

**WEST HOLLYWOOD
ETHICS REFORM TASK FORCE
MINUTES
TUESDAY, JULY 14, 2015
6:30 P.M.**

**PLUMMER PARK COMMUNITY CENTER, ROOMS 5 & 6
7377 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA 90046**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** - Task Force Chair Robert Stern called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.
 - A. Pledge of Allegiance – Task Force Chair Robert Stern led the Pledge of Allegiance
 - B. Task Force Chair Stern reminded the audience to speak clearly into microphone and to silence all mobile devices.
 - C. Roll Call Task Force Members
Task Force Members Present: Joseph Guardarrama, Elizabeth Ralston, and Robert Stern were present. Staff Members Present: Assistant City Clerk Crowder and Assistant City Attorney Trevor Rusin. Assistant City Attorney Christi Hogin was absent.

2. **REGULATION OF CAMPAIGN FINANCE, LOBBYISTS & GOVERNMENT ETHICS**

PUBLIC COMMENT:

DAN MORIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding campaign contributions limits and the City's gift policy. He also spoke regarding the City's "revolving door" ordinance and suggested that the City adopt a more aggressive policy.

Task Force Member Stern commented that Citizens United has no impact on the City of West Hollywood and briefly discussed Buckley v. Valeo, a 1976 landmark case in American campaign finance law.

STEPHANIE HARKER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding AB 1234 training and the public's perception of what is ethical versus what is legal. She mentioned campaign literature and the amount of money spent on election campaigns. She commented that the City should lobby the state of California in support of the California Clean Money. She briefly discussed alleged election and voter fraud. Finally, she suggested that the City conduct one (1) candidate forum per week during an election cycle.

CATHY BLAIVAS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding lobbyists becoming campaign managers and contractors lobbying for candidates. She suggested that the City get rid of Independent Expenditures in municipal elections. She mentioned the lobbyist ordinance that the City of San Francisco adopted. She strongly encouraged campaign finance reform.

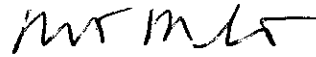
Task Force Member Guardarrama inquired about which portions of the City of San Francisco's lobbyist ordinance Ms. Blaivas suggests the City adopt.

ALICIA DE SOTO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke regarding Independent Expenditures and suggested that the Task Force implement rules that the donors must be residents of the City of West Hollywood.

Task Force Member Stern suggested that an Independent Expenditure Committee advertisement be required to list the top three (3) donors and suggested a threshold of \$10,000. He further suggested that vendors who bid on City contracts cannot donate within a certain time frame. He also suggested that the City Clerk's office post campaign contributions on the City's website. He agrees with conducting more candidate forums and disallowing lobbyists to become campaign managers.

3. **COMMENTS FROM STAFF** – None.
4. **ADJOURNMENT** – The Ethics Reform Task Force adjourned at 7:18 p.m. to its next meeting which is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11, 2015 at 6:30 at City Hall.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE ETHICS REFORM TASK FORCE ON THIS 11TH DAY OF AUGUST, 2015.



CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



STAFF LIAISON