

Minutes of the special meeting of the City Council of the City of Huntington Park held Tuesday, March 24, 2009.

The meeting was called to order in the Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m. by Mayor Gomez. Present: Council Member Ofelia Hernandez, Council Member Elba Guerrero, Council Member Andy Molina, and Mayor Mario Gomez. Absent: Vice Mayor Juan R. Noguez.

City Clerk Ramirez announced that the special meeting was called for the purpose of discussing and/or taking action on correspondence from The Greater Area Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce requesting waiver of the Vendor's Permit Fee for the Carnaval Primavera Downtown Festival on April 3 through 5, 2009.

Mayor Gomez opened oral communications, indicating that this was the time for anyone in the audience to address the City Council on any matter of City business.

Lupe Cruz, President of the Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce, requested City Council waive the vendor permit fee for this year only due to the reduction in vendors participating.

Dante D'Eramo, Executive Director of the Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce, congratulated Mayor Gomez on his appointment and informed City Council that the Chamber of Commerce had to lower their vendor participation fees by 20% due to the economic hardships of vendors and sold booths for \$520 instead of \$650. Mr. D'Eramo also stated that the Chamber on average has 150 to 160 booths at this event and to date; they still have to sell at least 100 additional booths. Mr. D'Eramo stated that the Chamber does not want to cancel the event and requested that the vendor permit fees be waived this year only.

Don Brabant, Sr. Vice President of the Huntington Park Chamber of Commerce, addressed City Council regarding the importance of the Chamber being allowed this one-time waiver of vendor permit fees to attract the vendors.

Art Bustamante, Board of Directors of HP Youth Football, informed City Council that the Chamber of Commerce allows them to have a booth at the downtown festival which helps their organization since they have lost teams due to lack of monies.

Saldavor Velasco, Representative of the American Cancer Society (ACS), addressed City Council stating that he was hoping to have a booth at the downtown festival to attract people and distribute information about ACS.

John Santillan informed City Council that at the downtown festival he conducts a health fair to educate the community and encouraged City Council to consider the waiver of vendor permit fees.

Mayor Gomez called for any other oral communications, and hearing none, declared oral communications closed.

Following a discussion, motion by Guerrero, seconded by Molina, to **approve a one-time waiver of Vendor Permit Fees for the Carnaval Primavera Downtown Festival to be held April 3 - 5, 2009, refund the 5 new businesses that had already paid for a permit, and direct the Chamber of Commerce to submit a complete vendor list for this event**, carried as follows: Ayes: Council Members Hernandez, Guerrero and Molina, and Mayor Gomez; Noes: None; Absent: Vice Mayor Noguez.

Mayor Gomez declared the meeting adjourned at 6:09 p.m.

Mario Gomez, Mayor

Rosanna M. Ramirez, City Clerk