

**LANCASTER CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY  
MINUTES  
January 12, 2010**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor/Chairman Parris called the regular meeting of the City Council/Redevelopment Agency meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Council Members/Agency Directors: Mann, Marquez, Sileo; Vice Mayor/Vice Chairman Smith, Mayor/Chairman Parris

**Staff**

Members: City Manager/Executive Director; Deputy City Manager/Deputy Executive Director; City Attorney/Agency Counsel; City Clerk/Agency Secretary; Assistant to the City Manager; Planning Director; Public Works Director; Parks, Recreation & Arts Director; Finance Director; Economic Development Director; Housing Director; Human Resources Director

**INVOCATION**

Pastor Joe Sweet, Shekinah Worship Center

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Council Member/Agency Director Sileo

At this time, Mayor Parris requested that Item No. CA 1 be moved to the beginning of the agenda.

**CA 1. CONSIDER APPOINTMENT OF CONCEPCIÓN HARRIS TO THE CRIMINAL JUSTICE COMMISSION**

On a motion by Mayor Parris and seconded by Vice Mayor Smith, the City Council appointed Concepción Harris to the Criminal Justice Commission, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0; AYES: Mann, Marquez, Sileo, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

Mayor Parris administered the Oath of Office to Ms. Concepción at this time.

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**PRESENTATIONS**

1. Student Speaker - Karla Chirino - Endeavour Middle School.
2. Domestic Violence/Forensic Services Grant, presented to Antelope Valley Hospital from Verizon
3. Louis V. Bozigian Gift of the Arts Award – Mark W. and Beverly Mewborne  
Presenter: Vice Mayor Smith
4. Recognition of Desert Christian Boys and Girls Cross Country Team

**AGENDA ITEMS TO BE REMOVED**

None

**APPROVAL OF AGENCY CONSENT CALENDAR**

Chairman Parris stated that he would need to recuse himself from Item Nos. RCC 6 and RCC 7, due to the proximity of the projects to property that he owns.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Smith and seconded by Agency Director Sileo, the Redevelopment Agency approved the Agency Consent Calendar with the exception of Item Nos. RCC 6 and RCC 7, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Mann, Marquez, Sileo, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

**RCC 1. MINUTES**

See CC 2 for the approval of the Regular Redevelopment Agency Meeting minutes of December 8, 2009.

**RCC 2. ACQUISITION OF REAL PROPERTY**

Approved the agreement for the Acquisition of Real Property between the Lancaster Redevelopment Agency and Federal National Mortgage Association for property located at 1407-09 West Avenue H-15, Lancaster, California. Funds will be appropriated from the Housing Bond proceeds.

**RCC 3. REJECTION OF ALL BIDS FOR PROJECT**

Rejected all bids for Housing and Neighborhood Revitalization Construction Project No. 09-HNRD201, North Downtown Transit Village Pedestrian Project, and authorized staff to modify the plans to increase the scope of work and re-bid the modified project.

**RCC 4. RESOLUTION NO. 01-10**

Adopted **Resolution No. 01-10**, approving the Relocation Plan for the Desert View Neighborhood Project.

**RCC 5. RESOLUTION NO. 02-10**

Adopted **Resolution No. 02-10**, approving the Replacement Plan for the Desert View Neighborhood Project.

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At this time Chairman Parris recused himself from Item Nos. RCC 6 and RCC 7 and left the dais.

**RCC 6. RESOLUTION NO. 03-10**

**Resolution No. 03-10**, approving the Relocation Plan for the Park View Neighborhood Project.

**RCC 7. RESOLUTION NO. 04-10**

**Resolution No. 04-10**, approving the Replacement Plan for the Park View Neighborhood Project.

Addressing the Agency on Item Nos. RCC 6 and RCC 7:

Jennifer Phan – Representing Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County – against the adoption of the resolutions and the relocation of tenants.

The City Attorney and the Housing Director briefly explained the process for the relocation plan, stating that the process could take months if not years, due to the economy.

