

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
RUSSIAN-SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2022**

**VIA TELECONFERENCE**

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

**PRESENT:** Diana Volman, Raisa Aguf, Lyubov Levitan, Valentina Matiji, Eugene Maysky, Alex Tolocenco.

**ABSENT:** Gabriela Gershfeld, Ekaterina Kutepova.

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Staff liaison Tatiana Rodzinek

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

**SUBJECT:** *The Russian Advisory Board is requested to approve the agenda.*

**ACTION:** Approve the Agenda of Tuesday, August 16, 2022. Motion by Member Levitan to approve the agenda, seconded by Member Aguf, motion passed by 6 to 0 roll call vote.

6. **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 July 19, 2022, Russian Advisory Board meeting. Motion by Member Levitan to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Aguf, motion passed by 6 to 0 roll call vote.

7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments.

8. **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

There were no items from the board.

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**9.A. FOLLOW UP ON THE NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2022**

**Subject:** The Russian-Speaking Advisory Board followed up on the event that took place on August 2, 2022, in Plummer Park.

**Member Aguf** spoke about the past event, praised the music, the magician and organization.

**Lubov Levitan** also praised the event.

**Diana Volman** praised the event as well and made comments on the variety of food.

**Valentina Matiji** praised the event.

**Action:** Discussed and made recommendations. 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.

**Eugene Maysky** spoke about public Facilities Commission and Historic Preservation Commission.

**Action:** Received updates. No action taken.

### **9.C. REBRANDING OF THE RUSSIAN ARTS AND CULTURE MONTH**

**Subject:** The Russian-speaking Advisory Board continued discussion on the rebranding of the month-long series of the events.

**Daniel Sokolovsky**, West Hollywood resident spoke as a public speaker regarding the new name of the event.

**Olga Grigoryants**, a reporter for Daily News, spoke as a public speaker regarding the topics that the board discussed and ask the board for permission to attend the board meetings from time to time.

**Board member Maysky** suggested that all board members should come up with a name that will reflect the Russian Culture but will not contain the word Russian.

**Chair Volman** said that when the board members start thinking about the name of the festival, which is the all-day event that usually culminates the Month, they should think about Russian folk tales that can bring some ideas to life.

**Action:** **Eugene Maysky** made a friendly amendment to the motion from the previous meeting to rebrand the Russian Arts and Culture Month and call it West Hollywood Cultural Heritage Month. Member Volman seconded. Motion passed by the 6 to 0 roll call vote.

### **9.D. COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND PROMOTION OF THE EXISTING CITY PROGRAMS**

**Subject:** The Russian-Speaking Advisory Board continued discussion on the ways of making community outreach and promotion of the existing City programs more robust. Staff Liaison Rodzinek informed the board about the completion of the brochure that the board members had discussed at the previous meeting and thanked everyone who made comments.

Staff Liaison Rodzinek also informed the board about the letter she had received regarding the Veteran's Memorial in Plummer Park and said that the board should create an outreach informational material to educate the community about the monuments and other historical landmarks in the city.

**Member Maysky** also spoke about digital divide in monolingual communities. Member Maysky mentioned that many people due to the lack of technology skills and language barriers cannot access city services.

**Member Maysky** spoke about the ongoing strategy to battle the digital divide and monolingual community divide when it comes to existing City programs and services available

**Action:** **Eugene Maysky** made a motion to work with the Communications Department on Developing the content to be accessible via QR code for people visiting the park and suggest that the City installs a board with information about the park and its historical landmarks.

Seconded by Chair Volman. Motion passed by 6 to 0 roll call vote.

**Member Tolocenko** made a motion to include into the next meeting agenda discussion on how to overcome digital divide in the community and increase outreach to monolingual communities.

Seconded by Raisa Aguf. Motion passed by 6-0 roll call vote.

**10. ITEMS FROM STAFF**

Staff informed the board about preparing RFP for production of the West Hollywood Arts and Culture Month. Staff also informed the board about upcoming concerts.

**11. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

There were no public comments

**12. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS/BOARD MEMBERS**

**Raisa Aguf** spoke about the entertainment programs for kids and suggested that the board should talk to the City Councilmembers about arranging such a program. The idea was inspired by the recent Magic show during the National Night Out event.

Staff informed the board about the instructor program that exists in the city and suggested that the board members should encourage entertainers to apply.

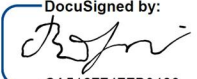
**Raisa Aguf** made a motion to include discussion on new children programming in the park.

**Chair Volman** seconded. Motion passed by a roll call vote 6 to 0.


**Chair Maysky** informed the board that he had completed the production of the film about Maysky Classical Night that took place during the Fundraiser to support refugees from Ukraine.

**13. ADJOURNMENT:** The Russian Advisory Board adjourned at 8:24PM to a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, September 20, 2022, beginning at 7 PM via teleconference.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE RUSSIAN ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 20<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF SEPTEMBER 2022.

DocuSigned by:  
  
CA5167747EB0480  
CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

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STAFF LIAISON