

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
RUSSIAN ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 2022**

VIA TELECONFERENCE

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Maysky called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Maysky led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Diana Volman, Raisa Aguf, Lyubov Levitan, Valentina Matiji, Eugene Maysky, Gabriela Gershfeld, Vika Safrigina, Ekaterina Kutepova, Alex Tolocenco.

ABSENT: **None.**

ALSO, PRESENT: Staff liaison Tatiana Rodzinek

4. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
SUBJECT: *The Russian Advisory Board is requested to approve the agenda.*
ACTION: Approve the Agenda of Tuesday, February 15, 2022. Motion by Member Aguf to approve the agenda, seconded by Member Safrigina, motion passed by a roll call vote.
5. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
SUBJECT: *The Russian Advisory Board is requested to approve the minutes of the previous Russian Advisory Board meeting.*
ACTION: Approve the minutes of the January 18, 2022, Russian Advisory Board meeting. Motion by Member Aguf to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Matiji, motion passed by a roll call vote.
6. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
Victor Omelczenko, West Hollywood resident, spoke regarding the Plummer Park redesign proposal and gender-neutral bathrooms that will be installed in the Plummer Park Community Center. Mr. Omelczenko also spoke regarding the situation with Russia and Ukraine and expressed a thought that Russian Advisory Board members could work with their Council members to make community aware that America is not against Russia but wants to support Ukraine.
Michael Balot-Garza, Education Manager of the Wende Museum in Culver City, which is an art museum of the Cold War time. Informed the board that the museum would like to offer a private tour of the [Soviet Jewish Life: Bill Aron and Yevgeniy Fiks](#) exhibition for interested members of the Russian Advisory Board and community.
7. **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**
Ekaterina Kutepova spoke regarding providing input regarding Minimum Wage Administrative Regulations. Member Kutepova encouraged others to provide input as well.

8. NEW BUSINESS

8.A. "DIGITAL EXHIBITION PROPOSAL: LOS ANGELES RUSSIAN THEATER GROUPS, 1950–1980"

Subject: Board members will receive update information from Sasha Razor, Ph.D., historian of Russian Los Angeles, Public Education Specialist at Center for World Languages, UCLA, Lecturer at UCSD.

Action: the board members received information, provided input, and discussed. Board members discussed various projects that will be of interest. Asked Mrs. Razor to provide budget breakdown for the project. No action taken.

8.B. VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY 2022

Subject: Board members will start discussion on the project.

Action: The board members suggested that they form a subcommittee to work on the project. Board members: Vika Safrigina, Ekaterina Kutepova, Raisa Aguf volunteered to be on the subcommittee. Member Kutepova made a motion to approve, member Tolocenco seconded. Motion passed by roll call vote. Staff informed the board that she would inform members of the subcommittee regarding the approval of the subcommittee from the City Clerk's office.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

9.A. COLIBRI – INTERNATIONAL COMPETITION FOR YOUNG PERFORMERS

Subject: Board members will receive update from the organizers.

Action: The board members received information from the organizers of the Competition and provided recommendations regarding social media tools for the project. No action taken.

9.B. UPDATE FROM LIAISONS TO OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Subject: Board members will receive updates from the liaisons to other boards and commissions.

Member Maysky informed the board that he attended the Rents Stabilization Commission meeting.

Member Safrigina spoke about attending Women's Advisory Board. Member Safrigina also talked about her meeting with the Mayor Pro Tempore Sepi Shyne who suggested that the Board works on issues other than arts and culture.

Action: Member Safrigina made a motion to create a subcommittee to work on beautification and preservation of the businesses that belong to the Russian-speaking community members. Member Aguf seconded. Motion passed by roll call. Members Maysky, Gershfeld, Safrigina volunteered to be on the subcommittee after approval by City Clerk. Staff is going to submit request to the City Clerks Office regarding the subcommittee.

9.C. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2022

Subject: Board members will continue discussion on the event and the possible format.

Action: Board members received information from the subcommittee, which is going to continue to work on the project and provided input. No Action taken.

9.D. YOM HASHOAH 2022

Subject: Board members will continue discussion on the.

Action: Board members received information from member Volman on the project and provided input.

9. D. RUSSIAN ARTS AND CULTURE MONTH, RUSSIAN-SPEAKING COMMUNITY ARCHIVE AND HERITAGE PORTAL

Subject: Board members will continue discussion on the ideas for the project dedicated to the celebration and preserving of Russian Cultural Heritage

Action: Board members received update from staff and made suggestions on the programming.

Siuzanna Iglidan from Global Musical Bridges spoke about programming that her organization can suggest.

9. F. UPCOMING CULTURAL PROJECTS AND EVENTS

Subject: Board members will receive information regarding upcoming events.

Action: Board members received update from staff regarding various events in the city.

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no items from staff.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

12. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS/BOARD MEMBERS

There were no items from board members.

- 13. ADJOURNMENT:** The Russian Advisory Board adjourned at 9:14 PM to a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, March 15, 2022, beginning at 7 PM via teleconference.

DocuSigned by:

Eugene Maysky

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CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

Tatyana Rodzinek

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STAFF LIAISON