On a motion by Agency Director Marquez and seconded by Agency Director Mann, the Redevelopment Agency approved Item Nos. RCC 6 and RCC 7, by the following vote: 4-0-1-0: AYES: Mann, Marquez, Sileo, Smith; NOES: None; RECUSED: Parris; ABSENT: None.

At this time, Chairman Parris returned to the dais.

**RPH 1. LANCASTER REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY FIVE-YEAR IMPLEMENTATION PLAN - RESOLUTION NO. 05-10**, approving the Lancaster Redevelopment Agency Five Year Implementation Plan, for Fiscal Years 2009/10 through 2013/14, in accordance with the State of California Assembly Bill 1290.

Chairman Parris opened the Agency Public Hearing for RPH 1 and the Economic Development Director and the Housing Director presented the report.

Addressing the Agency on this matter:

Jennifer Phan – Representing Neighborhood Legal Services of Los Angeles County – against the public hearing process; stated that there has not been adequate time to review the documents.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Smith and seconded by Agency Director Mann, the City Council continued this matter to the meeting of January 26, 2010.

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**APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL CONSENT CALENDAR**

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Marquez, the City Council approved the Council Consent Calendar by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Mann, Marquez, Sileo, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

**CC 1. ORDINANCE WAIVER**

Waived further reading of any proposed ordinances. (This permits reading the title only in lieu of reciting the entire text.)

**CC 2. MINUTES**

Approved the Redevelopment Agency / City Council Regular Meeting minutes of December 8, 2009.

**CC 3. WARRANT REGISTER**

Approved the Check and Wire Registers November 22, 2009 through December 26, 2009 in the amount of \$13,330,298.55.

**CC 4. MONTHLY REPORT OF INVESTMENTS**

Accepted and approved the November 30, 2009 Monthly Report of Investments as submitted.

**CC 5. APPROPRIATION OF NEW GRANT FUNDS**

Approved the appropriation of \$36,000.00 in new grant funds to Account No. 324-4709-770 for Office of Traffic Safety Grant Number SC10219 for Sobriety Checkpoint Mini-Grant Program for 2009/2010, and increased revenue in Account No. 324-3306-100 in the same amount.

**CC 6. ACCEPTANCE OF MAP AND DEDICATIONS**

Approved the map and accepted the dedications as offered on the map; made findings that this project will not violate any of the provisions of Sections 66473.5, 66474.1, and 66474.6 of the Subdivision Map Act; instructed the City Clerk to endorse on the face of the map the certificate which embodies the approval of said map and the dedications shown thereon.

**CC 7. RESOLUTION NO. 10-01**

Adopted **Resolution No. 10-01**, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Lancaster, California, committing the City to provide local match funds, if selected for award, for a submitted competitive grant application under the Bicycle Transportation Account.

**CC 8. RESOLUTION NO. 10-02**

Adopted **Resolution No. 10-02**, declaring its intention to vacate a portion of road right-of-way on Date Avenue, located north of Kettering Street and south of Jackman Street.

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**PH 1. RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING ANIMAL CONTROL FEES RELATED TO AMENDED ANIMAL CONTROL ORDINANCE AND INCREASES BY LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AND CONSIDERATION FOR APPROVAL OF A NEW AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL CARE AND CONTROL AND THE CITY OF LANCASTER FOR ANIMAL CONTROL SERVICES.**

Mayor Parris opened the Public Hearing for PH 1. The Finance Director and the Assistant to the City Manager presented the staff report.

Additionally, Lieutenant/Manager Danny Ubario of the Animal Control Shelter gave a brief report.

Hearing no further testimony, Mayor Parris closed the Public Hearing.

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Marquez, the City Council adopted **Resolution No. 10-03**, establishing animal control fees; and approved the agreement for Animal Control Services between Los Angeles County Department of Animal Care and Control and the City of Lancaster, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Mann, Marquez, Sileo, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

**PH 2. EXTENSION OF INTERIM URGENCY MORATORIUM ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF MARIJUANA.**

Mayor Parris opened the Public Hearing for PH 2 and the City Attorney presented the staff report.

