia said that she would have to get an approval from the Director, and she will also speak with the Teen Center Supervisor. Commissioner Bojorquez made a motion to follow-up on this topic at next month's meeting in September. Commissioner Madrigal seconded the motion. Motion passed.

**7. Staff Reports**

Liaison Garcia reported the following:

Reminded the Commissioners that they are only allowed to miss 3 meetings. Once a third meeting has been missed you will no longer be a Commissioner. Our Commission started in November of 2017 to November of 2018. All other Commissions are appointed by a councilmember. Applications were submitted for The Special Needs Commission and council choose the top 5 to become a Special Needs Commissioner.

California Mentors will provide a presentation on their services at the September meeting.

All Commissioners were given a copy of the Commissioners Handbook explaining the role of being a commissioner, and the rules and regulations.

## **8. Commission Reports**

**Commissioner Villa reported the following:**

None

**Commissioner Mai Madrigal reported the following:**

None

**Commissioner Lozano-Gonzalez reported the following:**

Wanted to know if it was alright to post a flyer on the City's Website

**Commissioner Cisneros reported the following:**

Wrote a letter voicing her concerns to the City Administrator in regards to the "R" word that was used on social media by a Councilmember.

**Commissioner Bojorquez reported the following:**

Reported that she went to a council meeting, as a resident, and spoke on behalf of the "R" word that was mentioned on social media by a Councilmember. She encouraged the rest of the Commissioners to do the same.

## **Adjournment**

Chairperson Bojorquez adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.