

MINUTES

The meeting convened at 7:06 pm with Chairperson Steve Freedkin presiding.

ROLL CALL

Present: Diana Bohn, Elliot Cohen, Steve Freedkin, Mark McDonald, Bob Meola, Michael Sherman, PhoeBe ANNE (sorgen), Jonathan Wornick

Absent: Donald Brody, Thom Seaton, Anne Wagley, Megan Winkelman

LOA: Elisabeth Kashner, Jane Litman

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

NONE

ACTION ON MINUTES

M/S/C (*Seaton, sorgen*) to approve the minutes from the regular meeting of March 6, 2006. **Ayes:** Bohn, Freedkin, McDonald, Meola, Sherman, sorgen, Wornick; **Noes:** None; **Abstain:** Cohen; **Absent:** Brody, Kashner, Seaton, Wagley, Winkelman.

Commissioner Cohen abstained because he was not present for the March meeting.

ACTIONS TAKEN

Draft Proposal: Regulations for Investigations of First Amendment Activities

M/S/C (*Cohen, Meola*) that the Police Review Commission's proposed regulations for investigations of First Amendment activities shall include language giving persons a private right of action for both damages and/or injunctive relief against the police department or any individual officer or persons that acts in violations of these regulations. The Peace and Justice Commission further request that the Police Review Commission not submit these regulations for City Council consideration until after receiving and considering comments that may be made at the May 2006 meeting of the Peace and Justice Commission.

Ayes: Bohn, Cohen, Freedkin, McDonald, Meola, Sherman, sorgen; **Noes:** Wornick; **Abstain:** None; **Absent:** Brody, Kashner, Seaton, Wagley, Winkelman.

Sweat-free Berkeley Campaign

M/S/C (*Bohn, sorgen*) to adopt a Resolution (Attachment 1) advising the Commission on Labor of the Peace and Justice Commission's desire to review, and ideally to recommend adoption of a proposed ordinance that includes the following elements:

- ◆ A "sweat-free code of conduct to be signed by all City contractors;
- ◆ Adequate City resources for enforcement and independent monitoring;
- ◆ A declaration that the City desires to form or join a multi-city "sweat-free" consortium to pool resources and increase effectiveness;
- ◆ Establishment of a community advisory committee made up of workers advocates; and
- ◆ Preference for locally produced, organic and Fair Trade certified goods.

Further, that copies of this Resolution shall be sent to the Commission on Labor and to the City Council for inclusion on the Council's agenda as an Information Item.

Ayes: Unanimous; **Absent:** Brody, Kashner, Seaton, Wagley, Winkelman.

NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, May 1, 2006 at 7:00 p.m. in the North Berkeley Senior Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Manuel Hector Jr., Secretary
Peace and Justice Commission

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4 **ATTACHMENT 1**

5 WHEREAS, the Berkeley Human Rights Policy (Berkeley Municipal Code § 1.22), adopted in 1990,
6 declares that "... the City of Berkeley shall promote higher standards of living, full employment, and
7 conditions of economic and social progress and development..."; and

8 WHEREAS, many goods manufactured in poor nations -- from apparel to electronic equipment to
9 children's toys -- are produced under conditions of extreme worker exploitation, including the absence of
10 a living wage and benefits, unsafe and unhealthy working conditions, unreasonable hours and
11 production quotas, child labor, arbitrary discipline, and denial of the right to form independent unions;
12 and

13
14 WHEREAS, such "sweatshops" are also widespread in the United States: For example, the U.S.
15 Department of Labor estimates that up to 75% of the 22,000 sewing shops in the country violate safety,
16 health, minimum wage, or overtime laws; and

17
18 WHEREAS more than 70 U.S. cities are in the process of adopting "sweat-free" ordinances, and the
19 cities of San Francisco and Los Angeles have adopted such ordinances, establishing living-wage
20 standards and providing staffing and independent monitoring to ensure that those cities utilize only
21 vendors whose workers are free of sweat-shop conditions; and

22
23 WHEREAS, by ending public taxpayer support of sweat-shop contractors and subcontractors, cities can
24 help ensure living wages and decent working conditions for those producing goods purchased by those
25 cities.
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27 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Commission on Labor shall be advised of the Peace and
28 Justice Commission's desire to review, and ideally to recommend adoption of a proposed ordinance that
29 includes the following elements:

- 30 - A "sweat-free code of conduct" to be signed by all City contractors;
- 31 - Adequate City resources for enforcement and independent monitoring;
- 32 - A declaration that the City desires to form or join a multi-city "sweat-free" consortium to pool
33 resources and increase effectiveness;
- 34 - Establishment of a community advisory committee made up of workers' advocates; and
- 35 - Preference for locally produced, organic, and Fair Trade certified goods.

36

37 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copies of this Resolution shall be sent to the Commission on
38 Labor, and to the City Council for inclusion on the Council's agenda as an Information Item.