

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

**SPECIAL MEETING
SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2024
9:00 A.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 – Chair Karliss called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
 - A. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT – Read by Chair Karliss.
 - B. ROLL CALL

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

ABSENT: Commissioner Mason (he/him).

ALSO PRESENT: Helen Collins, Facilities and Field Services
Division Manager (she/her); Erin Hamant,
Senior Administrative Analyst (she/her); Scott
Smith, Landscape Maintenance
Superintendent (he/him); Kevin Trudeau,
Facilities Maintenance Superintendent
(he/him); and Stephanie Martinez, Recreation
Services Division Manager (she/her).

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

ACTION: Approved the September 14, 2024, Agenda. **Motion by
Commissioner Ragno, seconded by Vice Chair Payton, and approved**

unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

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

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

ACTION: Approved the minutes of the prior Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission meeting dated August 14, 2024. **Motion by Commissioner Krishna, seconded by Commissioner Jackson, and approved unanimously.**

Roll Call Vote:

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

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kevin Burton, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about the important role the West Hollywood Cooling Center at Plummer Park performs especially in the recent heat wave event and asked staff if it would be possible to extend hours past 5:00 p.m. because the heat impacts are still active for residents without AC at this time.

Catherine Eng, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about the West Hollywood Cooling Center at Plummer Park and asked staff if the no pet policy could be changed because residents who may be interested in using the Cooling Center do not want to leave their pets at home in the heat.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR – None.

7. PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

8. NEW BUSINESS

A. ANNUAL TOUR OF PUBLIC FACILITIES

- William S. Hart Park & Dog Park, 8341 De Longpre Avenue

- Crescent Heights Triangles & Matthew Shepard Memorial, intersection of Crescent Heights Boulevard & Santa Monica Boulevard
- Sal Guarriello Veterans' Memorial Fountain, 8441 Santa Monica Boulevard
- Werle Building, 626 Robertson Boulevard
- Log Cabin, 621 N. Robertson Boulevard
- Kings Road Park, 1000 N. Kings Road
- Return to City Hall Automated Parking Structure

The Commission recessed its meeting at 9:10 a.m. to depart from the City Hall Automated Parking Structure for its Annual Tour of Public Facilities, returning at 11:00 a.m. and resumed the meeting.

9. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

A. **PLAQUE REQUEST IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SAL GUARRIELLO VETERANS' MEMORIAL**

SUBJECT: The Commission will review a plaque request in recognition of the 20th anniversary of the Sal Guarriello Veterans' Memorial and reach a final determination on if the City should move forward with fabrication and installation of the proposed plaque, in accordance with the City's Plaques Policy Guidelines.

Staff provided background on the plaque request and reviewed the proposed fabrication and installation details in response to the plaque request: wording, size, material, font color, and placement location.

Commissioner Jackson expressed concern that a bronze plaque could be targeted and stolen shared her preferences for the plaque to be in a raised placement instead of lying flat.

Commissioner Krishna asked if the plaque can be bigger in size.

Commissioner Rogers asked if more text could be added to explain the history of the site.

Commissioner Ragno favored bronze for the plaque material because a majority of the plaques he saw on the City facilities tour are bronze.

Vice Chair Payton asked if other bronze memorials in the city have been stolen. Staff shared that bronze theft is not a current problem in the city.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Andy Harland, WEST HOLLYWOOD, provided historical background about the Sal Guarriello Veterans' Memorial. He affirmed that a permanent plaque should be bestowed in honor of the Memorial's 20th Anniversary

and the community members who helped to establish the Memorial, including himself and others.

Victor Omelczenko, WEST HOLLYWOOD, shared his preference for a more generic and general name for the Memorial.

Chair Karliss thanked the members of the public for their comments. The Commission proceeded to discuss the item.

Commissioner Ragno preferred bronze and agreed that a tall pedestal and placement above the ground is his preference. He also liked how substantial the memorials are at the Crescent Heights Triangles.

Commissioner Rogers preferred bronze and making the plaque larger.

Commissioner Krishna preferred the placement to be on the side/shield portion of the structure, to add additional information on the plaque, and does not have a preference between the bronze or aluminum plaque materials.

Staff suggested a quote could be added to the plaque language.

Commissioner Jackson changed her preference to bronze and in a raised position.

Vice Chair Payton asked staff if anyone places things on top of the Memorial for events. Staff confirmed that this is not a concern.

Chair Karliss preferred bronze, making the plaque larger, and in a raised position.

ACTION: Approve the plaque request fabrication and installation including the proposed wording, in a larger size of at least 8"x10", in bronze, and on a raised wedge at the new proposed location which is located on top and centered on the most western base panel of the shields and flag structure.

Motion by Chair Karliss, seconded by Commissioner Ragno, and approved unanimously.

Roll Call Vote:

Commissioner Rogers – Y

Commissioner Ragno – Y

Commissioner Krishna – Y

Commissioner Jackson – Y

Vice Chair Payton – Y

Chair Karliss – Y

B. 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.

ACTION: No public comments were received by the Commission.

10. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR – None.

11. ITEMS FROM STAFF

Staff will place an item on the next meeting agenda for the Commission to share and discuss their thoughts from today's tour.

Staff provided an update on active and upcoming facilities projects in the City's parks, buildings, and public right-of-way. Construction commenced for the AIDS Monument Project at West Hollywood Park.

Staff provided an update on the City's recreation events and programs. There are a few community garden plots unallocated; the waiting list has been exhausted.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Victor Omelczenko, WEST HOLLYWOOD, encouraged everyone to attend the LA Climate Week booths throughout the County and spoke about how we produce our food, the dangerousness of artificial turf, and the CARB grant for protected bike lanes on Fountain Avenue.

Eileen O'Meara, WEST HOLLYWOOD, submitted an e-comment about the City's swimming lane allocation policy sharing concerns she and other community members have regarding available lanes for public lap swimming and swim team use/general public use at the Aquatic and Recreation Center.

13. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS & SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

LOOK AHEAD CALENDAR FOR AGENDA PREP & COMMISSION ITEMS TRACKER

Commissioner Krishna asked staff questions about the West Hollywood Cooling Center at Plummer Park. Staff explained that the hours of operation at the Cooling Center are the same hours that the Plummer Park Community Center is open, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and there are on average approximately 5-8 users using the Cooling Center.

Commissioner Rogers attended and enjoyed the WeHo Rec Expo event.

Chair Karliss attended the community garden opening event at Plummer Park and shared his contentment for the planned programming at the garden like Master Gardener classes.

14. ADJOURNMENT

The Public Facilities, Recreation, and Infrastructure Commission meeting adjourned at 12:18 p.m. to its next meeting, a televised special meeting on Wednesday, October 9, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. at West Hollywood City Council Chambers, 625 N. San Vicente Blvd., West Hollywood, CA 90069.

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Erin Hamant

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Erin Hamant, Acting Recording Secretary

Signed by:

Richard Karliss

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Richard Karliss, Chair