

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, August 27, 2015 @ 7:00 PM
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

Minutes

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Sanes led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PRESENT:

Chair Gail Sanes, Vice Chair Richard Maggio, Commissioner Agassi Topchian, Commissioner Stephanie Harker, and Commissioner Gregoire

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan, Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan, Information Coordinator Chris Uszler and Acting Commission Secretary Jeff Book.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Gregoire to approve the agenda for the August 27, 2015. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Maggio. The motion was approved (5-0-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Topchian and seconded by Vice Chair Maggio to approve the minutes of the August 13, 2015. 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.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Vice Chair Maggio announced that he would not be in attendance for the September 10, 2015 meeting.

APPEALS:

A. D-3990

**1145 N. Ogden Dr. #204
(Rent Decrease)**

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

No representative for the Landlord was in attendance.

Tenant Lois Bronson was in attendance and spoke to the Commission regarding the appeal.

After the Commission deliberated, a motion was made by Commissioner Topchian to adopt Resolution 15-471 affirming the hearing examiner's decision. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harker. The motion passed (5-0-0).

B. D-4010

**638 West Knoll Dr. #5
(MAR)**

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

Landlord Anna Furman and landlord representative Rafi Burkowitz were in attendance and spoke to the Commission regarding the appeal.

Tenant Sara Israel was in attendance and spoke to the Commission regarding the appeal.

After the Commission deliberated, a motion was made by Vice Chair Maggio to adopt Resolution 15-473 affirming the hearing examiner's decision. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harker. The motion passed (5-0-0).

The Commission adjourned for a brief recess

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Announcement of Interest Rate to be Paid on Security Deposits Held During Calendar Year 2015: The Commission announced that the annual security deposit interest rate for 2015 will be .00%.
- b. Housing Service Valuation Guidelines: Annual Adjustment for the Year 2015-2016: The Commission received a report on the annual adjustment to the Housing Service Guidelines for the year 2015-2016. After a discussion among the Commissioners, Commissioner Gregoire made a motion to form a sub-committee consisting of Commissioner Topchian and Vice Chair Maggio to review the Valuation Guidelines and report any recommended changes back to the Commission. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Maggio. The motion passed (5-0-0).

STAFF COMMENTS:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan clarified the schedule for upcoming Rent Stabilization Commission meetings. He also announced that the federal legislature is back in session and he provided a request for community support for HOME and Low Income Housing Tax Credit funding.

Vice Chair Maggio requested clarification on when the Relocation Benefits item will be before the City Council.

Vice Chair Maggio also requested that Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan clarify certain rules regarding evidence that is introduced at a hearing.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Cynthia Blatt of West Hollywood commented on the HOME Investment Partnership program.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on September 10, 2015 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

These minutes were taken and submitted by Laura Schoonover, Commission Secretary. Adopted this 10th day of September, 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