Addressing the City Council on this matter and stating their opposition to this ordinance, were: Clarence Johnson; David Paul; January Ohelo, Melanie Coker, Barbara Mayzels

Hearing no further testimony, Mayor Parris closed the Public Hearing.

Mayor Parris stated that he is still of the opinion that more work can be done so that cancer patients and seriously ill patients could have access. Not sure what the solution is, it hasn't been found yet and invited the Council to please keep this on the burner. The solution may not be Antelope Valley Hospital, but there should be a way to make this available and not deny cancer patients something that doctors are saying will help them. He believes that the people at New Leaf are sincere and know what they are doing; they are not a criminal element. He has every reason to believe that there will be a major enforcement effort involving Federal; State and Local authorities and the people involved in this could be ruining their futures over this. As impassioned as they are, there is an enforcement effort coming that is totally independent of the City; everyone has been warned; the District Attorney has stated that this is coming and he cautioned people to just wait until the State, the District Attorney and the Federal Government solve this before people end up in the criminal justice system needlessly.

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**PH 2. EXTENSION OF INTERIM URGENCY MORATORIUM ORDINANCE REGULATING THE USE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE SALE AND DISTRIBUTION OF MARIJUANA (continued)**

On a motion by Vice Mayor Smith and seconded by Council Member Mann, the City Council adopted **Interim Urgency Ordinance No. 940**, extending a moratorium on the use of any property for the sale or distribution of marijuana, by the following vote: 5-0-0-0: AYES: Mann, Marquez, Sileo, Smith, Parris; NOES: None; ABSTAIN: None; ABSENT: None.

**CITY MANAGER'S / EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S ANNOUNCEMENT**

None

**CITY CLERK / AGENCY SECRETARY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The City Clerk provided the public with the procedure to address the City Council/Redevelopment Agency regarding non-agendized items.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS FROM THE FLOOR - NON-AGENDIZED ITEMS**

Addressing the City Council at this time:

Ayers Baxter – has seen tremendous growth over the last fifteen years; electricity is the future; costs are skyrocketing; discussed lack of efficiency of solar energy; lack of efficiency of wind energy; discussed issues regarding coal, gas, nuclear energy, discussed a new patent and presented material on KYO Power.

David Paul – received an anonymous letter in the mail regarding the election; asked whoever was responsible to quit sending filth to his house; believes he knows who did this and knows it was no one on the Council but wanted to get the message out; not happy with the article in the press; the press refuses to print his letters.

Barb Reynolds – discussed her duties at the Charter College; partnership with League of California Cities; she and her students will be helping with the initiative for the City to become a charter city; important to keep resources and businesses in Lancaster.

Michael Burdett – many decisions come out of Council meetings; read several articles about the breach of ethics; referred to Mr. Scott Pelka and an issue that was brought forward and not treated right; abuse of privilege by Council.

Scott Pelka – pulled papers to run for mayor, sat with the City Clerk and the City Manager and later found out other candidates did not have the privilege of having the City Manager present when they pulled papers; clarified a matter from July, 2009 and how he was treated by the Council.

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**RECESS:** Mayor Parris requested a brief recess at 6:33 p.m.

**RECONVENE:** Mayor Parris reconvened the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

None

Mayor Parris stated that before the Council recessed to Closed Session, they would hear from the Director of Parks, Recreation and Arts and from several citizens regarding:

**CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--ANTICIPATED LITIGATION**

Initiation of litigation pursuant to Subdivision (c)  
Section 54956.9: (Antelope Valley Allied Arts Association)

