

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
RUSSIAN-SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
MINUTES FOR TUESDAY, JULY 16, 2024**

**West Hollywood City Hall Community Conference Room
at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** – Chair Maysky called the meeting to order at 7:08PM.
2. **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT** – Chair Maysky read the Land Acknowledgement
3. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** – Chair Maysky led the Pledge of Allegiance.
4. **ROLL CALL**

PRESENT: Diana Volman, Eugene Maysky, Liudmila Raskin, Lyubov Levitan, Raisa Aguf, Sasha Razor.

ABSENT: German Simakovski

ALSO, PRESENT: Staff liaison Tatyana Rodzinek

5. **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**
SUBJECT: *The Russian-speaking Advisory Board was requested to approve the agenda.*
ACTION: Approve the Agenda of Tuesday, July 16, 2024. Motion by member Levitan to approve the agenda, seconded by Member Volman, motion passed by a roll call vote.
6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**
SUBJECT: *The Russian-speaking Advisory Board was requested to approve the minutes of the previous meeting.*
ACTION: Approve the minutes of the June 18, 2024, Russian-speaking Advisory Board Special meeting. Motion by Chair Maysky to approve the minutes, seconded by Member Aguf, motion passed by a roll call vote.
7. **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
Misha Suvorov, an actor, introduced himself and the upcoming performance in Plummer Park the Border, which is an award-winning dramatic poem crafted using the auto fictional method. The plot unfolds during the full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine.
8. **ITEMS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**
There were no comments from the board members.
9. **PRESENTATIONS**

9.A. WEST HOLLYWOOD SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Subject: Russian-speaking Advisory Board was to receive a presentation from representatives of the West Hollywood Sheriff's Department on crime in the city and personal safety.

ACTION: The presentation was rescheduled for the next meeting

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

10.A. NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2024

Subject: The Russian-speaking Advisory Board continued discussion on the upcoming National Night Out Event.

ACTION: No action taken. The board members discussed the vendors, logistics, raffles and assigned tasks to the board members.

10.B. WEST HOLLYWOOD RUSSIAN-SPEAKING COMMUNITY CULTURAL HERITAGE MONTH - DISCUSSION ON 2025 EVENTS

Subject: The Russian-speaking Advisory Board discussed the 2025 cultural events that highlight the cultural heritage of the Russian-speaking Community.

The board members continued discussion regarding historical archive of the Russian-speaking community and celebration of the next year's 80th Anniversary of VE Day. The board members also discussed women's history month events.

ACTION: Board members discussed the events and provided recommendations on the following events:

Maysky Classical Night, Russian-speaking Community Awards Presentations. No action taken.

10.C. RUSSIAN-SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD'S INITIATIVES

Subject: Russian-speaking Advisory Board followed up on the previously proposed initiatives.

Board Members proposed providing new migrants with information on essential services like language support, legal aid, and employment resources.

Members discussed the draft of the brochure and made suggestions on additional information such as adding available computer education classes for youth, information about free museums, public safety information and services for LGBTQ+ community members.

Board members talked about supporting LGBTQ+ immigrants facing trauma and discrimination.

Members discussed a gap in serving a specific ethnic minority group.

Member Maysky shared his experience and pictures of 80 Russian, Belarusian, and Ukrainian refugees marching in Pride Parade.

Member Maysky described the trauma faced by migrant children in detention, including abuse and mistreatment by CBP officers and spoke about the need to build a shelter for traumatized children.

ACTION: No Action Taken

10.D. UPDATE FROM LIAISONS TO OTHER BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Subject: Board members were to receive updates from the liaisons to other boards and commissions.

ACTION: There were no updates.

11. NEW BUSINESS

11.A. ELECTIONS

Subject: The Russian-speaking Advisory Board were to elect the Chair and Vice-Chair of the board

ACTION: The board elected Diana Volman as the Chair and Lucy Alex as the Vice-Chair of the Board.

11.B. COMMUNITY EVENTS FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2024-2025

Subject: Russian-speaking Advisory Board discussed upcoming events. Staff provided information on the events

ACTION: Received and discussed. No action taken

12. ITEMS FROM STAFF

There were no comments from staff.

13. PUBLIC COMMENT:

There were no public comments.

14. RUSSIAN SPEAKING ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS' COMMENTS

There were no comments

15. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Russian Advisory Board adjourned at 8:48 PM to a regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, **August 20, 2024**, beginning at 7PM at West Hollywood City Hall in Community Conference Room, 1st floor at 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE RUSSIAN ADVISORY BOARD ON THIS 20th DAY OF AUGUST 2024.



CHAIRPERSON

ATTEST:



STAFF LIAISON