



**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, APRIL 27, 2015 – 7:00 P.M.**

1. **CALL TO ORDER** Chair Charlie called the meeting to order at 7:07pm.

2. **ADMINISTER THE OATH OF OFFICE:** Mayor Pro Tempore Lauren Meister administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Commissioner Cathy Blaivas.

3. **ROLL CALL**
Present: Chair Charlie, Vice-Chair Ostergren, Blaivas, Bonacci, Allison, Torgan and Levin.

Absent: None.

STAFF PRESENT: Stephanie Reich, Acting HPC Liaison/Urban Planner; Stephanie Cisneros, HPC Intern and Sharita Ellies, Commission Secretary.

4. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
The Historic Preservation Commission is requested to approve the Agenda.
Recommendation: Approve the agenda of Monday, April 27, 2015 as amended. **Moved by Commissioner Levin, seconded by Commissioner Torgan and unanimously carried.**

5. **SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS:**

A. **ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIR:**
The Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) elected Commissioner Gail Ostergren as Vice-Chair of the Historic Preservation Commission.

6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
The Historic Preservation Commission is requested to approve the minutes of prior Historic Preservation Commission meetings.
Recommendation: Approve the meeting minutes of, March 23, 2015 as presented. **Moved by Commissioner Torgan seconded by Commissioner Levin and unanimously carried.**

7. **Public Comment:**

STEPHANIE HARKER, RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD congratulated Commissioner Blaivas on her appointment, thanked Mayor Pro Tempore Meister for her attendance and commended former Vice-Chair Paul Rice for his service. She also acknowledged the HPC for their services and the progressive changes within the City.

MICHAEL WOJTKHELEWICZ, RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD congratulated Commissioner Blaivas on her appointment and expressed concerns regarding the importance of persistence, consistence and insistence within the City's Commissions and Boards.

He requested that the City review existing neighborhoods as role models for current and future designations.

LARRY BLOCK, RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD congratulated Commissioner Blaivas on her appointment and previous work towards preservation within West Hollywood. He expressed concerns regarding the importance of preserving and protecting unique hidden treasures (designated resources) within the City.

CYNTHIA BLATT, RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD congratulated Commissioner Blaivas on her appointment and expressed concerns regarding the importance of City Council and the Commissions input relating to designation and preservation within West Hollywood.

She said notices of proposed projects were not properly forwarded to property owners which were potentially threatening to the existing structures such as The Charlie and the Schindler House.

Item 7.A. Public Comment Closed.

8. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** None.
9. **EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:** None.
10. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:** None.
11. **NEW BUSINESS:** THE COMMISSION UNANIMOUSLY VOTED TO REMOVE THE FOLLOWING ITEM UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE FROM THE AGENDA:
 - A. **1330 N. HARPER AVENUE (EL PASADERO):** Discussion item concerning correct name of Architect for the El Pasadero.
12. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**
 - A. **PRESERVATION MONTH EVENT:**

The Historic Preservation Commission and Staff discussed updates regarding prospective options for the annual 2015 Historic Preservation Month event.

CHAIR CHARLIE and Staff suggested the West Hollywood Library as the venue, and said the facility is available May 14, 2015. He said this year's proposed theme would coincide with an existing photo exhibit of historic resourced and the City's Weho@30th Year celebration.

STEPHANIE REICH, ACTING LIAISON spoke on behalf of Staff which supports the event held at the West Hollywood Library as well as the proposed theme. She said other venues such as San Vicente Inn and the Sunset Tower were taken in consideration but not logistically possible at this time.

COMMISSIONER ALLISON reiterated the Commissions previous recommendation of Great Hall/Long Hall as the events venue with a Fiesta theme discussed during April's HPC meeting.

STAFF, MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC discussed at length the previous recommendation to have this year's event at Plummer Park's historic, Great Hall/Long Hall to coincide with the City's 30 years of Cityhood as well as other potential venues and themes.

Item 12.A. Public Comment:

STEPHANIE HARKER RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD expressed concerns regarding the City's responses to requests by members of the public and the HPC.

She spoke in support of Great Hall/Long Hall as the venue for this year's event and said she can contact the great granddaughter of Senor Eugenio Plummer and request that she speak at the event.

CYNTHIA BLATT RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD expressed concerns regarding planning efforts of Staff and the Commission towards this year's HPC annual event.

She spoke concerning the origin and history of Plummer Park and said she supports the recommendation of Great Hall/Long Hall as the venue for this year's event.

VIRGINIA GILLICK RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD also expressed concerns regarding planning efforts of Staff and the Commission towards this year's HPC annual event.

She said because Plummer Park is the birth place of West Hollywood Great Hall/Long Hall would be an excellent location for the event.

MICHAEL WOJKHELEWICZ RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD also expressed concerns regarding planning efforts of Staff and the Commission regarding the annual HPC event. He too spoke in support of Great Hall/Long Hall as the venue for this year's event.

TIFFANY NITSCHKE RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF TOLUCA LAKE expressed concerns regarding the City's responses to recent requests by

members of the Commission and public as well as the City's lack of concern for existing historic buildings and the lack of designations.

She also spoke in support of Great Hall/Long Hall as the venue for this year's event.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD expressed concerns regarding the infrastructure and responsibilities of the Community Development Department and Director.

He recommended staffing a full time employee dedicated to historic preservation and possibly research/agendize an item concerning a future preservation work plan. He too supports Great Hall/Long Hall as the venue for this year's event.

Item 12.A. Public Comment Closed.