The Director of Parks, Recreation and Arts presented an overview of the issues involving the Antelope Valley Allied Arts Association; two separate boards; money that is owed to the City; disputes have been ongoing between the two boards; difficulty of receiving all documentation; membership documents; the grounds are not sanitary; numerous calls have been placed to the Sheriff's Department for assistance; nearby residents have complained; City staff has met with several people and has been trying to get cooperation; the City has tried to get both boards together to work out the issues. There are two boards claiming true association status – Eric Perry is the Chairperson of one and Linda Reynolds is the Chairperson of the other. It appears that the Perry board is the legitimate organization. There have been a number of allegations made to the City; rumors of taking the building down – this is the furthest from the City's intent; the building may fall into a special category and must be well maintained, not altered. The City does not want to cause any damage to the building; there needs to be a determination regarding asbestos in the building; rightful ownership should be with the Perry group. This Center is an asset to the community; there is a legitimate need for the facility. He explained briefly, the agreements that the City has; the City did own the building at one time; the agreement requires the building to have ADA compliance; certain improvements must be brought to code; building had very little upkeep prior to the sale; the intent of the agreement was always use for the arts.

Mayor Parris stated that if the City has anything to do with tearing this building down, he will resign from the City Council. He is committed to the preservation of this building.

Mayor Parris asked questions of the Recreation Supervisor regarding who has been present at the meetings of the association; what past City officials have been involved and what was discussed.

The Recreation Supervisor stated that people who were present at the most recent meeting included Linda Reynolds; Barbara Little; Lynn Harrison and Arnold Rodio (son). She stated that some of the discussion was about what the City plans to do with the building; rumors that the building will be torn down; there was concern for the future of the building; some felt that the City does not have the same idea for the building as others do; some felt that Mayor Parris would want to tear the building down and appoint his own board.

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**ANTELOPE VALLEY ALLIED ARTS ASSOCIATION (continued)**

Michelle Navarrete – stated that she is on the board for the AVAAA – has been introduced to an amazing board; she is very involved; there are plans to do amazing things; gave a brief history as a board member; she left because of the non-stop drama; found out they were planning to sell; bashing of members.

Arnold Rodio Sr – stated that he does not understand the problem; it's a non-profit; check with the Secretary of State; check with IRS for legal board; this should not be an issue; gave history of building and how it was given to Allied Arts.

Linda Reynolds – stated that she understands how things can get messed up; stated that she never said that the Mayor was going to sell; did not say tenants were having pot parties; stated that she has the paperwork to prove she has the valid, legally elected board.

Mayor Parris and Ms. Reynolds discussed further, a meeting that she had with the Mayor. Mayor Parris asked her if she felt mistreated. She stated that when she arrived at his office that he stated that he did not appreciate having pornographic cartoons of himself placed on the doors of City Hall. Mayor Parris stated that this is a serious matter and he apologized if she felt he was too aggressive in that meeting. Further discussion took place regarding the building; back rent that has not been paid on the building.

Jeff Moffatt – stated that he owns historic buildings; heard about the Allied Arts problem; said he was going to deal with it; he thought about buying it; received paperwork regarding the tenant issues; everyone can have an opinion; the City only has the first right of refusal; there are problems with the building; it is a historic building; referred to articles of incorporation.

Josh Mann- gave a brief overview of some of the issues regarding the landlord/tenant dispute; he stated limited information was provided; many records have not been provided; asked to see current leases, worked with Attorney Steven Derryberry to try and figure out what went wrong; he has sat in on meetings on both sides; it is all very confusing; the Perry board is the true board in his opinion; could not conclude if David Hasse was ever elected to the membership; last election was held in August and members took their seats in October.

Dan Venturoli – discussed what he has seen over the last few months; the City should be commended for what they are doing for the arts; the City has a long history of supporting the Lancaster Performing Arts; the City is committed to building the museum and bringing it to the downtown; the improvements are incredible; Cedar Street Center is incredible and a vital part of the arts and the vitalization of the downtown.

Brittany Harris – stated that she is a member of the Perry board; she was originally on the Reynolds board which dissolved; eviction notices came before the board stopped paying rent; tenants have lost heating; electricity; internet; been locked out; discussed who was on the board when Mike Boyd ran the building; these people were supporting Mike Boyd; and he supported them.



