

**Rent Stabilization Commission  
City of West Hollywood  
Thursday, April 10, 2014 @ 7:00 PM  
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers  
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

**Minutes**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Maggio called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT MOTIONS:**

Chair Maggio requested that the meeting be adjourned in memory Ric Rickles.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chair Maggio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover took roll call.

**PRESENT:**

Chair Richard Maggio, Vice Chair Agassi Topchian, Commissioner Gail Sanes, Commissioner David Gregoire, and Commissioner Josh Kurpies.

**ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Human Services and Rent Stabilization Director Elizabeth Savage, Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan, Rent Stabilization Information Coordinators Chris Uszler, Yellena Orloff, and Anwar Zraikat, and Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gregoire and seconded by Commissioner Sanes to approve the April 10, 2014 meeting agenda.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Commissioner Gregoire and seconded by Commissioner Kurpies to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2014 meeting.

## **DIRECTOR’S/MANAGER’S REPORT:**

Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization, Elizabeth Savage, reviewed the Director’s/Managers Look Ahead calendar. She announced that the April 24<sup>th</sup> and May 8<sup>th</sup> Rent Stabilization Commission meetings have been cancelled because there are no appeals scheduled for those dates and that the next Commission meeting will take place on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. The staff reports on aging housing stock and relocation benefits that were scheduled for May 8<sup>th</sup> will be rescheduled to May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Ms. Savage also reported that the Annual General Adjustment will be announced at the June 26, 2014 Rent Stabilization Commission meeting.

Ms. Savage congratulated Rent Stabilization Information Coordinator Chris Uszler on his 25 years of service to the City.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Chair Maggio also took this opportunity to thank Mr. Uszler for his years of service. Commissioner Gregoire congratulated Mr. Uszler on his 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary with the City.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Disability Advisory Board liaison Larry Block of West Hollywood, spoke regarding reasonable accommodations and aging in place issues for disabled and senior tenants.

## **NEW BUSINESS:**

A. Rent Stabilization and Housing Manger, Peter Noonan, provided a brief update on changes expected to the Section 8 program.

B. Part two of the “Things to Know” four-part educational series was given by Mr. Noonan, Mr. Zraikat, Ms. Orloff and Mr. Uszler. The report focused on important aspects of the rent stabilization ordinance that pertain to tenants, landlords, and real estate brokers.

The floor was open to questions from the Commissioners throughout the presentations and those questions were addressed by staff.

## **COMMISSION COMMENTS:**

Vice Chair Topchian thanked staff for the presentations and expressed his appreciation for the work that they do.

Commissioner Kurpies thanked staff for the informative presentations. He also thanked Ms. Orloff, who hosted the April 8<sup>th</sup> “Tenants 101” Building Blocks seminar which was conducted in Russian and which he attended.

Commission Gregoire commented on the passing of Ric Rickles. He said that Mr. Rickles' community involvement was an inspiration.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

Ms. Savage announced that the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Russian Style Festival would be held at Plummer Park on May 18, 2014.

Vice Chair Topchian thanked staff for their part in organizing the Russian Style Festival. He gave a summary of Festival events that will take place and encouraged the public to attend.

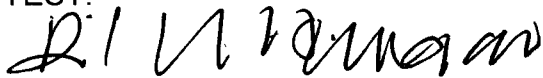
**ADJOURNMENT:**

There being no further business, Chair Maggio adjourned the Rent Stabilization Commission meeting in memory of Ric Rickles at 8:14 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on May 22, 2014 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

These minutes were taken and submitted by Laura Schoonover, Commission Secretary.

Adopted this 22nd day of May, 2014.

ATTEST:



Richard Maggio, Chair



Laura Schoonover, Secretary