

**Peace and Justice Commission
Regular Meeting**

**North Berkeley Senior Center
October 7, 2002**

MINUTES

The meeting convened at 7:04 p.m. with Elliot Cohen, Vice-Chairperson, presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Roya Arasteh, Donald Brody, Elliot Cohen, Steven Freedkin, John Lavine, Mark McDonald, Thom Seaton, David Weinberg, Micki Weinberg

Absent: Mana Barari, Robert Stephen Rose

On Leave: Sandy Curtis, Anne Wagley

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

David Williamson, Ecology Center, regarding the use of biodiesel fuel.

ACTION ON MINUTES

None.

ACTIONS TAKEN

War Against Iraq

M/S/C (*Freedkin, Micki Weinberg*) Whereas, the Berkeley Peace and Justice Commission is concerned about the possibility of war against Iraq; and

Whereas, the Peace and Justice Commission is pleased to learn Council is considering action urging that the President work with the United Nations and use peaceful means to resolve any differences with Iraq.

Now Therefore, Be It Resolved that the Berkeley Peace and Justice Commission recommends that the Berkeley City Council take strong action in opposing a war, and in urging Berkeley citizens to use all peaceful means to petition the legislative and executive branches of government to avoid the use of military force, and to work through the United Nations to resolve this situation peacefully. **Ayes:** Arasteh, Brody, Cohen, Freedkin, Lavine, McDonald, Seaton, Weinberg (*Micki*); **Noes:** Weinberg (*David*); **Absent:** Barari, Rose.

Note: On October 8, 2002, Vice-Chair Cohen provided the Mayor and Councilmembers with a copy of this item for their discussion on House Concurrent Resolution 473. At their meeting on October 8, Council approved two recommendations supporting Resolution 473.

Usage of Biodiesel Fuel

M/S/C (*Micki Weinberg, Seaton*) that the Peace and Justice Commission supports the usage of biodiesel fuel, and recommends that Council adopt a Resolution authorizing the fueling of the diesel engine vehicles used by the Department of Public Works for refuse and recycling services with 100% biodiesel, especially recycled biodiesel where feasible, as soon as practical; and that the City of Berkeley will determine after a period of four years whether to make future vehicle investments in Compressed Natural Gas or Biodiesel infrastructure. **Ayes:** Unanimous; **Absent:** Barari, Rose.

Establishment of a Subcommittee on Sister Cities

M/S/C (*Freedkin, Seaton*) to establish a subcommittee on the Sister Cities Program composed of Commissioners Barari, Curtis, Rose, Weinberg (*David*), and Weinberg (*Micki*), for the purposes of reviewing the proposal to establish a sister city relationship with the Twin City of Sekondi-Takoradi, Ghana, and the history and mechanism of the City's Sister City Program with a status report due at the November 2002 meeting. **Ayes:** Unanimous; **Absent:** Barari, Rose.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, November 4, 2002 at 7:00 pm at the North Berkeley Senior Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted

Manuel Hector Jr., Secretary
Peace and Justice Commission