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**ANTELOPE VALLEY ALLIED ARTS ASSOCIATION (continued)**

Eric Perry – stated that he is the President of the AVAAA; discussed his family involvement; lack of art programs; people from 5 to 75 have participated in the Center and it is all due to the current programs and the amazing teachers involved. This agreement was made more than fifteen years ago and the board is very involved in wanting to help with the vitalization of the downtown. He stated that Mayor Parris recommended that the two boards try to work it out and do what is best for the community; did not feel comfortable and making amends did not work.

Mennelly Menendez – stated that the Cedar Center is an amazing place to go to and children absolutely love going to the Center; it is a great place to be; all these rumors and accusations are not true.

Nina Spencer – stated that she is as a member of AVAAA and a parent with a child in classes there. She cannot think of a better place for children to be; presented a brief history of scholarships for children; there is so much outreach that the board is prepared to move forward with; many children are waiting to attend.

Jacob Stewart – stated that he was accepted into the work study program at the Cedar Center; it is a great place to get away from everything; does not want to see anything happen to it.

Tonia Thompson – stated that she runs the Academy of Style; she is a board member; a tenant for over two years; no problems in the first year; over the last year a big change has taken place; many members have been on the board for many years; do not have a problem with Cedar Performing Arts; she has met with them; helped them; tried to work with them; watched people move out and there are no tenants to bring in business to the Center; does not feel that the AVAAA has been given any time at all to meet; she is trying to work out tax issues; found out two weeks ago that the building was being sold and renovations were planned by Doug Martin.

Council discussion included questions regarding the rent payments; purchase of the building; Mr. Martins plans to restore the building; keeping the arts going is important; lack of having paperwork in place.

The City Attorney discussed the election process or the lack there of, regarding the board members; there should be a list of people who voted.

Lee D'Errico stated that initially when he was brought into this issue, it was because a complaint came forward to the City and he was tasked with investigating its relationship to public safety and whether to validate or invalidate the complaint before dedicating resources to it. At that point the complaint consisted of narcotic activity, prostitution, children who were coming to the Center to be involved in programs, being approached by vagrants or people asking for money or people offering to sell narcotics to them. There are many children involved in programs at the Center in the afternoons and the evening hours. Based on this, he spent a few days making observations at different times of day and night regarding the activity that was occurring. He observed that there was a significant amount of children and adults as well, participating in programs at the Center.

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**ANTELOPE VALLEY ALLIED ARTS ASSOCIATION (continued)**

