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Adjourned at 10:10 P.M.

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MINUTES OF AN ADJOURNED REGULAR
MEETING OF THE TORRANCE CITY COUNCIL

OPENING CEREMONIES:

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Torrance City Council convened in an Adjourned Regular Meeting on Tuesday, August 14, 1973, at 6:00 P.M. in the Council Chambers at Torrance City Hall.

2. ROLL CALL:

Present: Councilmen Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta, Surber, Uerkwitz, Wilson, and Mayor Miller. Absent: None.

Also present: Assistant City Manager Scharfman, City Attorney Remelmeyer, and City Clerk Coil. Absent: City Manager Ferraro; City Treasurer Rupert.

3. FLAG SALUTE:

Lieutenant Hone led in the salute to the flag.

4. INVOCATION:

Reverend H. Milton Sippel, First Christian Church, gave the invocation:

"ALMIGHTY GOD, THE FATHER OF US ALL, WE THANK THEE FOR WHAT THOU HAST DONE FOR US AS A NATION -- THOU HAST CREATED A NATION ENDOWED IN LIBERTY AND FREEDOM AND JUSTICE FOR ALL. WE THANK THEE FOR THE PRIVILEGE OF GATHERING AND MEETING SUCH AS THIS TO PLAN THE AFFAIRS OF OUR COMMUNITY AND TO REGULATE THE ACTIVITIES THAT WILL BENEFIT THE CITIZENS OF THIS COMMUNITY.

"WE PRAY THY GUIDANCE UPON THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO OFFICE, AND MAY THEY BE LED TO MAKE THE DECISIONS THAT WILL BE BENEFICIAL TO THE MOST OF OUR PEOPLE. TRULY GUIDE AND DIRECT OUR CITY."

STANDARD MOTIONS:

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilman Sciarrotta moved that the minutes of July 24, 1973 be approved as recorded. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

6. APPROVAL OF DEMANDS:

Councilman Uerkwitz moved that all properly audited demands be paid. His motion, seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

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7. MOTION TO WAIVE FURTHER READING:

Councilman Surber moved that after the Clerk has given a number and read title to any resolution or ordinance on tonight's agenda, the further reading thereof be waived, reserving and guaranteeing to each Councilman the right to demand the reading of any such resolution or ordinance in regular order. The motion was seconded by Councilman Uerkwitz, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

8. COUNCIL COMMITTEE MEETINGS:

Ad Hoc Committee on Appointed Groups:
Will next meet on August 16th.

Industrial Environmental Quality Committee:
Councilman Uerkwitz made the following prepared report:

"The Council Committee on Industrial Environmental Quality met on August 13th at 4:30 P.M. The first matter concerned the possibility of obtaining a separate APCD smog monitoring station in Torrance. My legislative intern, Dale Eichman, and Staff presented a report which led the Committee to conclude that the very high cost (about \$130,000 the first year alone) and political impracticality of the effort made it unwise to pursue that approach at this time. However, there are some steps that can be taken as this time, and I would therefore ask Council direction to do the following:

- "1. Have Staff request the APCD to send its mobile unit to Torrance to monitor smog conditions at the earliest possible time.
- "2. We also ask Staff to investigate the various cost, time, and effort aspects involved in having a private firm to conduct periodic spot-checks of local smog conditions.
- "3. With Council's consent, I might also bring this subject up at the next meeting of the South Bay Councilmen's Association. I think we're well advised to get a feel for the views of other cities in this regard.

"The Committee also heard a short report from Shery Thompson, the intern to Councilman Armstrong. She told us how 'ecology booths' are getting started in the South Bay area. An ecology booth is a newstand of environmental and ecology materials, provided free of charge by private and public concerns to the general public. They seek to locate these booths in areas of heavy pedestrian traffic, and possible Torrance locations might be Old Towne or Fashion Square. We feel one of our many private service groups can carry the ball on this; there is hardly any expense (\$20 for postage?), and all that is asked is that the Council lend its philosophical support to ecology booths in Torrance."

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8A. COMMISSION INTERVIEWS:

Presentations by applicants for Commission appointments were invited by Mayor Miller. Such presentations were made by: Ann M. Adam; Clifford D. Brown; Richard K. Brown; Edison T. Chilcote; Frank S. Cavaro; Gary E. Cramer; Rosemary S. DeCamp; Maxine Dessau; Charles T. Gibson; Lawrence A. Gitschier; Melvin H. Grubb; Robert Haag; E. Michael Hallahan; Eunice M. Hargrove; Frances C. Krebs; William T. Latto, Jr.; Nat Levine; H. Maddaford; Joseph B. Miles; William B. Philleo; Fronda Port; Donald Pyles; David B. Rankin; David F. Rucks; Stephen D. Salazar; Olive Spencer; Harry W. Stein; Jean Vanca; Howard B. Weischsel; Thomas E. Wilson, Priscilla LaMarca; and Tom Childs.

