

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, August 25, 2016 @ 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 7:03 p.m.

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 David Gregoire, Commissioner Rob Bergstein, Commissioner Josh Kurpies, Commissioner Gail Sanes, Commissioner Stephanie Harker, and Commissioner Alexander Gurfinkel

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT:

Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization Elizabeth Savage, Rent Stabilization Information Coordinator Gloria Aviles, Administrative Specialist III Margarita Kustanovich, and Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Chair Maggio announced that the appeal for D-4115 has been removed from the agenda. A motion was made by Commissioner Sanes to approve the amended agenda for the August 25, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Gregoire. The motion was approved (7-0-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Vice Chair Gregoire made a motion to approve the minutes of the August 11, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sanes. The motion was approved (6-0-1) with Commissioner Harker abstaining.

DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT:

Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization Elizabeth Savage announced the 2016 Annual Congress will be held on October 29 and that the 2016 Ethics Training will be held on November 12.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Gurfinkel thanked staff for their work and commitment in putting together tonight's report on outreach.

ITEMS FROM THE COMMISSION

Liaison Reports:

Commissioner Harker provided a report regarding her attendance at the Disability Advisory Board meeting on August 24 and the Historic Preservation Commission meeting on August 22.

Commissioner Gurfinkel provided a report regarding his attendance at the Russian Advisory Board.

Chair Maggio mentioned that he and Commissioner Sanes had attended a recent meeting of Chairs held by the City Manager.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Director Savage gave a report to the Commission on the topic of materials in multiple languages for outreach to the community's most vulnerable members. She provided a detailed report on the multiple levels of outreach that are done to reach and provide information to constituents, particularly those whose primary language is not English.

Margarita Kustanovich spoke about her personal experiences with outreach efforts to the Russian speaking community, as did Gloria Aviles regarding outreach to the Spanish speaking community.

Commissioner Bergstein commented on the customer service that is provided to the community by staff. He asked about ways to reach out to the Russian speaking community through the internet.

Commissioner Kurpies asked if the City had any data on how many West Hollywood residents use a computer. He asked about the information provided to the community through the Public Information Office.

Commissioner Harker spoke about public safety issues and who the community can reach out to when City Hall is closed.

Commissioner Gurfinkel commented on the level of outreach being done to the community. He also suggested additional methods the City can use.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Kurpies spoke about his participation in Councilmember Horvath's recent panel discussion on the topic of housing policies in the City of West Hollywood as well as how State policies affect City policy.

Chair Maggio, who had attended the housing policy meeting, spoke about some of the items that were discussed by the panel.

Commissioner Kurpies spoke about the launch of the WeHo Pedals bike share program.

Commissioner Harker announced the next RSO Building Blocks seminar entitled Reasonable Accommodations for Disabled Tenants will be held September 20, 2016.

Commissioner Bergstein asked for information on the Movietown seniors application process.

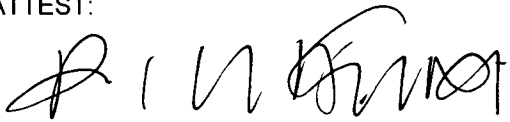
ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on September 8, 2016 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

These minutes were submitted by Laura Schoonover, Commission Secretary and approved by a motion of the Rent Stabilization Commission on this 8th day of September, 2016.

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request. You may also view a video of this meeting at <http://www.weho.org/weho-tv/other-city-meetings>
(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the audio recordings are not of commercial quality.)

ATTEST:



Richard Maggio, Chair



Commission Secretary