

**CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD  
PUBLIC FACILITIES COMMISSION  
MEETING MINUTES  
February 12, 2014**

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Anthony called the meeting to order at 6:36 pm.

A. **ROLL CALL:**

**PRESENT:** Commissioner Woodell, Commissioner Ettman, Commissioner Rorie, Commissioner Bass, Commissioner Goldenberg, Commissioner Saur and Chair Anthony.

**ABSENT:**

**ALSO PRESENT:** Steve Campbell, Manager of Facilities and Field Services Division, Department of Public Works, and Helen Collins, Sr. Administrative Analyst, Facilities and Field Services Division, Department of Public Works.

B. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Ettman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**ACTION:** Approve the agenda for February 12, 2014.

**Motion by Commissioner Woodell, seconded by Commissioner Goldenberg and unanimously approved.**

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**ACTION:** Approve the minutes of December 11, 2013.

**Motion by Commissioner Woodell, seconded by Commissioner Goldenberg and unanimously approved.**

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE.**

5. **PUBLIC HEARINGS: NONE.**

6. **CONSENT CALENDAR: NONE.**

7. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS: NONE.**

8. **NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital Campaign – Public Art Component
  - 1. Appointment to Art Process Team
    - a. West Hollywood Park – Phase II

Andrew Campbell provided an overview of the process and requested that the Commission appoint a primary representative to the Art Process Team and an alternate. Chair Anthony inquired if there was any interest by any of the Commissioners. Commissioner Woodell and Bass expressed interest.

**ACTION:** A motion was made to appoint Commissioner Bass as the primary member of the Art Process Team for the 25th Anniversary Capital Campaign – Public Art Component for West Hollywood Park – Phase II and appoint Commissioner Woodell as the alternate.

**Motion by Commissioner Woodell, seconded by Commissioner Goldenberg and unanimously approved.**

B. Tree District Designation - Eastern Sunset Boulevard  
1. Consider Request to Alter Flowering District

Steve Campbell introduced the item to the Commission and provided a brief overview regarding the request by the property owner.

Steve Afriat spoke as a representative for the E.T. Legg and Associates the property owner. He provided an overview of the proposed project and the request for the re-designation of the tree district. Mr. Afriat's introduced the property owner Larry Legg who spoke about the fact that the property was originally purchased by his uncle 60 years ago. He also stated that his uncle past away 10 years ago and after that the property went into disrepair for several years. He stated that over the past years the Legg family as well as the tenant Harry Morten have invested a great deal of money to revitalize the property, and that the project before the Commission is the final step. Mr. Legg introduced Sandra Pascal the General Manager of E.T. Legg and Associates who spoke about the legacy of E.T. Legg and Associates and the iconic Sunset Strip which included their property at one time and how they want to restore that to the City. Mr. Afriat concluded his presentation by talking about the Legg families dedication to the City and re-stating his request that the Commission respectively grant their request to modify the tree district at the east end of the Sunset Strip and re-designate it as a palm tree district.

Public Comment:

Todd Stedman, Los Angeles – Executive Director of Sunset Strip Business Association he spoke in support of the project.

Steve Afriat –declined since he spoke as part of the item.  
Sandra Pascal –declined since spoke as part of the item.  
Larry Legg –declined since he spoke as part of the item.

Gennieve Morrill – Los Angeles, President of the West Hollywood Chamber of Commerce – spoke in support of the project.

Yaudi Emrani – Property owner of adjacent property. –spoke in support of the project.

Aaron Green – no longer wished to speak.

Stephanie Harker – West Hollywood – Spoke in support of the project.

Chris Bowen – West Hollywood: read a letter from Amanda Laflen also a West Hollywood resident who spoke in support of the project.

Demitri Samaha, West Hollywood Business Owner –spoke in support of the project.

Commissioner Discussion:

Commissioner Rorie: disclosed that he had met with Mr. Rojas a representative of the owner. Commissioner Rorie inquired if the tree change would take place on both the north and south side of the street and would it disrupt traffic. Mr. Afriat responded that they would work with staff to minimize disruptions to traffic. Commissioner Rorie also inquired regarding the depicted artwork and he was told that a final selection had not been made yet. He also asked about lighting on the Welcome to West Hollywood sign, he was informed that yes it will be lit. Commissioner Rorie stated that he thought the project was great and that it was value added to the City.

Commissioner Woodell: disclosed that he met with Mr. Afriat and Mr. Rojas and then stated that he appreciates the project and that it will bring back a historical part of the City.

Commissioner Goldenberg: disclosed that she met with a representative of the owner on the site. She stated that she is very excited about the project. She also mentioned the importance of saving the trees that are being moved.

Commissioner Bass: disclosed that he also met with a representative from the Afriat Group. He stated that he did not have any questions but he wanted to echo Commissioner Goldenberg's comments about the transplanting of the thirteen trees that are being removed. He also mentioned that he is in favor of the entry way sign and stated that he is very excited about the project.

Commissioner Saur: stated that she thinks it wonderful that they are stepping forward an investing their money on the strip. She went on to state that she was a Public Safety Commissioner for many years and that her only concern is the benches proposed. She feels they may be a gathering area and she does not think they are necessary. Otherwise she fully supports the project. She also disclosed that she met with Mr. Afriat.

Commissioner Ettman: stated that he wanted to echo the sentiments of public speaker Stephanie Harker, that it is really refreshing to see a family owned business investing in the City of West Hollywood at the gateway of the community. He did have questions regarding the signage. Mr. Campbell stated that this is most likely considered a creative sign and there is an ordinance which includes a process. Commissioner Ettman mentioned that palms trees are Southern California and added that it is a great project. Commissioner

Ettman disclosed that he met with a representative from the Legg Family.