At 7:00 P.M., on conclusion of the above interviews, Councilman Uerkwitz moved to recess for the purpose of an Executive Session to make the Commission appointments. His motion was seconded by Councilman Surber, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The Council returned at 7:45 P.M. Mayor Miller announced the following appointments:

Airport Commission:

Richard K. Brown

Environmental Quality:

The present six members of the Torrance Beautiful Commission, and

Gary E. Cramer.

Fine Arts Commission:

Clifford D. Brown

Rosemary DeCamp

Robert Haag

Carrie Y. Latteri

Priscilla LaMarca

Michael Roy

Thomas E. Wilson

Park and Recreation Commission:

David B. Rankin

Traffic Commission:

Eunice M. Hargrove.

Congratulations were extended the successful candidates by Mayor Miller, on behalf of the Council.

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AIRPORT MATTERS:

9. SOUTHWEST SKYWAYS REQUEST FOR POSTPONEMENT OF THE REQUIRED CONSTRUCTION OF RESTROOMS ON LEASED PREMISES.

RECOMMENDATION OF LAND MANAGEMENT TEAM/AIRPORT COMMISSION:

That Council approve Southwest Skyways request for postponement of the required construction of restrooms on premises located at 25321 Bellanca Way until such time as the Airport Master Plan is completed.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation for postponement. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

INSURANCE MATTERS:

10. SPRINKLER LEAKAGE COVERAGE.

It was the request of Assistant City Manager Scharfman that this item be held for one week. There were no objections, and it was so ordered.

TRANSPORTATION:

11. RESOLUTION re: Relocation and Modification of Traffic Signal.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-165

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE DEEMING THE RELOCATION AND MODIFICATION OF A TRAFFIC SIGNAL FROM CALLE MAYOR AND MAYOR DRIVE (S) TO CALLE MAYOR AND CARLOW ROAD (N) (TL-38) TO BE OF URGENT NECESSITY FOR THE PRESERVATION OF LIFE, HEALTH OR PROPERTY, AND AUTHORIZING CITY FORCES TO ACCOMPLISH THE NECESSARY WORK.

Councilman Wilson moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-165. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

MOTION: Councilman Wilson moved to approve an appropriation of \$9,000 from Gas Tax Funds for this work. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

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MATTERS NOT OTHERWISE CLASSIFIED:

12. ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTION mandating changes in the Business License Fees, Water Rates, and Oil Severance Tax.

ORDINANCE A - Business License Fee Changes:

A change in the subject ordinance was noted by City Attorney Remelmeyer: The provisions of Ordinance A will not become effective until January 1, 1974.

ORDINANCE NO. 2416

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING SECTIONS 31.2.1, 31.2.5 AND 32.1.1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO PAYMENT OF LICENSE TAXES..

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2416 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ORDINANCE B - Oil Severance Tax changes - Emergency Ordinance.ORDINANCE NO. 2417

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 228.2.1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE SEVERANCE TAX ON OIL PRODUCTION AND DECLARING THE PRESENCE OF AN EMERGENCY.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Emergency Ordinance No. 2417 at its first and only reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ORDINANCE C - Oil Severance Tax changes - Regular Ordinance.ORDINANCE NO. 2418

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE AMENDING THE PROVISIONS OF SECTION 228.2.1 OF THE TORRANCE MUNICIPAL CODE RELATING TO THE SEVERANCE TAX ON OIL PRODUCTION AND REPEALING EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2417 RELATING TO THE SAME MATTER.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the approval of Ordinance No. 2418 at its first reading. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

RESOLUTION NO. 73-166

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF TORRANCE REPEALING RESOLUTION NO. 70-153 AND ALL AMENDMENTS THERETO IN ORDER TO MODIFY RATES AND CHARGES FOR WATER.

Councilman Sciarrotta moved for the adoption of Resolution No. 73-166. His motion was seconded by Councilman Wilson, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

13. ENVIRONMENTAL ALERT GROUP, INC. APPEAL from the decision of the License Review Board to deny their application to solicit funds for charitable purposes.

Clarification re: License Review Board findings was provided by members Hill and Hone.

Present, on behalf of Environmental Alert Group, Inc., were Attorney Arthur Cohen, 9100 Wilshire Boulevard, Beverly Hills, and Mr. Richard Stayner, 1543 North Martel Avenue, Los Angeles, its president. The membership makeup and functions were reviewed at length.

A possible duplication of effort, represented by the recently established Environmental Quality Commission, was pointed out, and the following action resulted:

MOTION: Mayor Miller moved to refer the subject matter to the Environmental Quality Commission for an in-depth study re: Environmental Alert Group, Inc. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta.

A SUBSTITUTE MOTION was offered by Councilman Uerkwitz, who stated his opinion that there appears to be a duplication of effort with the City's new Environmental Quality Commission vs. the subject organization, and noted the further possibility that it might dilute some of the effectiveness of the City Commission -- Mr. Uerkwitz thereupon moved to concur with the recommendation of the License Review Board for DENIAL. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber.

It was the comment of Councilman Surber that he does not favor door-to-door solicitation by other than community groups (Little League, Boy Scouts, etc.), and he is of the opinion this is a feeling shared by most Torrance residents. Attorney Cohen responded, pointing out that Code requirements in this regard are met by Environmental Alert Group, Inc.

The substitute motion failed to carry, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Surber, Uerkwitz.
NOES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta,
Wilson, and Mayor Miller.

The main motion, to refer agenda item #13 to the Environmental Quality Commission, carried, with roll call vote as follows:

AYES: COUNCILMEN: Armstrong, Brewster, Sciarrotta,
Wilson, and Mayor Miller.
NOES: COUNCILMEN: Surber, Uerkwitz.

14. REQUEST OF ANNA PERRY AND BETTE KAMEYER FOR A WAIVER OF THE FEES FOR A CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT AND AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT REQUIRED FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A HOME FOR MENTALLY-RETARDED CHILDREN TO BE LOCATED AT 1525 MARCELINA STREET.

to describe
Mrs. Bette Kameyer was present/the circumstances which necessitated the Conditional Use Permit request -- a change in the type of care to be offered at the subject address; from routine child care to the care of mentally retarded children -- and to ask that License, Conditional Use Permit and Environmental Impact Report fees be waived. City Attorney Remelmeyer pointed out the need of legal research regarding the ordinance in this regard, were such action contemplated by the Council, noting that such waiver could only be applicable to the Business License fee.

It was the recommendation of Councilman Brewster that the fees for CUP and EIR processing, a process of cost to the City, be assessed, as recommended by the Planning Director -- in the meantime, the City Attorney may pursue the business license requirements.

MOTION: Councilman Uerkwitz moved to concur with the recommendation of the Planning Director that this case be treated the same as a similar previous case wherein the business license fee was waived, but the fees for processing Planning applications were required to be paid --with referral to the City Attorney, as above recommended by Councilman Brewster. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

PERSONNEL MATTERS:

15. APPOINTMENT OF DEPUTY CITY ATTORNEY STEVEN BERMAN.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ATTORNEY:

That Council approve the appointment of Steven Berman as Deputy City Attorney.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the above recommendation of the City Attorney. The motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Introduction of Mr. Berman followed, and congratulations were extended by the Council.

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7. City Council
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HEARINGS ON APPEAL:

16. APPEAL OF PLANNING COMMISSION'S CONDITIONS OF APPROVAL ON PP 73-10 AND CUP 73-27, CRODDY MORTGAGE INVESTMENT TRUST (WILD WEST STORES), to permit the construction of a retail commercial store on property located at the east side of Hawthorne Boulevard approximately 100 feet south of 227th Street.

Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Coil, and it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the subject public hearing.

The basis of the subject appeal -- Condition #26: "That the proposed building and any future building be constructed on the north property line, building wall to be of decorative masonry materials." -- was reviewed at length by the Council, Planning Director Shartle, and proponent representatives, Messrs. Kowalski and Clark.

In view of the complexities surrounding the wall/building arrangement to the satisfaction of all, it was the consensus of the Council that Item #16 be referred back to Planning Staff to work with the proponent to this end.

MOTION: Councilman Armstrong moved to continue the subject hearing to August 21, 1973, a 5:30 P.M. meeting, such hearing to take place some time after 6:00 P.M. The motion was seconded by Councilman Sciarrotta, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

17. EA 73-100, SEQUOIA PACIFIC REALCO (PP 73-14 AND CUP 73-37). Appeal of the Environmental Review Board's determination that an Environmental Impact Report is required for the construction of a manufacturing and warehouse complex on the southeast corner of Van Ness and 190th Street.

An Affidavit of Publication was presented by City Clerk Coil, and it was ordered filed, there being no objection.

Mayor Miller announced that this is the time and place for the subject public hearing, and, following a report on the Environmental Review Board's findings by its Chairman, Mr. Scharfman, the proponent made his presentation.

Mr. Denny Osborne distributed an "assessment and traffic study" on the subject property, prepared for the proponent by accredited agencies, and deemed of substantial worth to meet Environmental Impact Report requirements.

It was ascertained that none of the substantial material furnished had been presented to, or reviewed by, the Environmental Review Board, and the following action resulted:

MOTION: Councilman Brewster moved that the Council defer any action on Item 17, subject to a recycling of the case before the Environmental Review Board, in light of additional materials and new testimony. The motion was seconded by Councilman Surber; roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

ROUTINE MATTERS:

18. EXPENDITURES OVER \$300:

RECOMMENDATION OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

That Council approve the following purchases:

1. \$1215.79 to Johnson Stationers of Torrance for 11 chairs (requested by the Personnel Department) and 3 desks, 3 chairs and one filing cabinet, as requested by the Police Department.
 2. \$370.75 to Yamada Company, Inc. for one only 25" heavy duty lawn mower, as requested by the Fire Department for Station #2.
 3. \$703.84 to Minnesota Mining & Manufacturing Company for an annual contract to supply computer tape on the State of California contract as requested by the Data Processing Department.
 4. \$1076.29 to Johnny Gillette Tire Company for necessary tire repair and recapping services, as requested by the City Garage.
 5. \$392.20 to Safeway Signs for 100 each 10-ft. sign mounting steel posts, as requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department.
 6. \$635.15 to Zumar Industries for 52 various traffic control signs, as requested by the Traffic and Lighting Department.
 7. \$23,477.86 to Torrance Sport Shop and \$1286.24 to Hammatt and Sons for annual contract to supply various sports equipment and supplies "as requested" by the Park and Recreation Department for use in all sports programs.
 8. \$20,974.00 to Motorola Communications and Electronics, Inc. for the City's total annual requirements for 20 mobile radios for City departments.
19. Considered separately -- See Page 10.
20. CLAIM of John Brady for personal injuries.
21. CLAIM of David Vidal for personal injuries.
22. CLAIM of Joseph Zahaczewski for damages.

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY CLERK:

That the above claims on Items #20, 21, and 22 be DENIED and referred to the City Attorney. The insurance carrier concurs with the above recommendation.

23. NOTICE OF COMPLETION - Sanitary Sewer in Torrance Boulevard between Henrietta Street and west City Boundary.
(Job No. 73139)

RECOMMENDATION OF CITY ENGINEER:

That the work be accepted, and that final payment be made to the contractor, J.M. Construction Company.

MOTION: Councilman Sciarrotta moved to concur with the recommendations on agenda items #18, 20, 21, 22, and #23. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

Considered separately:

19. FINANCING OF THE PROPOSED LANDSCAPING ASSESSMENT DISTRICT COSTS.

RECOMMENDATIONS OF FINANCE DIRECTOR:

1. That \$49,911 be appropriated from the General Fund to pay the costs related to the proposed Assessment District.
2. That L.J. Thompson, Inc. be paid the balance due under the terms of the contract.

It was the request of Councilman Surber that (1) there be review of the method of selecting Assessment Engineers; (2) that there be more public input regarding such projects before spending approximately \$50,000 to find out "what the people don't want"; and (3) that there be an investigation of the public relations department of the L.J. Thompson office in view of the many criticisms -- there was a like criticism of a City Staff member for advising a telephone caller that a petition was useless in that "it's going to go through anyway".

It was the comment of Mayor Miller that, regardless of the outcome, the Council had approved the subject expenditure at the beginning of the consideration of this project -- this then is a commitment made by the Council, and the above represents an appropriation for what has already been approved.

Assistant City Manager Scharfman indicated that further discussion regarding Item 2, the fee to be paid the company, is desired, in that all the duties in the contract were not performed.

It was unanimously agreed that agenda item #19 be referred back to Staff.

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The hour being 9:40 P.M., Councilman Sciarrotta moved to recess as the City Council, and reconvene as the Redevelopment Agency. His motion was seconded by Councilman Armstrong, and roll call vote was unanimously favorable.

