

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
RUSSIAN-SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 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 7:20 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, Evgeny Kovnatsky, German Simakovski.

**ABSENT:** Alex Tolocenco, Sasha Razor, Raisa Aguf, 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, September 19, 2023. Motion by Member Volman 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 was requested to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.*  
**ACTION:** Approve the minutes of the August 15, 2023 Russian-speaking Advisory Board meeting. Motion by Member Вольман 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. WEST HOLLYWOOD COMPREHENSIVE SERVICE CENTER, SUMMARY OF SERVICES.**

**Subject: The Russian-speaking Advisory Board received a report**

From Marina Berkman, Program Director of West Hollywood Comprehensive Service Center, on the services provided to the community.

**Action:** Received and asked questions

**9.B. HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE EVENTS 2024**

**Subject:** The Russian-speaking Advisory Board started discussion on the Holocaust Remembrance Events for the year of 2024  
Diana 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.

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

**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.

The board members continued discussion on the programming for the 2024 West Hollywood Russian-speaking Community Cultural Heritage Month, WeHo Mishka Festival 2023, Russian-speaking Community Awards Presentation, selected the dates, and voted to make changes to the Awards Presentation event and the process of selecting the awardees

**ACTION:** No action taken; staff will provide final application and description of the event by the next meeting.

**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.

**ACTION:** Eugene Maysky provided update on the work of the subcommittee that works on the creation of a reference brochure for the newcomers. Seconded by Sasha Razor. Sasha Razor, German Simakovski, Eugene Maysky volunteered to be on the subcommittee.

**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 an increase of the cultural programs for children in the community center of Plummer Park.
4. Creation of a reference brochure for the newcomers

**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**

The board members received update from staff on the events and important community meetings happening in the City.

**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, **October 17, 2023**, beginning at 7PM at West Hollywood City Hall in Community Conference Room, 1<sup>st</sup> floor at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE RUSSIAN ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 17<sup>th</sup> DAY OF OCTOBER 2023.

  
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CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
STAFF LIAISON