

MINUTES
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
PUBLIC FACILITIES, RECREATION, AND INFRASTRUCTURE COMMISSION

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2024
6:30 P.M.

CITY HALL COMMUNITY MEETING ROOM, 1ST FLOOR
8300 SANTA MONICA BOULEVARD
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA 90069

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission acknowledges that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh Peoples. (pronounced “Keech”)

1. CALL TO ORDER – Vice Chair Karliss called the meeting to order at 6:31 p.m.
 - A. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Read by Vice Chair Karliss.
 - B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Commissioner Ragno (he/him);
Commissioner Krishna (she/her);
Commissioner Jackson (she/her);
Commissioner Mason (he/him);
Commissioner Payton (she/her); and
Vice Chair Karliss.

ABSENT: None.

ALSO PRESENT: Helen Collins, Facilities and Field Services
Division Manager; Debbie Gonzalez,
Administrative Coordinator; Stephanie
Martinez, Recreation Services Manager;
Michael Gasca, Recreation Supervisor; Dana
AlHaddad, Recreation Coordinator; Andrea
Yanez, Recreation Coordinator; Shane
Kalminski, Recreation Leader I; Brian League,
Property Development Manager; and Alicen
Bartle, Project Development Administrator.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE – Led by Commissioner Ragno.
3. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

ACTION: Approve the July 10, 2024, Agenda with the following changes; Move

item 9.D. to Consent Calendar (6.A); and move the Proclamation from Items from Staff to Item 5, Public Comment. **Motion by Commissioner Payton, seconded by Commissioner Krishna, and approved unanimously.**

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ragno – Y
Commissioner Payton – Y
Commissioner Krishna – Y
Commissioner Jackson – Y
Commissioner Mason – Y
Vice Chair Karliss – Y

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

ACTION: Approve the minutes of the prior Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission meeting dated June 12, 2024. **Motion by Commissioner Krishna, seconded by Commissioner Ragno, and approved with one abstention noted below.**

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ragno – Y
Commissioner Payton – Y
Commissioner Krishna – Y
Commissioner Jackson – Y
Commissioner Mason – Y
Vice Chair Karliss – ABSTAIN

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Yola Dore, WEST HOLLYWOOD, representative of the Disabilities Advisory Board announced that the nominations for the Disability Service Awards have opened. Additionally, Yola expressed safety concerns with the lack of lighting at Plummer Park.

Susan Goldman, BEVERLY HILLS, expressed concerns with the reservation system for the Aquatics and Recreation Center pool. Susan also expressed concern with women being able to swim at the pool safely.

Eileen O'Meara, WEST HOLLYWOOD, submitted an e-comment.

The Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission presented a Proclamation to the Recreation Services Division proclaiming July as Park and Recreation month in the City of West Hollywood.

Recreation staff accepted the proclamation and shared a brief video highlighting the Recreation programs and events.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

A. PLUMMER PARK KIOSKS

SUBJECT: The Commission will receive an update on the Plummer Park Kiosks.

This item was approved as part of the Approval of the Agenda.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR

SUBJECT: The Commission will nominate and elect a new Chair and Vice Chair.

Helen Collins opened the nominations for the election of Chair.

Commissioner Jackson nominated Vice Chair Karliss for Chair.

Helen Collins closed the nominations for Chair.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ragno – Y

Commissioner Payton – Y

Commissioner Krishna – Y

Commissioner Jackson – Y

Commissioner Mason – Y

Vice Chair Karliss is elected as the new Chair of the Commission.

Helen Collins opened the nominations for the election of Vice Chair.

Commissioner Ragno nominated Commissioner Krishna.

Vice Chair Karliss nominated Commissioner Payton.

Helen Collins closed the nominations for Vice Chair.

Roll Call Vote for Commissioner Krishna for Vice Chair:

Commissioner Ragno – Y

Commissioner Payton – N

Commissioner Krishna – N

Commissioner Jackson – N

Commissioner Mason – N

Vice Chair Karliss – N

Roll Call Vote for Commissioner Payton for Vice Chair:

Commissioner Ragno – N

Commissioner Payton – Y

Commissioner Krishna – Y

Commissioner Jackson – Y

Commissioner Mason – Y

Vice Chair Karliss – Y

Commissioner Payton is elected as the new Vice Chair of the Commission.

B. REVIEW & DISCUSS THE COMMISSION'S EXPANDED PURVIEW AFTER ONE YEAR

SUBJECT: The Commission will review and discuss its expanded purview after one year of application.

Staff presented the item to the Commission and opened it up for discussion.

Commissioner Mason asked for clarification regarding where parking operation concerns should be directed to. Staff provided a response.

Commissioner Payton asked for clarification on what infrastructure includes. Staff provided examples.

Commissioner Krishna asked a clarifying question about public right of way. Staff provided a response.

Commissioner Ragno asked a clarifying question regarding the Commission's involvement with vendor contracts. Staff provided a response.

