

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, May 10, 2018 @ 7:00 PM
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Kurpies called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL: Commission Secretary Tom Trevor took roll call.

PRESENT: Commissioner Richard Maggio, Commissioner David Gregoire, Commissioner Agassi Topchian, Commissioner Garrett Charity, Vice Chair Rob Bergstein, Chair Josh Kurpies.

ABSENT: There were no absences.

STAFF PRESENT: Rent Stabilization and Housing Information Coordinator Gloria Aviles, Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan, Commission Secretary Tom Trevor.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Vice Chair Bergstein to approve the agenda for the May 10, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Charity seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Vice Chair Bergstein to approve the minutes of the April 26, 2018 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Topchian. The motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Karen O'Keefe, West Hollywood, introduced herself to the Commission as Councilmember Horvath's recent appointee to the Rent Stabilization Commission, and that she will be sworn in and attend her first commission meeting on June 14. She looks forward to serving on the commission.

DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT: Rent Stabilization and Housing Information Coordinator Gloria Aviles reviewed the Look Ahead calendar.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner Maggio said that AB 2364 (the Ellis bill) passed out of committee and is on the way to the floor for a vote.

Commissioner Gregoire acknowledged Commissioner O'Keefe's comment and shared his own experience of addressing the Commission prior to his own swearing in.

APPEAL:

D-4291

969 N. Larrabee Street, #13
(Rent Reduction)

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

Romika Dombrowski, West Hollywood, tenant, spoke on the appeal.

Following Commission deliberation, a motion was made by Commissioner Maggio to adopt Resolution 18-520, affirming-in-part and reversing-in-part the hearing examiner's decision in D-4291. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gregoire. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

AD HOC SUBCOMMITTEE REPORT: Vice Chair Bergstein reported on the community engagement event held on May 9, 2018, in the Community Meeting Room at West Hollywood Library. He stated that the meeting was well-attended by the public and commended Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan on how he successfully conducted the event. He encouraged tenants and owners to attend future community engagement meetings. He asked if printed surveys would be available at upcoming meetings.

Chair Kurpies commented on new ideas and questions that were raised at the community meeting and encouraged the public to fill out the online surveys available at the City's website. He shared that both he and Vice Chair Bergstein had participated in outreach-related conference calls with Manager Noonan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner Topchian made an inquiry regarding habitability issues at 1222 N. Fairfax Avenue.

STAFF COMMENTS: Legal Counsel Regan spoke about AB 2364 and thanked Assemblymember Richard Bloom. She encouraged the public to contact their assemblymember to vote "aye" on this bill.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. on June 14, 2018 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 14th day of June 2018.

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:



Josh Kurpies, Chair



Commission Secretary