



*City of Arts & Innovation*

## COMMISSION OF THE DEAF MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9, 2023, 5:30 P.M.  
PUBLIC COMMENT IN PERSON/TELEPHONE  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
3900 MAIN STREET, RIVERSIDE, CA 92522

**PRESENT:** The following Commissioners were present during roll call: Chair Anderson, Vice Chair Gomez, Commissioner Stufkosky, Commissioner Friend, Commissioner Wadler, Commissioner Rasmus, Commissioner Sacchetti, & Youth Ex Officio Olague.

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Reynolds, Commissioner Moore-Reins and Youth Ex Officio Visco.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Lee Withers, Daisy Gastelum, Monique Morrison-Cook.

Chair calls the meeting to order at 5:37p.m.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

No e-comments were received prior to the start of the meeting and there was one in person comment, Josh Toresla who spoke regarding American Sign Language becoming an official language of the City of Riverside.

### CONSENT CALENDAR MINUTES

The minutes of July 12, 2023 were approved with the following amended modification: correct attendance to reflect Commissioners Rasmus absence from Commissioners who were present and a vote of abstention from the Commissioners that were absent from the July 12 meeting.

### ATTENDANCE

The Commission of the Deaf determined the absence of Commissioner Reynolds and Youth Ex Officio Visco and Youth Ex Officio Olague from the July 12, 2023 meeting as excused.

### DISCUSSION CALENDAR

#### Drawings

Drawings for Commissioner Terms were drawn. Youth Ex Officio August Olague drew a 2-year term through March 1, 2025, Youth Ex Officio Visco will receive a 1-year term through March 1, 2024, Commissioner Rasmus drew a 4-year term through March 1, 2027, and Commissioner Reynolds will receive a 2-year term through March 1, 2025.

#### Annual Review of Code of Ethics and Conduct

The Commissioners had no comments to provide to the Board of Ethics following the Annual Review of Code of Ethics and Conduct



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### Commission of the Deaf Outreach

Commission of the Deaf will have a booth at the Deaf Festival which will take place on September 16, 2023.

Ms. Withers mentioned from previous meeting the process of implementing an "annual work plan" in which board/commission chairs and vice chairs will be tasked with working alongside the city staff to develop that framework, for approval by the City Council.

Commissioner Wadler suggested a QR code or a constant video on repeat to help the community notice the Commission of the Deaf booth during the Deaf Festival.

### COMMUNICATION

#### UPDATES FROM COMMISSION MEMBERS

Chair Anderson met with the Chair of Education and the Vice Provost at the University of Riverside to discuss a Deaf Education Program. Chair Anderson and Vice Chair Gomez met with the Disability Center at Riverside Community College and with Dr. Soto from Students Affairs Department as well as with Dr. Wright the Dean of Academics to discuss not only interpreting classes but to propose opening a Deaf Center. Chair Anderson mentioned plans on hold for a Culture Community Center.

Commissioner Sacchetti met with Michelle Davis from Housing Authority. Commissioner Sacchetti wanted to provide information regarding low-income housing and encourage everyone to apply for the waiting list.

Chair Anderson would like to recognize former members of Model Deaf Community and place this as an agenda item in next month's meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 13, 2023.

Chair Anderson adjourned the meeting at 6:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

DAISY GASTELUM  
SR. ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT