

**MINUTES OF THE FOWLER CITY COUNCIL
SPECIAL WORKSHOP
MARCH 25, 2008**

Mayor Simonian called the meeting to order at 6:08 p. m.

Councilmembers present: Simonian, Shaw, Aguayo, Cardenas & Zadourian

City staff present: City Manager Elias, City Clerk Davis, Police Chief Jamgochian, City Attorney Cross, Finance Director Wong, Police Reserve Officer George Richardson

ADD SUBSEQUENT NEED ITEM TO AGENDA

City Manager Elias stated that an item needed to be added to the agenda concerning the building dedication plaque for the new Fowler Library. The need to make a decision had arisen after the agenda was posted and couldn't wait until the next meeting, as the plaque wording had to be submitted to Fresno County by the end of the week.

Councilmember Aguayo made a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Shaw, to add the building dedication plaque item to the agenda due to the time sensitive feedback to the County. The motion carried on a 5-0-0 roll call vote.

City Manager Elias circulated an updated copy of the City dedication plaque wording, noting that it had been simplified to show, *"In honor of the Fowler Library Support Group who spent more than two decades to make the Dream a Reality,"* without listing all of the members names as in the first draft. This was in response to Library Representative Terry Sterling's confirmation that the Fowler Library Group did not want names listed. Councilmember Aguayo asked that his name be removed from the Council listing on the plaque, and replaced with former Councilmember Tom Nagata's name instead.

The Council discussed the plaque wording at length. The consensus was to list the current City Councilmembers to reflect those members in office at the time the building is dedicated, and to mention the Fowler Library Support Group, but not list them individually by name.

EMERGENCY OPERATIONS PLAN TRAINING

Officer George Richardson gave a Powerpoint presentation on the draft update to the City's Emergency Operations Plan. He began with the explanation of an evacuation plan for the Council Chamber, should an episode of violence occur during a Council meeting.

Mr. Richardson said that in the event of an emergency situation in the City, the Council is authorized to declare a state of emergency. The City Manager could also make that declaration, but the Council

must ratify it within seven days. He said that most likely, Fresno County would be the agency that would declare the emergency, and the County Office of Emergency Services would go into action. The County would play a large role in assisting the City but the City would not lose its authority of being in command. He noted that the police and fire departments would be conducting ongoing tabletop exercises to practice emergency response, in order to identify weaknesses.

The Emergency Plan contains sections on how to mitigate and respond to emergency situations such as: earthquakes, floods, civil disorder, terrorism, hazmat incidents, a railroad accident, or an aircraft crash. Videos were shown of the role of the various local, state and federal agencies that would be involved in the event of such emergency, or in a statewide or nationwide situation. Fowler High School and the Vineyard Worship Center are two incident command post areas that have been designated, depending on the location of the emergency. He also explained NIMS - the National Incident Management System and SEMS - the State Emergency Management System and their command levels.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, Councilmember Cardenas made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Aguayo. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 p. m.