



Peace and Justice Commission

AGENDA

North Berkeley Senior Center
1901 Hearst Avenue
Berkeley, CA

Monday
May 5, 2003
7:00 PM

COMMUNICATION ACCESS INFORMATION

To request a meeting agenda in larger print, Braille, or on a cassette, or to request a sign language interpreter for the meeting, call the Office of the City Clerk at (510) 981-6900 (voice) or (510) 981-6903 (TDD); AT LEAST FIVE WORKING DAYS NOTICE PRIOR TO THE MEETING will insure availability. If you plan to attend and wish to use an Assistive Listening Device for the hearing impaired, you need to reserve the device by calling the Office of the City Clerk one working day prior to the meeting.

Please refrain from wearing scented products to public meetings.

SECTION A. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

1. Roll Call
2. Announcements
3. Comments from the Public
4. Approval of the minutes from the Regular Meetings of February 3, March 3, and April 7, 2003.

SECTION B. PRESENTATIONS

5. Presentation from the Department of Information Technology regarding the Hewlett-Packard Alpha Computer and the Public Safety systems.
 - a) Discussion of a waiver of the Nuclear Free Berkeley Act for the purchase of the Hewlett-Packard Alpha Computer, and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from the Department of Information Technology*).
6. Presentation from the Berkeley-Palma Sister City Group regarding "Free the Cuban Five" (*from Commissioner Arasteh*).
 - a. Discussion of the Council referral for a recommendation on the five Cubans who are in a United States' federal prison, and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from City Council*).

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SECTION C. INFORMATION REPORTS

7. Oral summary of the workshop for commissioners scheduled for Tuesday, April 29, 2003 in the City Council Chambers at 7:00 p.m. (*from Commissioner Wagley*).
8. Written summary of actions taken by the City Council on items of interest to the Peace and Justice Commission since the last regular meeting of the Peace and Justice Commission (*from Commission Secretary*).

SECTION D. ACTION ITEMS

Old Business:

9. Discussion of the Council referral to work with staff to also develop a strategic approach for distributing policy recommendations, and to bring back to Council for approval the recommendation on this item and the strategy for future policy recommendations within one month (*from City Council*).
10. Discussion on the treatment of detained immigrants in the United States, including mass arrests in Los Angeles and other communities in recent weeks, as well as treatment of detained immigrants in Japan and other countries, and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from Commissioner Freedkin*).
11. Discussion of war-free zones recognized under international law: “Non-Defended Localities” as defined in the Geneva Convention including additional protocols thereto, movement in Japan for cities to declare “Non-Defended Localities” status, and potential for Berkeley to declare itself a “Non-Defended Locality”; and formulation of recommendations to the City Council and Berkeley Unified School District (*from Commissioner Freedkin*).
12. Discussion of the Council referral to City boards and commissions to review and comment on the proposed Resolution that establishes “standards of conduct” for both commissioners and the public, similar to those described in the Council Rules of Procedure and Order; and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from City Council*).
13. Discussion and approval of guidelines for agenda items to increase the variety of viewpoints considered, and to ensure that the information contained in the agenda items are accurate, concise, clear and complete (*from Commissioner Heinze*).
14. Discussion on three wars: War against Iraq, War on Terrorism, and War on Civil Liberties; and formulation of recommendations to the City Council and Berkeley Unified School District (*from Commissioner Freedkin*).
15. Discussion of peace keeping training and peaceful demonstrations, and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from Commissioner Cohen*).

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16. Discussion on the timely placement of commission items on the Council agenda, and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from Commissioner Cohen*).
17. Discussion on the proposed smallpox vaccinations, and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from Commissioner Cohen*).
18. Discussion of a call upon the United Nations and International community to send weapons inspectors back to Iraq to assure the disclosure of all weapons of mass destruction, and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from Commissioner Cohen*).
19. Discussion on medical marijuana, and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from Commissioner Cohen*).
20. Discussion on the establishment of a temporary subcommittee on education and student equity whose mandate shall be to gather information regarding critical issues of social justice and education, promote awareness and citizen involvement, and make recommendations to the entire Peace and Justice Commission for action(s) relating to educational access and student equity within the City of Berkeley (*from Commissioner Yuen*).

New Business:

21. Discussion of the sign-on letter to Congress urging opposition to the draft domestic Security Enhancement Act (Patriot II), and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from Commissioner Wagley*).
22. Discussion of the Report on Drugs, the Drug War, and Public Health and formulation of a recommendation to the City Council (*from Commissioner Sherman*).

SECTION E. COMMUNICATIONS RECEIVED

23. Patrick Keilch regarding proposals for the new “National Commission on Terrorist Acts upon the United States”.
24. Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory regarding “A Conversation about Lab Activities” to be held on Thursday, May 8, 2003 in the Strawberry Canyon Recreation Area, Haas Clubhouse, Club Room, 2nd Floor from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

SECTION F. ADJOURNMENT