



REPORT TO LAW & LEGISLATION COMMITTEE City of Sacramento

915 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2671

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STAFF REPORT
June 8, 2006

Honorable Members of the
Law and Legislation Committee

**Subject: Amend Ordinance Number 90-016 Relating to the Structure of the
Sacramento Commission of History and Science**

Location/Council District: Citywide

Recommendation: Staff recommends that the Law and Legislation Committee approve, the proposed changes to Ordinance Number 90-016 regarding the Structure of the Sacramento Commission of History and Science. Upon receiving the Law and Legislation Committee's authorization to make the recommended changes, staff will work with the City Attorney's office to draft the specific Ordinance language which will be presented to the full City Council for its adoption.

Contact: James E. Henley, Manager, History and Science Division, 264-7072

Presenters: James E. Henley, Manager, History and Science Division, 264-7072

Department: Convention, Culture and Leisure Department

Division: History & Science

Organization No: 4251

Summary:

The proposed changes to Ordinance Number 90-016, establishing the Sacramento Commission of History and Science, reassign one vacant Commission position and restructure the Committees to reflect the functional and financial realities under which the Commission now exists.

Committee/Commission Action:

At its regularly scheduled meeting of April 6, 2006, the Sacramento Commission of History & Science unanimously moved to re-organize the Commission structure as proposed in this report.

Background Information:

- The Sacramento Commission of History & Science, in its current form, was established by ordinances of both the City and the County of Sacramento, adopted by the County in February 1990 and by the City in May, 1990. Earlier configurations of this Commission date back to 1954 and include the Sacramento Museum and History Commission and still earlier, the Historic Landmarks Commission.
- There are a total of fifteen (15) appointed Commission positions, five of which are appointed by the City Council, and five by the County Board of Supervisors.
- One Commissioner is appointed by the Mayors of Folsom, Isleton and Galt and ratified by the City and the County of Sacramento.
- The existing ordinance dictates that the four remaining Commissioners are appointed by representative non-profit organizations throughout the County, specifically, the "Sacramento County Historical Society", the "Sacramento History Center Association", the "Sacramento Science Center and Junior Museum", and the "American River Natural History Association".
- Originally, the "Sacramento History Center Association" and the "Sacramento Science Center and Junior Museum" were separate entities, each with its own representative to the Commission. However, in 1993, they merged into a single entity under one Board of Directors. The new entity is known as the "Discovery Museum". In the interest of fairness, the Discovery Museum is entitled to only one representative on the Commission. The Discovery Museum currently has one appointee in place, while the position formerly assigned to the Sacramento Science Center is vacant. It is recommended that the Sacramento Science Center position be converted to a representative jointly-appointed by both the City Council and the Board of Supervisors. It is also recommended that the reference to the "Sacramento Science Center and Junior Museum" be eliminated.
- The current ordinance also prescribes four Committees: (1) the "Executive Committee"; (2) the "History & Science Committee"; (3) the "Community Outreach and Education Committee" and (4) the "Grants and Awards Committee". The Grants and Awards Committee was established to make recommendations for grants to worthy History-related organizations from the County Board of Supervisors Transient Occupancy (T.O.) Tax Fund. The County has been unable to allocate any part of the T.O. Tax for several years for History-related issues.
- As the purpose of the Grants and Awards Committee has become obsolete, it is recommended that reference to this function be removed from the current ordinance and the Committees be restructured. At its regularly scheduled April 6, 2006 meeting, the Commission voted to retain the Executive Committee and to restructure the other three Committees as follows: the "Monuments Committee" would be responsible for identifying sites for the placement of historic monuments, researching and composing interpretive text for the monuments, identifying proposed designs, and estimating the costs, all subject to the approval of the City Council and the Board of Supervisors. The "Landmarks Committee" would be responsible for identifying sites for the placement of historic

plaques, researching and composing interpretive text for the plaques, identifying proposed designs, and estimating the costs, all subject to the approval of the City Council and the Board of Supervisors. The "Education Committee" would combine the oversight and reporting responsibilities of the History & Science Committee and the programming responsibilities of the Community Outreach and Education Committee.

Financial Considerations:

The Ordinance changes recommended in this report will have no financial consequences to the City.

Environmental Considerations:

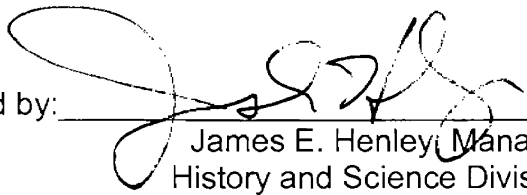
None.


Policy Considerations:

The actions recommended in this report support the City's Core Values of Inclusiveness, and Community Participation and Input.

Emerging Small Business Development (ESBD):

Not applicable.

Respectfully Submitted by: 
James E. Henley, Manager
History and Science Division

Approved by: 
Barbara E. Bonebrake, Director
Convention, Culture and Leisure Department

Recommendation Approved:

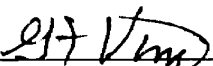

GUSTAVO F. VINA
Assistant City Manager

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