

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, July 9, 2015 @ 7:00 PM
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Topchian called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Agassi Topchian led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan took roll call.

PRESENT:

Chair Agassi Topchian, Vice Chair Gail Sanes, Commissioner Josh Kurpies, Commissioner Richard Maggio and Commissioner Stephanie Harker.

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan and Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Vice Chair Sanes to approve the agenda for the July 9, 2015 meeting. The motion was approved (5-0-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Maggio and seconded by Vice Chair Sanes to approve the minutes of the June 25, 2015 meeting as amended. The motion was approved (5-0-0).

DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan reviewed the Manager's Look Ahead calendar. Mr. Noonan announced that the annual Rent Stabilization Commission study session will take place on July 23, 2015. This meeting will be open to the public but will not be televised.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Maggio spoke regarding the 2015 Annual General Adjustment and reminded the public that the increase is .75%.

Commissioner Harker wished to publicly thank Rent Stabilization and Information Coordinator Yellena Orloff for her work on the Building Blocks educational series. Commissioner Harker commended Ms. Orloff for her knowledge and presentation skills. Commissioner Harker also

announced that the upcoming Building Blocks seminar entitled Tenants' 101 will be held on Saturday July 18th

The Commission adjourned for a brief recess to address a technical audio issue.

APPEALS:

A. D-3861 CD2

**1236 N. Flores St. #406
(Rent Reduction)**

Alison Regan, Legal Counsel to the Commission, provided a case summary and analysis of the appeal as provided in the staff report.

Representative for the Landlord James Irving was in attendance and spoke to the Commission regarding the appeal.

Tenant Megan Griffey was in attendance and spoke to the Commission regarding the appeal.

After a public discussion among the Commission regarding the appeal, a motion was made by Commissioner Kurpies to adopt Resolution 15-468 to affirm the hearing examiner's decision. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Sanes. The motion passed (5-0-0).

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Election of Chair:

Commissioner Maggio nominated Vice Chair Sanes for the position of Chair. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Harker and a roll call vote was taken. Vice Chair Sanes was unanimously named Commission Chair for the 2015 – 2016 session. Chair Sanes took this opportunity to thank Commissioner Topchian for his leadership as Chair.

B. Election of Vice Chair:

Commissioner Harker nominated Commissioner Maggio for the position of Vice Chair. The nomination was seconded by Commissioner Kurpies and a roll call vote was taken. Commissioner Maggio was unanimously named Vice Chair for the 2015 – 2016 session.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Maggio thanked Commissioner Topchian for his service as Chair and congratulated Chair Sanes on her election. He also thanked the Commission for his appointment to Vice Chair.

Commissioner Kurpies thanked Commissioner Topchian and Chair Sanes for their work on the Commission over the last year. He also announced that Assemblymember Richard Bloom will be hosting a "Summer Bash" community open house and school supply drive in Santa Monica on July 16, 2015 from 5 to 8 pm. Mr. Kurpies provided information to the public about how they could donate school supplies.

Commissioner Harker thanked Commissioner Topchian for his work as Chair and for his guidance. She also congratulated Chair Sanes on her election. Ms. Harker spoke again about the Building Blocks educational seminar series and encouraged the public to participate and to reach out to the Rent Stabilization and Housing Division if they have questions or concerns about rent stabilization and tenant/landlord issues. Ms. Harker reminded the public about the upcoming Historic Preservation event on July 22nd at Plummer Park from 6:30 to 8:30pm and invited the public to attend.

Commissioner Topchian congratulated Chair Sanes on her election to the position of Chair and Vice Chair Maggio on his election to the position of Vice Chair. He also thanked the Commissioner for the opportunity to serve as Chair over the past year. Mr. Topchian thanked staff for their support

STAFF COMMENTS:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan congratulated Chair Sanes and Vice Chair Maggio on their elections and thanked Commissioner Topchian for his service. He also reminded the Commission that the next meeting on July 23, 2015 will be the annual study session and will not be televised.

Mr. Noonan provided an update on reported violations of the Americans with Disabilities Act at the Sierra Bonita Apartments. He reported that West Hollywood Community Housing Corporation has contracted a Certified Accessibility Specialist (CASP) to review and report any accessibility issues.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on July 23, 2015 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

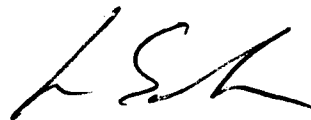
These minutes were taken and submitted by Laura Schoonover, Commission Secretary.
Adopted this 9th day of July, 2015.

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.
(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)

ATTEST:



Gail Sanes, Chair



Laura Schoonover, Secretary