

**FINAL  
MINUTES  
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC JUSTICE COMMISSION  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2007  
7:45 pm**

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 7:35.
2. Roll Call: Present: Duncan, Johns, Larsen, Marks, Maris, Thomsen. Absent: None.  
Staff: Lieberman
3. Approval of minutes. Maris noted three corrections to the minutes. Maris moved to approve the minutes of 7/11/2007, with corrections. Larsen seconded. Minutes were approved 6-0.
4. Opening Public Forum. No public comment.
5. Discussion and Possible Action on Matters Related to the Following Items  
The order of the agenda was discussed. It was agreed to rearrange the items based on priority. The items were taken in the following order:

- 5.1. SB840: California Health Insurance Reliability Act: Marks summarized SB840 and AB8 and made the following motion:

*The Social and Economic Justice Commission recommends that the City Council take a position of support for SB840 and opposition to AB8, and send a letter to Governor Schwarzenegger, Speaker Nunez, and Senate President Pro Tem Perata, urging them to enact real healthcare reform that covers all Californians.*

Commission members discussed the issue of single payer health care versus some of the other proposals. Thomsen asked what the political feasibility of SB840 was, and how it differed from the other legislation. She stated her desire to read the actual bill language prior to approval of a motion. Johns agreed that it would be helpful to have a stronger grasp of specifics, but supported the intent of the legislation in general and would support the motion. Commissioners felt that in the future it would be best to have the actual language of any legislation, and staff agreed to provide this ahead of time for all future issues of this nature. Duncan called the motion, which passed 5-0-1 (Thomsen abstaining.)

- 5.2. Campaign Finance Reform: Lieberman summarized the prior history of the SEJC's review of campaign finance reform, noting that it had come before the Commission in 2006. At that time the City Attorney and the City Clerk had appeared before the Commission to summarize the Albany ordinance and discuss various issues. Commissioners at that time stated that they were unclear about what Council wished them to address, and would set the issue aside until it was further clarified. In 2007, the issue was raised by the public at a meeting of the SEJC. In addition, the SEJC received a letter from the City Attorney written in response to a letter from Ms. Sally Outis requesting clarification about the campaign finance reform act. The

Commissioners agreed to take up this issue and it was put on the October agenda. Commissioners anticipate that this will be an issue that may take 3-4 meetings, and that one of the meetings should be specifically geared to gather public information. At the October meeting, Commissioners will review the actual act and become as familiar with it as possible.

- 5.3. Peace Action Day Event: Maris discussed the status of organizing the event with Johns. He distributed the press release and the tentative schedule and list of groups. Commissioners discussed the program and order of the program. Duncan mentioned the desire to have some time of feedback, such as posterboards, etc. Moderators for the event will be Johns and Maris. Maris noted that the Peace Department resolution should be available at the event.
  - 5.4. City Motto: Commissioners briefly reviewed the submissions to date. The deadline for submissions is Sept. 31, 2007, so this item will be placed on the October agenda.
  - 5.5. School Board Appointments: Lieberman noted that the school board appointment to the Commission would take place later in September.
  - 5.6. Campaign Finance Reform, AB583: This was held over to a later meeting.
  - 5.7. Affordable Housing subcommittee: Held over to November meeting.
  - 5.8. Prioritizing Items: Addressed as part of agenda.
  - 5.9. Key Route/Solano project: Follow-up: Staff noted that this item needed staff follow-up. Commissioners said it did not need to return the agenda unless some action was needed
  - 5.10. Civility and Public Discourse: Commissioners discussed the presentation in 2006 by Cynthia Josayma and their recommendations to Don Neuwirth as to how this could be incorporated into the waterfront planning process. Duncan said that she would contact Neuwirth to remind him.
  - 5.11. Code of Conduct: Commissioners briefly reviewed the code of conduct in the Commission Handbook. Lieberman mentioned that a training would be taking place for ALL commissions, committees, and boards.
  - 5.12. Public Communications between SEJC and Public: Held over to next meeting, and intended to be part of discussion regarding involvement of public around campaign finance reform.
6. Announcement/Communications  
A second meeting was not deemed necessary in September. The time for the next meeting was set at 7:45 pm.
  7. Future Agenda Items:
    - 7.1. Albany Campaign Finance Reform Act

- 7.2. Council Referral: California Clean Money and Fair Elections Act, AB583
- 7.3. Peace Action Day Event: Report back on event
- 7.4. City Motto:
- 7.5. Council Referral: Living Wage
- 7.6. Waterfront Process

- 8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:45. The next meeting was scheduled for October 10, 2007 at 7:45 pm.