The Council returned to its agenda at 9:41 P.M.

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ORAL COMMUNICATIONS:

24. C.E. Associate Bourbonnais reported on achievements in San Francisco this date: Public Utilities Commission approval of Torrance's applications for overpass construction and the elimination of the existing Madrona Spur, as related to the Prairie/Madrona Project.
25. The shutdown of the "Rocket Ship" at Fashion Square was noted by Councilman Armstrong, with the request that Staff investigate Conditional Use Permit conditions in this regard.
26. Staff investigation of disappearing gravel and faulty curbing in the vicinity of Sartori, between Dominguez and Torrance Boulevard, was requested by Councilman Armstrong.
27. Praise for Recreation Department summer activities -- the Aquacade, the musical presentation at El Camino College, the current children's art exhibit, the "teen swim" event, etc. -- Recreation Department Staff, and its Director, Mr. Van Bellehm, was extended by Councilman Armstrong.
28. The findings of his student intern as to problems facing Torrance were reported by Councilman Sciarrotta, as follows, and in this order: traffic; growing too fast - we should slow down; shortage of parks; too many apartments; should do more for Senior Citizens; and get rid of the oil wells.
29. The acute air conditioning problems in the Police Department -- and the need for improved security -- was noted by Councilman Surber. It was the consensus of the Council that this be a matter for consideration by the Police, Fire, and Public Safety Committee.
30. The need for additional time in the Police, Fire, and Public Safety Committee's considerations re: Policewomen -- in light of a request from TPOA for further review -- was reported by Councilman Uerkwitz. There were no objections.
31. A Progress Report, as follows, on the Madrona Wildlife Park was provided by Councilman Wilson:

"You will recall the Madrona Wildlife Park feasibility study was submitted to the City Council last June 5th. The Madrona Wildlife Park project, as reported, would preserve the last of the vernal marshes in this Southern California area.

"On June 5th the Council endorsed the concept of a Madrona Wildlife Park and directed City Staff to pursue funding from State and Federal sources. The project has the enthusiastic support of Senator Stevens, and his deputy, Mike Maier, has spent much time encouraging the project. In addition to the endorsement of the Park and Recreation Commission, many community groups and conservation organizations have shown their support. The project has caught the imagination of the community. It is a rare opportunity to preserve some vital wildlife in the midst of a highly urbanized area.

"At the present time, the Park and Recreation Department is preparing a short eight-page, hard-hitting brochure which will be used to approach State and Federal agencies for support of this project. The State Departments of Parks and Recreation, and Fish and Game, as well as the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, will be approached. Possibilities of funding include Pittman Robertson funds, the Environmental Protection Agency, Bagley funds, and grants through HEW.

"In addition, the history of the marsh is being researched with the possibility that this may be a historic site which should be preserved. Old maps are being studied which show the marshes and waterways as they once existed throughout this area. Madrona Pond is the only one remaining in this area and certainly seems worth preserving. The developers, Barkley, Hollander, and Curci, are in the process of acquiring the land. Our sources indicate they have an option to purchase based on certain contingencies. At this time, development has been informally discussed with the Planning Department by them. No definite plans or applications have been submitted, and whatever the developers are proposing is in the conjecture stage.

"If this project of preserving the Madrona vernal marsh is to come about, it will require the concerted effort of the local community, Federal and State agencies, and the many conservation groups in the State. If this project is important enough to gain the full support of the people, we will see the Madrona Wildlife Park become a reality. Already we know that there are many people in the community who are willing to do whatever they can, and this nucleus gains more support each day."

It was then the request of Councilman Wilson that Staff call a meeting of appropriate persons from interested agencies, community persons, and the prospective developer to discuss the feasibility of the proposed project.

Discussion ensued regarding the considerable "unknown factors" regarding the subject land and the development thereof -- however, there were no objections to Councilman Wilson's recommended meeting, and it was so ordered.

32. Mrs. Tina Boyd, 4111 - 239th Street, reported on recent activities related to consumer protection, and reiterated her opinion regarding the need for a Consumer Protection Bureau in Torrance -- these findings will be presented to the Park, Recreation, and Community Development Committee.

The meeting was regularly adjourned at 10:10 P.M.

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Ava Cripe
Minute Secretary

12.

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CITY COUNCIL MINUTES - August 14, 1973

APPROVED!

Ken Miller

Mayor of the City of Torrance

Vernon W. Coil

Vernon W. Coil, Clerk of the
City of Torrance, California