ACTION: Approve the Commission's purview as it stands and ask staff to provide clarification on who the public can go to with any parking operation concerns. **Motion by Commissioner Mason, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, and approved unanimously.**

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Ragno – Y

Commissioner Payton – Y

Commissioner Krishna – Y

Commissioner Jackson – Y

Commissioner Mason – Y

Vice Chair Karliss – Y

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. FEEDBACK ON TENNIS & PICKLEBALL OPERATIONS

SUBJECT: The Commission has a standing agenda item to receive feedback from the public on the City's tennis and pickleball operations.

Staff announced the item and opened it up to the public to provide

feedback.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Carolyn Cohen, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of Tennacity.

Tom Kaminsky, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of Tennacity.

David Flate, LOS ANGELES, spoke in support of Tennacity.

Max Oswald, WEST HOLLYWOOD, introduced himself as Tennacity staff and welcomed the public to come to them with any questions or concerns.

ACTION: Receive Feedback from the Public.

B. STRATEGY FOR LEASING OF CITY-OWNED REAL PROPERTY

SUBJECT: The Commission will receive an overview of City-owned facilities that could potentially be leased to tenants and a recommended strategy for leasing City-owned real property.

Staff shared a presentation and provided information as outlined in the staff report.

Commissioner Krishna asked how staff gets notified of public's interest in renting City-owned property. Staff provided a response.

Commissioner Payton inquired about the available space at the Werle Building and the space being occupied by Block by Block. Staff provided information regarding both spaces.

Vice Chair Karliss commented on the Café Space adjacent to Council Chambers. He spoke against the current use of the space by Block by Block and commented that the venue could be better utilized by a food or coffee vendor.

ACTION: Receive and provide feedback.

C. UPDATES - LOCKER ROOM SEATING AND WATER POLO NETS AT THE AQUATIC AND RECREATION CENTER

SUBJECT: The Commission will receive an update on items brought before them regarding seating in the locker rooms and water polo nets at the Aquatics and Recreation Center.

Staff presented the item and provided an update on the locker room seating and water polo nets.

Commissioner Mason asked if adding the benches is worth the loss of the

lockers. Staff provided a response.

Commissioner Krishna inquired about the design and occupancy of the locker room. Staff provided a response.

Commissioner Jackson inquired about the usage of the locker room and the visibility issue in the men's restroom. Staff provided a response.

Commissioner Ragno commented about the request for hooks to be installed in the locker rooms.

Vice Chair Karliss thanked staff.

ACTION: Receive and provide feedback.

D. PLUMMER PARK KIOSKS

SUBJECT: The Commission will receive an update on the Plummer Park Kiosks.

ACTION: This item was moved to the Consent Calendar.

10. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR – None.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff provided an update on the budget recommendations made by the Commission.

Staff shared about the upcoming WeHo 40 Community Engagement Workshop.

Staff provided an update on Recreation programming and events.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Andrew Solomon, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed gratitude for the positive experience he had during his tenure with the Commission. He thanked the staff and the Commissioners.

13. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS & SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

LOOK AHEAD CALENDAR FOR AGENDA PREP & COMMISSION ITEMS TRACKER

Added a Plummer Park Lighting item to the Look Ahead Calendar. Approved by consensus.

Commissioner Payton inquired about the lap swim schedule. Staff provided an

update.

Commissioner Mason commented on the lap swim schedule concerns. He likes the new trash cans on Melrose Ave. He is happy to see his former students now involved in the City's Recreation programs. Mason expressed interest in having security presence near Kings Road Park. Staff will relay this information to Public Safety.

Commissioner Jackson asked about the trees that were illegally cut in the City. Staff provided information about the incident. Jackson attended Music in the Park event. Lastly, she asked about the Ad Hoc Committee meetings. Staff shared that they will begin to meet in September and October.

Commissioner Krishna visited the community gardens. She asked if staff is monitoring usage and asked about reopening the wait list. Additionally, she commented on the lighting in the community garden. Staff replied to the inquiries.

Commissioner Payton thanked staff and congratulated Vice Chair Karliss. She shared that the Fountain Avenue Streetscape Steering Committee is making progress. She inquired about the usage of the cooling centers at Plummer Park. Staff provided a response.

Commissioner Ragno thanked staff and shared about a fire that occurred in an abandoned building on Fairfax Ave.

Vice Chair Karliss commended Andrew Solomon. Karliss shared about his attendance at the Pride parade and thanked Facilities staff for their efforts. He visited the community garden and made positive remarks about the planter beds. Karliss asked for an update on the West Hollywood Park and Dog Park shades and the Weaver's Walk. Staff provided an update on both items.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission meeting adjourned at 8:54 p.m. to its next regular meeting on Wednesday, August 14, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall Community Meeting Room, 1st Floor, 8300 Santa Monica Boulevard, West Hollywood, CA 90069.

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Debbie Gonzalez

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Debbie Gonzalez, Recording Secretary

Signed by:

Richard Karliss

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Richard Karliss, Chair