



**City/UCD Student Liaison Commission Minutes
Community Chambers Conference Room
23 Russell Boulevard
Wednesday, June 10, 2009
4:30 p.m.**

Voting Commissioners Present: M. Lachowicz, S. Lee (Chairperson), B. Little, C. Olsen, R. Sharp, M. Sundstrom

Non-Voting Commissioners Present: J. Evans, C. Valencia, S. Winton

Commissioners Absent: R. Achterberg, C. Bonilla, B. Kim, C. Simvoulakis, S. Worker
M. Carmichael, G. Sandy

Council Liaison Present: L. Heystek

Others Present: None

Roll Call and Introductions: Meeting called to order at 4:40 p.m.

- 1. Agenda** – The agenda was approved as amended. Item 6 - UC Davis West Village Status was moved to the July meeting.
- 2. Minutes** – The minutes of May 13, 2009, were approved unanimously by consensus.
- 3. Commissioner Communications** – None
- 4. City Council Communications** – L. Heystek stated the City offers a mediation service for security deposit and renter disputes.
- 5. Public Communications** – None
- 6. UC Davis West Village Status** – Moved to the July meeting
- 7. Renter's Sub-committee** – B. Little presented the sub-committee's final survey results. The Commission noted that the security deposit question had a significant percentage of "N/A's". This may be due to Freshmen completing the survey, vague question wording, or that usually only one tenant gets the deposit back.

The sub-committee would like to forward the survey results to apartment managers and rental agencies for their input; develop a brochure of questions and answers for renter issues; and continue the annual survey.

L. Heystek suggested the Commission present the survey results to the City Council at a joint meeting. S. Lee motioned, seconded by M. Sundstrom, to request a joint meeting with the City Council to discuss the survey and renter issues in October. The motioned passed unanimously.

The Commission discussed amending the Model Lease. This will be discussed with Council.

8. Commission Structure/Effectiveness/Communication Tools – S. Winton reviewed the Commission structure and membership.

S. Worker submitted the following written comments:

-The Commission strikes a balance between continuity (ex-officio and public-at-large) membership and new membership (annual student positions). It would help to have a common start date for the annual positions (e.g. September).

-I recommend explicitly stating in the Commission charter documents that each September, the Commission will identify issues and plan out a year of work. While we have done this for the past five years, membership does rotate, and it would help institutionalize the process by having it stated.

-Positions - Although the Commission already has large number of voting members, I recommend adding a health services representative to the Commission as a voting member (e.g. Cowell Student Health Center).

-Positions - I believe having a representative of the business community is important. I would enjoy discussing whether that should be from the Davis Chamber of Commerce or the Davis Downtown Business Association.

R. Sharp asked how the City Council views the Commission's effectiveness. L. Heystek feels the Commission could have a stronger voice and be more proactive. R. Sharp would like a workplan with more actionable items. M. Sundstrom stated she feels the Commission is more programmatic, evaluates, and make recommendations on issues and not necessarily acts on them, such as Davis Neighbors Night Out and renter issues. She also stated, it is important for students, Police departments, businesses, and City and UC Davis staff to get together and discuss issues. L. Heystek believes an important task is advising Council on certain issues.

M. Lachowicz agrees that the voting membership should be increased and UC Davis Health Center should have a voting membership. S. Winton suggested adding a transition plan to the Commission Charter to help inform new members of recently discussed issues. S. Lee stated a need for more student involvement. R. Sharp suggested adding a Student-at-Large voting position and removing one of the Public-at-Large positions. Discussion ensued regarding the balance of students and membership.

The Commission discussed means to improve communicating out issues. Facebook was suggested, however, it may violate Brown Act rules. It was also suggested to post agendas in the Cal Aggie in addition to the Davis Enterprise.

S. Winton asked how members report out to their groups. Some have a webpage, email their groups and others do not report out. The Public-at-Large members do not have a means to communicate out to other citizens. S. Winton suggested adding some basic information to the Renter's brochure and distributing to students leaving the dormitories.

9. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Stacey Winton
Administrative Analyst II