

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
RUSSIAN-SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, OCTOBER 17, 2023**

**West Hollywood City Hall Community Conference Room
at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Maysky called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.
2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** – Chair Maysky read the Land Acknowledgement
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Maysky led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Diana Volman, Lyubov Levitan, Eugene Maysky, Raisa Aguf, German Simakovski.

ABSENT: Evgeny Kovnatsky, Sasha Razor, Liudmila Raskin.

ALSO, PRESENT: Staff liaison Tatyana Rodzinek

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
SUBJECT: *The Russian-speaking Advisory Board was requested to approve the agenda.*
ACTION: Approve the Agenda of Tuesday, October 17, 2023. Motion by Member Volman to approve the agenda, seconded by Member Aguf, motion passed by a roll call vote.
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
SUBJECT: *The Russian-speaking Advisory Board was requested to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.*
ACTION: Approve the minutes of the September 19, 2023 Russian-speaking Advisory Board meeting. Motion by Chair Maysky to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Levitan, motion passed by a roll call vote.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
There were no public comments.
8. **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**
There were no comments from the board members.
9. **NEW BUSINESS**
 - 9.A. **HOLODOMOR MEMORIAL MONTH**
Subject: The Russian-speaking Advisory Board received a report

from Olga Popel, the president of Southern California Holodomor Genocide Committee, asked questions and discuss recommendation to proclaim the month of November 2023, and annually thereafter, as Holodomor Memorial Month, and November 25, 2023, and the fourth Saturday of November annually thereafter, as Holodomor Memorial Day.

Action: Chair Maysky made a motion to recommend the Governmental Affairs Liaison work with the City Council so that the City of West Hollywood is on record supporting SCR 89, seconded by member Simakovski. Voted to present the recommendation to the City Council for their consideration. Motion passed by a roll call vote.

9.B. HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE EVENT 2024

Subject: The Russian-speaking Advisory Board started discussion on the Holocaust Remembrance Event for the year of 2024

Member Volman spoke about the movie Orchestra of Exiles, which is the suspenseful chronicle of how one man helped save Europe's premier Jewish musicians from obliteration by the Nazis during World War II. Board members also discussed the format of the future event and outreach to schools. asked staff to invite the potential presenter to the next board meeting. The board decided to hold the next year's event in Fiesta Hall, Plummer Park. After the event, there will be a candlelight ceremony near the Baby Yar Memorial.

ACTION: No action taken. The board will continue discussion at its next

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.A. 2024 WEST HOLLYWOOD RUSSIAN-SPEAKING COMMUNITY CULTURAL HERITAGE MONTH AND OTHER CULTURAL EVENTS

Subject: The Russian-speaking Advisory Board continued discussion on the 2024 cultural events that will highlight the cultural heritage of the Russian-speaking Community and Russian-speaking Community Awards Presentation. Staff provided a draft application and description of the event.

ACTION: Chair Maysky made a motion to approve the form and description, seconded by Member Aguf. Motion passed unanimously.

10.B. RUSSIAN-SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD'S INITIATIVES

Subject: Russian-speaking Advisory Board followed up on the previously proposed initiatives and proposed a new initiative. Member Aguf talked about the board members bringing to the table a new initiative and voted on a motion to recommend creation of a Dancing Zone "Dancing for Joy" in Plummer Park for people to enjoy. People will be able to come, listen to music and dance if they wish (no instructor needed, only sound amplifiers, time frame and location can be identified by staff).

ACTION: Eugene Maysky informed the board that the subcommittee met and started collecting information for the brochure.

Below are the initiatives that the board will be focusing on.

1. Grand Piano for West Hollywood Park

2. Jewish Cultural Festival during High Holidays in WeHo
3. Initiate increase of the cultural programs for children in the community center of Plummer Park

10.C. 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.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff informed the board about the resolution of the City Council condemning the recent attacks on Israel and standing in solidarity with Israel and its people.

12. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

13. RUSSIAN SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were no comments.

- 14. ADJOURNMENT:** The Russian Advisory Board adjourned at 8:48PM to a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, **November 21, 2023**, beginning at 7PM at West Hollywood City Hall in Community Conference Room, 1st floor at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

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



CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



STAFF LIAISON