



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
455 N. Rexford Drive
Beverly Hills, CA 90210
4th Floor Conference Room A

Sunshine Task Force Committee

SPECIAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Monday, May 9, 2016
5:00 PM

Meeting Called to Order

Date / Time: May 9, 2016 / 5:00 pm

In Attendance: Mayor John A. Mirisch, Councilmember Lili Bosse, Dr. Charles Aronberg, Sonia Berman, Ed Brown, Woodrow Clark II, Mark Elliot, Fred Fenster, Gerald Lunn, Todd Johnson, Myra Lurie, Kathy Reims, Alissa Roston, Dr. Stella Sarraf, Blair Schlecter, Gloria Seiff, Thomas White, Robert Block, Susan Mishler, Zale Richard Rubins, Victoria Talbot, City Manager Mahdi Aluzri, Deputy City Manager Cheryl Friedling, City Attorney Larry Wiener, Chief Assistant City Attorney Lolly Enriquez, Assistant City Clerk Lourdes Sy-Rodriguez

1) Oral Communications

Members of the public will be given the opportunity to address the Committee on any item listed on the agenda.

None

2) Discussion of Municipal Code Provisions Regarding Legislative Advocates – City Attorney’s Office

Mayor Mirisch introduced the item and spoke briefly about what was discussed at the previous meeting and other information he would like to be included on the form and matters for discussion today.

Chief Assistant City Attorney Enriquez provided a handout and presented an oral/PowerPoint report on the City’s legislative advocacy ordinance specifically discussing the definitions of a legislative advocate, legislative advocacy, exemptions, registration, the form, obligations of lobbyists other than filling out the registration form, violations and penalties, and monitoring lobbyist contact. Ms. Enriquez and City Attorney Wiener answered questions and discussed the definition of compensation, delayed compensation, filing compensation on the form, the threshold, and including lobbyist compensation on the form.

Councilmember Bosse commented that her priority suggestion is putting a calendar in the City's website that will track lobbyist contacts with Councilmembers, Commissioners and staff.

Among the topics discussed by the group include:

- what other neighboring cities have on their forms
- protecting the privacy of clients
- putting more specific information on the form such as project name, location of the project and a detailed description of the project
- requiring the advocate to complete the form within ten days of contact with Councilmembers, Commissioner and staff
- adding on the form contacts made with third party aside from Councilmembers, Commissioners and staff
- revolving door ordinance
- violations and penalties – the \$500 penalty be increased and a penalty with more “teeth” such as suspension
- staff should review the forms submitted and require lobbyists to re-submit forms with more complete information
- Council should declare that the old paper forms (prior to 2015) are no longer valid/ superseded and lobbyists should re-register for projects that they have filed a form in the past
- the form should be renewed every year; there should be a maximum timeline for how long the form is valid for; staff should send a reminder for renewals
- generate reports on a regular basis (quarterly, monthly, weekly) and compare with what other cities (such as Santa Monica, San Diego and San Francisco) are doing
- identify the enforcement arm for violations; define how enforcement is carried out and provide reports to the Sunshine Committee and Council
- Council should have the right to call up and review the hearing officer's decision
- City officials and staff should also report all contacts made with lobbyists (meetings, phone calls, emails)
- definition of “contact”
- add Form 700s filed by City officials and staff on the City's website

Mayor Mirisch designated Mark Elliot, Fred Fenster and Gerald Lunn to a Subcommittee to work on the legislative advocate ordinance changes. He expressed a desire to amend the Municipal Code to require that violators be identified on the City's website for the greater of one year or the length of suspension, which can be up to four years. He directed staff to use technology to make the form less cumbersome and to make searching easier.

3) Other Initiatives

Item not discussed.

4) Adjournment

Date / Time: May 9, 2016 / 6:00 pm