

Los Angeles County Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission

Regular Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 17, 2016

Item 1: Call to Order

Chair Dennis Arguelles called the meeting to order at 10:38 A.M.

Item 2: Roll Call and Confirmation of Quorum

Roll call was taken and the quorum requirement was met.

Present: Dennis Arguelles, Ronnie Jayne, Vivian Chan, Farrell J. Chiles, Ho-Jeong Eun, Mike Gomez, Mark Ramos, Ross Viselman

Absent: Karine Bagdasarian, Susan R. Jerich, Joseph Lee, Joan Patsy Ostroy, Sylvia Southerland, Kisheen W. Tulloss

Staff: Joel Ayala, Amanda Hernandez, Espie Hernandez

Public: None

Item 3: Approval of Minutes for the September 15, 2016

Commissioner Gomez moved to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2016 Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission meeting. Seconded by Commissioner Eun. Motion passed.

Item 4: 2015-2016 Assessment of County Commissions:

Chair Arguelles presented the Commission with the 2015-2016 Assessment of County Commissions. The Board of Supervisors (BOS) directed Arroyo Associates, an outside consultant, to assess Los Angeles County Commissions and provide recommendations to improve functionality and impact. For Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission, the assessment recommended merging with the Insurance Commission. Chair Arguelles facilitated discussion on the topic. Key areas of discussion included the possible revised composition of the two commissions in mission and membership- including district representation.

- Commissioner Chan requested the roster of the current Commissioners and term expiration dates sent to all members of the Commission for review.
- Commissioner Ramos would like to know if there is any timeline for CAAC to absorb the Commission on Insurance
- Chair Arguelles would like DCBA staff to arrange a meeting with the Chair of the Insurance Commission in order to determine where the two Commissions goals may align.
- The Commissioners suggested the creation of an Insurance subcommittee to fulfill the goals of the absorbed Insurance Commission

Item 5: Subcommittee Reports

Deferred Action Task Force

The Deferred Action Task Force did not have a report as the subcommittee has not met since the last Commission meeting on September 15, 2016.

Legislative Subcommittee

Committee Chair Mark Ramos provided an update on the Legislative Subcommittee meetings. Commissioner Ramos discussed the updates from DCBA staff on Proposition 64: the Adult Use of Marijuana Act, and the Immigration Consultants Ordinance, and the role DCBA will have in compliance, regulation and ensuring consumers are protected with the passage of the new laws and ordinances. Commissioner Ramos expressed support for the activities of DCBA, especially assisting with the regulation of immigration consultants, as there are many victims affected by this issue.

Public Information Subcommittee

Public Information Chair Mike Gomez provided an updated on the Public Information Subcommittee meetings. Commissioner Gomez discussed the \$1.5 billion Wells Fargo settlement and how DCBA will be seek funding from this settlement to enhance consumer financial protection and education. Commissioner Gomez praised DCBA for being on top of the issue and available to assist consumers. Commissioner Gomez also discussed illegal evictions happening to undocumented immigrants. These victims are unknowingly being evicted but are too afraid to seek help due to a fear of being deported.

Commissioner Gomez would like this issue looked into and referred it to the Deferred Action Task Force for further review and discussion.

Item 6: 2016 Annual Report:

DCBA's Commission Services staff presented the 2016 Annual Report. The Commissioners were informed this report reflected the accomplishments of the Commission and its subcommittees.

Commissioner Chiles commented that the report reflected the accomplishments of the department, but not the Commission, and would like to see the report revised to show the integration of the Commission and the department on programs and consumer-related legislation.

Item 7: 2017 Nominations:

Chair Arguelles opened the floor for nominations for the 2017 Chair and Vice Chair election. DCBA staff Espie Hernandez handed out to the Commission a paper ballot for the 2017 Chair and Vice Chair nominations. A discussion was held and motion made on whether or not to

accept a paper ballot as part of the nomination process. Nominations will be taken up until and during the next Commission meeting.

Motion: Commissioner Chan moved to accept the paper nomination form as a method of nominating candidates for Chair or Vice Chair, in addition to open nominations on the floor. Seconded by Commissioner Gomez. Motion passed.

Floor Nominations for Chair

Commissioner Eun nominated Commissioner Jayne for Chair

Commissioner Gomez nominated Commissioner Jayne for Chair

Floor Nominations for Vice Chair

Commissioner Jayne nominated Commissioner Gomez for Vice Chair

Item 8: Department Update:

Chief Deputy Director Joel Ayala provided the Department Update which included the Department's involvement in Proposition 64: Adult Use of Marijuana Act- which is pending BOS assignment, and an update on the immigration consultants' ordinance that DCBA will be responsible for ensuring compliance and investigating allegations of misconduct.

Mr. Ayala also informed the Commission that DCBA was asked to host a small business table on December 8th in the 2nd District for an event hosted by Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas, and that New Commissioner Orientation and required annual trainings for commissioners will be scheduled for January and February 2017. Commission Services will provide "Save the Date" e-mails once the schedule becomes available.

Item 9: Future Agenda Items:

Commissioner Gomez would like to add a discussion item on the gambling industry that is currently targeting senior citizens and see what the Commission and DCBA can do to support and protect senior citizens. It was recommended that this item first go to committee, possibly the Legislative or Public Information Committee.

Item 10: Public Comment

None

Item 11: Adjournment

The Consumer Affairs Advisory Commission meeting was adjourned at 12:16 P.M.