Mr. D'Errico also noticed an extreme amount of activity on the south side adjacent parking lot coming through the back of the building. Based on his training and expertise, he recognized that activity as related to persons who are normally involved in dealing narcotics, narcotic activity or other associated activity that goes along with this and he notified the Sheriff's Department of the situation. Following this, he made contact with the complainants, who were members of the CPAA (Cedar Performing Arts Academy). They brought the complaint forward due to ongoing activity from people involved in their programs being approached outside who are involved in criminal activity and they were concerned. They brought this concern to the attention of Mike Boyd who at that time was currently the property manager and also a board member of the Allied Arts group and they were told by Mr. Boyd that he would look into those issues. Their concern was that the people who were involved in this activity included Mr. Boyd's son and his son's girlfriend. At the time, the girlfriend – Veronica Grimms, was a custodian at the Center and had access to the entire complex. When they brought their concerns forward they were immediately served with a notice to end the lease and to have them removed within thirty days. Beyond this, there was no legal order from the court, or due process. Mr. D'Errico met with Mr. Boyd regarding the activity and what was taking place. Mr. Boyd was very evasive about who was on the board; who were the tenants of the property. He ended the conversation with Mr. Boyd because basically Mr. Boyd said it was none of the City's business. He stated that Mr. Boyd did advise him that he had been the board president in the past; he currently was the paid property manager and a member of the board. At this time it was the "Mike" board however, Linda Reynolds had just recently been elected but had not taken office at that time. The Sheriff's Department conducted an investigation based on the allegations that were received; they were able to form probable cause, and received a signed search warrant from a Superior Court Judge. The search warrant was served at the Cedar Center and Mr. Boyd's residence. As a result of the search warrant being served, there were three arrests made, which were Mr. Boyd, Mr. Boyd's son and the son's girlfriend. In the course of this, there was property that had been reportedly removed without permission from the Cedar Center, reported as stolen and the property was recovered at Mr. Boyd's residence along with an amount of narcotics and a weapon. Since that time when these issues were brought forward and cases were filed, the City was in the mode of resolving the issues as they related to the complaints. He was at the meeting where Mayor Parris addressed approximately fifty people and stated that he wanted to see the issues resolved, work together and move forward for the good of the Center and the community. From that point there has been some division as to how it relates to who is who. A relationship has been maintained with the Reynolds group and Mr. Boyd. Ms. Reynolds was approached and was told her board would be culpable and responsible for Mr. Boyd's legal fees. Ms. Reynolds approached Mr. D'Errico and stated that Mr. Boyd and Mr. Boyd's legal representatives assured her that there was no legal standing in regards to the charges that had been filed. Mr. D'Errico had further conversation with Ms. Reynolds and said the City's position is simply to wish the groups would get along and work the issues out. From this point on, there were retaliatory situations that kept occurring at the Cedar Center. Beyond this there are issues with paperwork, accounting, even to the point where he himself has been accused of taking the property. Mr. D'Errico stated that he does not have access to the property and has a years' worth of calls to the Sheriff's Department for assistance at the Center regarding criminal issues.

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**ANTELOPE VALLEY ALLIED ARTS ASSOCIATION (continued)**

Further discussion took place between Mayor Parris and Mr. D'Errico regarding activities, criminal problems; if children were in danger; history of the building in the community; need for continuity; the need to have this building show a positive light for the downtown area; whoever takes ownership needs to take responsibility.

Discussion took place with the City Attorney regarding bylaws and requirements of the same; elected members; how the election took place; the various categories in the bylaws and who is allowed to vote; it cannot be determined by what has been said this evening as to who is eligible to vote or to be elected. The AVAAA is a corporation in good standing but it needs to be determined who the members are and how they become members; financial documents need to be reviewed as well regarding memberships and dues paid.

Mayor Parris inquired as to whom the advisors are to Ms. Reynolds and the City Manager stated that they are Barbara Little; Lynn Harrison; John Currado and Mr. Rodio and none have contacted the City Manager about the issues. The City has not been paid and staff looks forward to working with the people who want to move forward with this and make it work.

Mayor Parris stated that from the best that the City can tell, the Eric Perry board is the duly elected board. They want to work and move forward and are willing to provide documentation. It is important to determine what will keep the children safe. He visited the Center in October and the goal should be to have three hundred children there to dance, play, perform, act and he saw a group attempting to provide this. He stated that Mr. Rodio should put the election aside and work on the efforts of this; put differences aside.

**RECESS** Mayor Parris recessed the City Council meeting at 8:30 p.m. for the purpose of conducting a Closed Session regarding the following matters:

**CLOSED SESSION**

1. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Initiation of litigation pursuant to Subdivision (c)  
Section 54956.9: (One potential case)
2. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Initiation of litigation pursuant to Subdivision (c)  
Section 54956.9: (Antelope Valley Allied Arts Association)
3. CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL--ANTICIPATED LITIGATION  
Initiation of litigation pursuant to Subdivision (b)  
Section 54956.9: (Mongols Nation Motorcycle Club, Inc.)

**RECONVENE** Mayor Parris reconvened the City Council meeting at 8:56 p.m.

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**CITY ATTORNEY ANNOUNCEMENT**

The City Attorney stated that the City Council met in Closed Session regarding the aforementioned matters. The City Council gave direction to legal counsel regarding Closed Session matters: (1) and (3) (above).