Item 12.A. Commissioner Comments:

COMMISSIONER BLAIVAS spoke in support of a sub-committee to plan the HPC event and support of Plummer Park's, Great Hall/Long Hall facility as the venue. She offered assistance with planning the event.

COMMISSIONER ALLISON spoke in support of Plummer Park's, Great Hall/Long Hall facility as the venue for this year's event and also offered assistance with planning the event.

VICE-CHAIR OSTERGREN recommended that the event be planned at a later date due to time constraints relating to May's Preservation Month and June's Pride Month events; she too offered assistance with planning the event.

STEPHANIE REICH, ACTING HPC LIAISON advised that the logistics and planning of the annual event is driven by the Commission and said Staff will assist with executing the Commissions efforts and requests.

Action: The Commission requested the item be brought back before the HPC at its next meeting with a list of available dates in July 2015, with a fiesta theme to be hosted at Great Hall/Long Hall.

Additionally, the Commission formed a subcommittee consisting of Vice-Chair Ostergren and Commissioners Blaivas and Allison to plan and organize the event. **Moved by Commissioner Levin seconded by Commissioner Allison and Motion carried by consensus of the Commission excluding one on vote by Commissioner Torgan.**

13. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

ACTING HPC LIAISON STEPHANIE REICH thanked Stephanie Cisneros for services as the HPC Intern and said this will be her last meeting due to accepting a position with the City of San Francisco.

HPC INTERN, STEPHANIE CISNEROS gave the following updates:

- HPC Preservation Month Proclamation will be presented to the Commission at the May 4th City Council Meeting.
- Commercial Survey RFP has been drafted and should be forwarded sometime in May 2015.
- Multi-Family Incentive Program is in the research process and will be brought back to the Commission sometime in August or September 2015.
- Handout - Excel spreadsheet of the seventy-eight, Pre-1920 properties surveyed in 2008. It will be brought before the commission within coming months.
- Robertson Lane Project is in the review process. A Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) is in process and should be published in June to be circulated throughout the summer.
- Social Media updates regarding HPC current and future events are now active. Tonight's meeting was tweeted on the City's Twitter account. All future activity or event requests should be submitted to the Liaison and will be forwarded to the Public Information's Department.
- Tentative Workshop scheduled for Saturday July 18, 2015 hosted by West Hollywood, Los Angeles Conservancy and West Hollywood's Preservation Alliance regarding the designation process.
- In observance of Labor Day, May's regular meeting date has been cancelled and rescheduled to Tuesday, May 26, 2015.

Item 13.A. Public Comment:

VICTOR OMELCZENKO RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD thanked Stephanie Cisneros for her services as the HPC Intern.

He expressed concerns regarding the items from Staff, requested a copy of the properties surveyed in 2008 be made available to members of the community, and requested an update regarding the previous discussion of additional work done to the Revolver Building on Santa Monica Blvd.

Item 13.A. Public Comment Closed

14. HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

COMMISSIONER TORGAN welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Blaivas to the HPC, he commented regarding the City of Los Angeles' website (historicplacesla.org). He commented about the Historic Preservation in LGBT Communities session discussed at the National

Planning Association conference, and potentially replace the survey within the City of West Hollywood to component the City's Commercial Survey Context Statement.

He asked that Staff prepare an update regarding the project at 826 Kings Road. He said the item should possibly be revisited in light of a potential negative impact to The Charlie.

COMMISSIONER BLAIVAS thanked Mayor Pro Tempore for her appointment. She thanked the Commission and Staff for their support and looks forward to working with all.

She spoke in support of Commissioner Torgan's comments regarding LGBT. She thanked the members of the public for their support and attendance.

COMMISSIONER BONACCI welcomed Commissioner Blaivas to the HPC and expressed her supports of this year's HPC event.

COMMISSIONER ALLISON welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Blaivas and said she supports previous comments by Commissioner Torgan regarding the Los Angeles website; she thanked and commended Stephanie Cisneros as well as former Vice-Chair Paul Rice for their years of service.

CHAIR CHARLIE commended members of the public for their support, feedback and attendance. He too supports the L.A. website and said he previously spoke with Staff regarding creating a similar website.

He too commended Stephanie Cisneros and former Vice-Chair Paul Rice for their years of service. He commented regarding a handout of the HPC's bylaws concerning the process of agendizing an item.

VICE-CHAIR OSTERGREN also commented regarding the City of Los Angeles' website. She too welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Blaivas, acknowledged Stephanie Cisneros and former Vice-Chair Paul Rice for their years of service.

She commented about the California Preservation Conference to be held in San Diego and the photographer from the previous annual HPC Event featuring Historic Billboards.

COMMISSIONER LEVIN also welcomed newly appointed Commissioner Blaivas to the HPC, he thanked Mayor Pro Tempore for her appointment, and he too commended former Vice-Chair Paul Rice and Stephane Cisneros for their years of service.

He requested that 1330 Harper be added to the next meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission.

15. PUBLIC COMMENT:

MICHAEL WOJTKHELEWICZ, RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD expressed concerns regarding the process and procedures of designating cultural resources.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO RESIDENT OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD thanked Staff for their service. He spoke regarding previous comments by Commissioner Torgan and welcomed Commissioner Blaivas to the Commission.

ADJOURNMENT: *The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 8:35 pm to a specially scheduled meeting of the Historic Preservation Commission Tuesday, May 26, 2015, 7:00 P.M. at Plummer Park – 7377 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, California.*

APPROVED BY A MOTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION ON THIS 26th DAY OF MAY 2015.

ATTEST:



HPC-LIAISON ANTONIO CASTILLO

VICE-CHAIR GAIL ØSTERGREN

NOTE: 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.)*