

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
RUSSIAN-SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2023**

VIA TELECONFERENCE

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Volman called the meeting to order at 7:10 PM.
2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** – Chair Volman read the 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, Sasha Razor.

ABSENT: Alex Tolocenco, Ekaterina Kutepova.

ALSO, PRESENT: Staff liaison Tatyana Rodzinek

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
SUBJECT: *The Russian-speaking Advisory Board is requested to approve the agenda.*
ACTION: Approve the Agenda of Tuesday, February 21, 2023. Motion by Member Maysky to approve the agenda, seconded by Member Levitan, motion passed by a roll call vote.
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
SUBJECT: *The Russian-speaking Advisory Board is requested to approve the minutes of the previous Russian Advisory Board meeting.*
ACTION: Approve the minutes of the January 17, 2023, Russian-speaking Advisory Board meeting. Motion by Member Levitan to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Razor, motion passed by a roll call vote.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
There were no public comments.
8. **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**
Member Maysky informed the board about the CIS education forum and invited everyone to participate.
9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

9.A. INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY 2023

Subject: Members of the board finalized the discussion on the programming for the International Women's Day Event 2023 as part of the Women's History Month. **Sarah Robinson** from Helix Collective spoke about the upcoming event and asked the board if they had any questions.

Board members discussed the program and the schedule.

Marina Goldshteyn, activity coordinator from Jewish Family Services, confirmed that her organization approved the budget for the flowers.

Action: no action taken

9.B. YOM HASHOAH 2023

Subject: Russian-speaking Advisory Board continued discussion on the programming for the Yom HaShoah Event 2023

Chair Volman spoke about the documentary "As Seen through These Eyes" and said that this documentary would be more appropriate to screen during this event.

Member Levitan talked about the buses to transport students to the event.

Member Maysky talked about the community member who can do a presentation about Holocaust Survivors.

Public Speaker: Marina Goldshteyn spoke about candlelight ceremony. Marina also talked about Yad Vashem virtual tour. Marina also made a few suggestions regarding the program.

Chair Volman suggested that after the documentary the students should be offered the chance to express their feelings and share emotions after the screening.

Member Maysky talked about introduction that should be made to educate students about Holocaust. Eugene also suggested to invite a representative from the Museum of Holocaust.

Action: The board will finalize the discussion at their next meeting in March. No action taken.

9.C. VICTORY IN EUROPE DAY

Subject: Russian-speaking Advisory Board continued discussion on the programming for the Victory in Europe Day.

Staff reminded the board that there will be a concert by Helix Collective on that day and the Ensemble agreed to adjust the program in line with the theme.

Tatyana Rodzinek also reminded about the unofficial part that will take place near the Veterans Memorial and the work on the website will be continued.

Member Razor talked about the website dedicated to the WWII veterans and suggested that someone should write an article on the topic.

Member Razor suggested collecting the archive of the WWII veterans and spotlight the Veterans in social media. Sasha Razor suggested interviewing

Jeannette Becker and created a story about her. Member Razor also talked about Blavatnik Archive.

Chair Volman talked about gifts to the remaining Veterans.

Public Speaker: Marina Goldshteyn suggested a contest for community members to write a story about a grandfather, a great grandfather. Marina suggested various ideas to call the campaign “My Veteran”.

Eugene Maysky supported the idea.

Action: No action taken. Members of the board will continue discussion at their next meeting in March.

9.D. PREPARATION FOR THE 2023 WEST HOLLYWOOD CULTURAL HERITAGE MONTH AND OTHER CULTURAL EVENTS

Subject: The Russian-speaking Advisory Board continued discussion on the upcoming cultural events that will highlight the cultural heritage of the Russian-speaking Community and WeHo Mishka Festival programming..

Action: Board members discussed the development of the project. No action taken.

9.E. RUSSIAN-SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD’S INITIATIVES

Subject: Russian-speaking Advisory Board discussed new initiatives.

Members of the board talked about musical concerts in West Hollywood Park.

Chair Volman spoke about doing a walk through the West Hollywood Park facilities.

Chair Volman wrote a draft letter to the City Council regarding a piano and read it to the board.

Member Aguf asked to follow up on her initiative about information kiosks in the Parks. Staff provided update on the progress.

Member Maysky reminded staff about inviting Sheriff’s Deputies to the Board meeting. Member Maysky also spoke about issues that new Russian-speaking immigrants face.

Action: The board members made a motion to approve a letter written by the Chair of the Russian-speaking Advisory Board addressed to the City Council regarding purchasing a grand piano to be placed in one of the facilities in West Hollywood Park to support cultural/musical programming. Member Maysky made a motion to send the letter to the City Council, Member Levitan seconded, motion passed.

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

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

Action: There were no updates.

10. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff informed the board about the upcoming event organized by the community organization for new immigrants.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.


12. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS/BOARD MEMBERS

Member Myasky informed the board about the upcoming CIS forum for residents.

Chair Volman talked about events that will take place as part of the Russian-speaking Community Cultural Heritage Month.

- 13. ADJOURNMENT:** The Russian Advisory Board adjourned at 9:14 PM to a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, **March 21, 2023, at 7 p.m.**, beginning at 7 PM **in person** in Room 5&6 of the Plummer Park Community Center at 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90046.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE RUSSIAN ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS
21st DAY OF MARCH 21, 2023.

DocuSigned by:

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CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

DocuSigned by:

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STAFF LIAISON