The Beverly Hills City Council Human Relations Commission Liaison Committee Special Meeting Notes

CITY HALL
Third Floor Conference Room
455 N. Rexford Drive
Monday, August 13, 2007
3:00 p.m.

Attendees: Vice Mayor Barry Brucker, Councilmember Nancy Krasne, Human Relations Commission Chair Faye Miller, Human Relations Commissioner Paul Krentzman, City Attorney Laurence Wiener, Community Services Director Steve Miller, Human Services Director Maria Rychlicki.

1. Overview of Homeless Concerns in the Community

A summary of the types of complaints received by the City pertaining to activities of homeless individuals and of a proposed ordinance responding to the concerns was reviewed. On September 6, 2007, the Human Relations Commission will consider a program of alternative sentencing that is proposed to be implemented simultaneously with the implementation of the ordinance. Such programs have been successful in Santa Monica and Los Angeles. The concept is that sentences should include participation in a range of services/resources, such as PATH transitional housing or counseling, to assist homeless individuals to find permanent solutions, rather than jail time or fines. It is anticipated that the concept program will be presented to the City Council in October, 2007.

2. UNESCO Year of Rumi and "Wishes and Dreams," Art Exhibit Organized by Meridian International Center in Collaboration with Tehran University and the U.S. Department of State Review

This year is the the 800th anniversary of the birth of Rumi, a famous poet/philosopher/sufi. The Human Relations Commission has been approached to consider recommending City sponsorship and/or participation in events/exhibits celebrating Rumi's works. The Liaison Committee was not supportive of such endeavors.

3. Multicultural Festival Update

Superintendent Kari McVeigh of the Beverly Hills Unified School District has committed extensive District participation with the City in the upcoming, March 9, 2008 Multicultural Festival.

4. Other Items of Interest – No discussion