



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS STAFF REPORT

Meeting Date: September 8, 2011
To: Honorable Mayor & City Council
From: Cheryl Friedling, Deputy City Manager, Public Affairs
Subject: Request to Use the Council Chamber to Conduct and Re-broadcast Board of Education Candidate Forum
Attachments: 1. Request from the BHUSD PTA Council Presidents

INTRODUCTION

The City has received a request from the Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) PTA Council Presidents to conduct a candidate forum in the Council Chambers and for the City to re-broadcast the forum on the City's Government cable channel.

DISCUSSION

The City has provided the Council Chambers and cable television capabilities in the past for non-partisan city-wide candidate forums to educate the community and promote representative governance.

In 2007, the City Council granted a request by the BHUSD PTA Council to sponsor a BHUSD candidate forum in the Council Chambers and to re-broadcast it to the community. The forum was successfully conducted on September 26, 2007.

Candidate forums for both City Council and School Board have been sponsored by established community organizations, including the BHUSD PTA Council, Beverly Hills homeowners' associations, local leagues (e.g., League of Women Voters and Municipal League), the Beverly Hills Chamber of Commerce, and Beverly Hills community newspapers.

The sponsoring organization is responsible for the format and content of the event. Sponsor organizations have also withheld candidate endorsements until after the conclusion of the sponsored forum. In addition, no campaign signage, campaign buttons or displayed election materials have been allowed in the Council Chambers or on City property.

The BHUSD PTA Council Presidents requested the use of City facilities on **Wednesday, September 14**. The Council Chambers are available to accommodate this request.

FISCAL IMPACT

If approved by the Council, City staff would manage the facility and the re-broadcasting of the candidate forum. In the past, the City has absorbed all staff and facility costs for these forums. The cost is approximately \$700 per forum.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the City Council provide direction to staff regarding the pending request from the BHUSD PTA Council Presidents to conduct a candidate forum in the City Council Chambers.

Cheryl Friedling
Approved By



Attachment 1

Melissa Crowder

Subject: FW: PTA Council Candidates Forum Request

From: Susie Roberts [<mailto:rnsdr@roadrunner.com>]

Sent: Thursday, August 25, 2011 1:59 PM

To: Huma Ahmed

Cc: Jennifer Terrell

Subject: PTA Council Candidates Forum Request

*Mr. Jeff Kolin
Beverly Hills City Manager*

Mr. Kolin,

The Beverly Hills PTA Council would like to hold a School Board Candidates' Forum in the City Hall Council Chambers.

We would like to hold it on Wednesday, September 14th.

The Forum will begin at 7:00 pm and run approximately 2 hours.

The following items are what we need

1. Need televising /recording equipment, microphones etc. (For re-broadcasting on the BH Channel)
2. Tables and cloths for candidates
3. Podium
4. Anything else that will you feel would help facilitate the Forum.

Thank You.

Best Regards,

Susie Roberts and Jennifer Terrell-Schwartz

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Jennifer Terrell & Susie Roberts

BH PTA Council Presidents

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