Commissioner Anthony: disclosed that he met with a representative from the Legg Family. He went on to inquire about the sign ordinance/code and asked if we could restrict the design. Mr. Campbell mentioned that they would need to go through the process and get approval. Commissioner Anthony talked about the importance of the City having input on the branding of the City and asked Mr. Afriat what type of agreement they would be willing to agree to since legally there is no requirement. Mr. Afriat mentioned that they would be willing to work with the City on the sign. Commissioner Anthony turned to Commissioner Woodell and mentioned that he was on the Commission when the flowering district was approved and he asked about the intent at the time. Commissioner Woodell does not recall the reasoning behind why it was approved previously. Commissioner Anthony is excited about the project, because it is hard to see where West Hollywood starts.

Mr. Campbell stated that the intent of the Commission when they approved the Flowering Tree District was to provide an impact when entering the City. He went on to say that what the Legg Family intends to do will provide that impact and with the relocation of the flowering trees onto their property the Commissions intent will still be realized.

**ACTION:** A motion was made to recommend to the City Council to re-designate select sites in the current Flowering Tree District adjacent to 8225, 8228 and 8240 Sunset Boulevard to a Palm Tree District.

**Motion by Commissioner Bass, seconded by Commissioner Woodell and unanimously approved.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Yes: 7 (Rorie, Woodell, Goldenberg, and Ettman, Anthony, Saur and Bass)

Noes: 0

B. Facilities and Field Services Division  
1. Update

Staff provided an update on the Divisions activities. Commissioner Goldenberg commented that she appreciated getting an update on the pool and that the pool needs the re-plaster. Commissioner Saur asked if staff had any updates on Plummer Park staff responded, not at this time.

**Public Comment**

Stephanie Harker, West Hollywood: mentioned the funding for the pool replaster and inquired how Plummer Park could get the same consideration for upkeep funding.

C. Calendar  
1. Review and Update

Staff introduced the item and provided an overview of a range of recommended dates for Commission Activities in 2014:

Arbor Day (March 29/April 5, 12, 26)  
Commission Tour (May/Sep)  
Televised Meeting (Aug/Oct)

After discussion the Commission decided that they would provide staff their availability for Arbor Day via email. The Commission concurred on May 10<sup>th</sup> for the Commission Tour. The Commission asked if the Mothballing portion of the Laurel Project would be done for the Commission to look at in May, staff stated that yes it is anticipated that all of the work should be completed by May. The general consensus of the Commission is to have the televised meeting on September 10, 2014.

**ACTION:** A motion was made by Commissioner Saur, that for Arbor Day the Commissioners would provide staff with an email for the dates they are available and staff would bring it back to the next meeting for adoption; the Commission Tour is scheduled for May 10, 2014 and the televised meeting is scheduled for September 10, 2014.

**Motion by Commissioner Saur, seconded by Commissioner Bass and unanimously approved.**

**9. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR: NONE.**

**10. PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Victor Omelczenko, West Hollywood: expressed his concern with the Draft EIR 8899 Boulevard which stated that there was no impact to removing 52 trees.

Stephanie Harker, West Hollywood: expressed her concern regarding the removal of the trees at 8899 Boulevard. She also thanked Commissioners for speaking out about the Cooley Project. Ms. Harker also asked how much longer the fence would be up around the artwork at Plummer Park next to Fiesta Hall.

Cathy Blavias, West Hollywood: expressed her concern about the removal of the trees at 8899 Beverly Boulevard. She also talked about the tour and recommended that they visit Plummer Park and she talked about relocating the tennis courts over a parking structure.

**11. ITEMS FROM STAFF:**

Steve Campbell provided the Commission an update on the locations of the newly installed flashing beacons and talked about the bike racks that staff installed at Plummer Park. Staff also provided an update on the Flag issue.

Commissioner Saur inquired about the POW/MIA Flag at City Hall and Steve Campbell told her it will be flown at City Hall six days a year based on the Federal Government

guidelines and the one at the Sal Guarriello Veterans' Memorial would continue to fly year around.

**12. COMMISSIONER COMMENTS/SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Commissioner Bass discussed the Dog Park Committee's next meeting and stated that they will be actively discussing other locations. Commissioner Bass also mentioned that the vigilante fitness groups should pay to run programs in City Parks.

Commissioner Saur expressed her concern about the use of the Sal Guarriello Veterans' Memorial for the One Billion Rising Event. At this point there was conversation between the Commissioners about agendizing a discussion about the appropriate use of the Memorial.

Commissioner Goldenberg discussed the Dog Park Committee and possibilities for new locations. She also mentioned the need for a skateboard park in the City. She also mentioned that something needs to be done at Plummer Park, too much time has been lost; the City needs more green space.

Commissioner Woodell also discussed the need for additional dog parks.

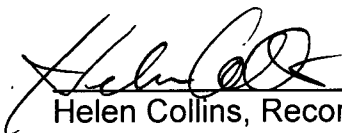
Commissioner Rorie had no comment

Commissioner Ettman stated that he agrees with Commissioner Saur's comment about the use of the Memorial. He went on to thank Mr. Campbell for taking the time and sitting down with him to go over things. Commissioner Ettman then stated that he also wants to weigh-in on the concern's about the Cooley project and he concluded by thanking the speakers in attendance.

Commissioner Anthony thanked everyone for attending and mentioned he was excited about the Sunset Project and the new flashing beacons.

**13. ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion to adjourn the Public Facilities Commission was made by Commissioner Ettman, seconded by Commissioner Woodell at 8:58 pm. to their next scheduled meeting, which will be held on Wednesday, March 12, 2014 at 6:30 p.m. in the West Hollywood Community Room at, West Hollywood Park, located at 625 N. San Vicente Boulevard.



Helen Collins, Recording Secretary