With respect to Closed Session matter: (2), the City Council gave direction to legal counsel and staff. The City will use its best efforts. The City has an interest in this property; it has a deed of trust on the property and a promissory note that is in arrears. The City has every interest in seeing that the agreement with Allied Arts is enforced in all of its terms. In order to do this, the City must determine the entity/representatives of the Allied Arts Association. To date, it has been determined that the Eric Perry board is the properly elected board and this is subject to further review and verification. He encouraged the Eric Perry board to provide all documentation that they have, to demonstrate their membership list and to demonstrate all actions of that board have been properly taken. This does not foreclose the Linda Reynolds board from producing documentation that can convince the City that rather than the Eric Perry board, it is actually the Linda Reynolds board. The City will entertain all documents, review them and get to the bottom of this eventually. Pending that final determination, the City will move forward with the Eric Perry board. Mr. McEwen stated that he sent a letter to the escrow company regarding the sale of the property and informed them that they must have the City's right of approval before they can sell the property and a substantial amount of information is needed before the sale of that property can take place. Since that was concluded by the Linda Reynolds board and the City is preliminarily stating that they did not have the authority to do this, then this will be held in abeyance until a final determination.

Mayor Parris stated that the entire Council has discussed this matter and feels that the boards need to work this out; have some shared governance; determine who will be the viable board. The City will exercise its police powers in making sure children are safe and the Sheriff's Department will be notified that the Eric Perry board is the viable board at this time. When the boards meet, there are already three members on the board that can help a great deal – Josh Mann, Steven Derryberry and Mike Rosa. The City has the ability to get volunteers to help with getting this building fixed and no one should use the building until a determination is made, especially regarding the asbestos. The goal is to have three hundred children at the Center, in a safe environment. If all of this fails, the City will take the building back. It was always meant to be a community building and the Boulevard Association has expressed a desire to help the board. There is much that can be done; it is a wonderful facility.

**COUNCIL / AGENCY COMMENTS**

Mayor Parris stated that in the past, other mayors including himself have given a State of the City address, usually at the beginning of the year to business organizations. He stated that he will do this differently this year, so he wanted to let the City Council know that he would be giving it this year, first to the Pastors of the community on January 27th at the Hellenic Center.

Mayor Parris encouraged anyone who is interested in serving on one of the City's commissions to please fill out an application and submit it to the City Clerk. Additionally, he requested that current Commissioners fill out a new application as well if they are interested in remaining on their respective boards. The applications are on the City's website under the City Clerk Department.

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**COUNCIL / AGENCY COMMENTS (continued)**

Mayor Parris stated that Chris Grado will be heading the effort to develop a Lancaster Partnership Charter School (a KIPP school) (*Knowledge Is Power Program*) which will meet over two hundred days a year; eight hours a day; it will be high-end, that is the goal. We would like to have a world-class school that can compete with any other school globally and we will be working with the school districts. Anyone who would like to get involved in this, he encouraged them to fill out an application.

**ADJOURNMENT (Agency and Council)**

Mayor Parris adjourned the meeting at 9:10 p.m. in memory of Will Smith, Senator Runner's Chief of Staff. He passed away on January 11, 2010 at the age of 42 of an apparent heart attack. He is survived by his wife and four children and the City has lost a good, honorable man and friend who was a staunch advocate for the City of Lancaster.

Mayor Parris announced that the next regular meeting of the City Council/Redevelopment Agency would take place on Tuesday, January 26, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

**APPROVED:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
GERI K. BRYAN, CMC  
CITY CLERK/AGENCY SECRETARY  
Lancaster, CA

\_\_\_\_\_  
R. REX PARRIS  
MAYOR/CHAIRMAN  
Lancaster, CA

**CERTIFICATION OF MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL/REDEVELOPMENT AGENCY**

I, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ of the City of Lancaster, CA, do hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the original City Council/Redevelopment Agency minutes, for which the original is on file in my office.

WITNESS MY HAND AND THE SEAL OF THE CITY OF LANCASTER, CA on this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

(seal)

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