

**Rent Stabilization Commission  
City of West Hollywood  
Thursday, January 12, 2017 @ 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 7:01 p.m.

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

**ROLL CALL:** Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover took roll call.

**PRESENT:** Chair Richard Maggio, Vice Chair David Gregoire, Commissioner Josh Kurpies, Commissioner Gail Sanes, and Commissioner Alexander Gurfinkel

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Rob Bergstein, Commissioner Stephanie Harker

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Acting Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Gloria Aviles, Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan, Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Gregoire to approve the agenda for the January 12, 2017 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gurfinkel. The motion was approved (5-0-0).

At this time Commissioner Bergstein arrived.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made by Chair Maggio to approve the minutes of the December 8, 2016 meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sanes. The motion was approved (6-0-0).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no public comments.

**DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Acting Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Gloria Aviles reviewed the Look Ahead Calendar. The January 26 meeting will include two appeals and an update on short-term rentals and enforcement. Commissioners were presented copies of the 2015 Annual Report.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Kurpies asked if the tenant income level qualification to receive the \$60 rent rebate was determined by ordinance or adjusted annually. Acting Manager Aviles responded that the level is adjusted annually.

Chair Maggio referenced the Rent Stabilization and Housing division's summer 2017 newsletter and stated the 2016 Annual Interest on Security Deposit is 0%. Chair Maggio encouraged the public to attend the upcoming Building Blocks information seminars.

Commissioner Bergstein asked if any staff would be attending a February 15 housing incentives meeting hosted by Supervisor Sheila Kuehl. Manager Aviles answered that she did not know, but that she would follow up.

## **APPEALS:**

A. D-4151 1115 N. Hacienda Place, #103

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.

No representative for the Tenant was in attendance.

Following Commission deliberation, a motion was made by Vice Chair Gregoire to affirm in part and remand in part the hearing examiner's decision. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kurpies. The motion passed (6-0-0).

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no public comments.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Bergstein drew the Commissioners' attention to a Los Angeles Times article about the current state of housing in California and reiterated the importance of rent stabilization in the face of rising market rents.

Commissioner Kurpies informed the public that Assemblymember Richard Bloom is hosting two healthcare insurance enrollment events in Los Angeles on January 14 and January 21.

Vice Chair Gregoire commented on remarks by Governor Brown about the expense of allocating resources for the building of affordable housing and suggested a course of action be taken to encourage Sacramento to remove impediments that discourage communities from building affordable housing.

Commissioner Bergstein mentioned that the State of California had made it easier for owners to build additional units on their properties.

Commissioner Kurpies acknowledged that Assemblymember Bloom had introduced the additional unit legislation mentioned by Commission Bergstein.

Commissioner Gurfinkel wished everyone happy holidays and a happy new year in 2017.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

There were no staff comments.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:44 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on January 26, 2017 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

These minutes were submitted by Tom Trevor, Commission Secretary and approved by a motion of the Rent Stabilization Commission on this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2017.

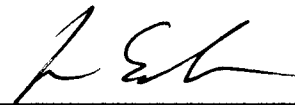
A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request. You may also view a video of this meeting at <http://www.weho.org/weho-tv/other-city-meetings>

*(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