

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Chair: Susan Swan
Vice Chair: Don Seligman
Secretary: Kris Sullivan



BOARD MEMBERS:

Lynn Brown Laura Howe
Chip Clements Ted Johnson
Ron Deutsch Chris Laib
Barbara Ferris Susan Lee
Lucinda Phillips

Griffith Park Advisory Board
Thursday, April 28 6:30pm
Griffith Park Visitor's Center Auditorium
4730 Crystal Springs Drive L.A., CA, 90027

DRAFT MINUTES

The meeting called to order at 6:40 PM.

Item 1. Roll Call

Board Members Present: Susan Swan, Kris Sullivan, Chip Clements, Ron Deutsch, Lucinda Phillips, Lynn Brown, Ted Johnson, Chris Laib.
Excused: Don Seligman, Laura Howe, Barbara Ferris. Absent: Susan Lee

Item 2. Approval of Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes was made by Lynn and seconded by Lucinda. Chris abstained due to his absence. The motion passed.

Item 3. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

Friends of Griffith Park is sponsoring a special bird event on May 7.

Item 4. Comments from any City, County, State or Federal representatives in attendance.

Catherine Landers stated that a traffic study was made during Spring Break on both weekdays and weekends and that there will be another one done in May for comparison.

Joe mentioned that a new vendor will be awarded the Pony Ride contract at the May 4 Recreation and Parks Commission meeting. The previous concessionaire of 30 years had opted not to bid.

Joe announced that the signs have been installed and thanked the GPAB Ad Hoc Chair Laura Howe, Friends of Griffith Park, Ranger Adam, CD4 and the Sierra Club for all their help in making this happen. The signage for the rest of the Park is still in progress.

5. Possible update regarding Griffith Park Mobility Plan MND

Joe reported that the Greek Theater is open and that the shuttle system using Commonwealth is a success. He noted that parking is \$10 and the shuttle is free.

6 Friends of Griffith Park presentation and updates, including but not limited to:

- Summary of Griffith Park scientific surveys and studies
- Proposed Ford Theatre trails and Griffith Park wildlife considerations

Gerry Hans aired a powerpoint presentation prepared by the FOGP with information about the proposed Ford Theatre expansion and trails, and the potential impact on wildlife corridors. Also included was a discussion regarding the concept of connectivity of the wild lands of Ca-huenga Pass.

A motion was made by Susan and seconded by Chris to support further discussion with the Ford Theater Foundation and the County regarding ideas to reduce connectivity, habitat, and wildlife-adverse impacts which may result from the trail portion of the Ford Theater project. The motion passed unanimously.

Gerry Hans also presented the results of scientific studies funded by the Friends of Griffith Park regarding the deaths of animals in Griffith Park that were caused by rodenticides.

7. Discussion and update on the use of rodenticide in Griffith Park and by the Concessionaires, possibly including but not limited to the report that was to have been presented at the Arts-Parks-River City Council Committee

Joe stated that the Park's pesticide trainers are charged with overseeing the concessionaires. The concessionaires use the same kind of rodenticides that the Park does. He said that the Forest Division will investigate the traps at the Observatory. The Park is no longer using 2nd generation rodenticides but occasionally uses 1st generation when there are lots of rodents. He passed out a document of the Park's policy regarding pesticides.

8. Discussion of mission of RAP Partnership division, potential impact on Griffith Park (no action at this time)

Joe explained that the Partnership Division is designed to fill gaps in funding that the Park cannot fill. He gave examples such as a Universal donation of \$200,000 for a playground and also a non-profit nursery using the Park's facilities. Discussion centered around the controversial proposed basketball court in Runyon Canyon and the possibility that such an agreement and structure might occur in Griffith Park. The Board stated its concern regarding appropriate notification and outreach to the GPAB in its role as advisory to the RAP Commission, and that there be a mechanism and a process implemented regarding commercial partnerships in the park and that the Board be kept in the loop from the start about such partnerships. Susan stated that there will be a permanent item on the agenda regarding any upcoming partnerships. Catherine Landers of CD 4 noted that Councilman Ryu requested a halt to the Runyon Canyon Park basketball court project so that there would be more outreach to the public.

9. Old/Ongoing Business

It was noted that Susan Lee had not responded to monthly meeting attendance requests, and that her absences caused a concern that a quorum might not be met.

Joe announced that the Wildlife Plan has been officially adopted.

10. New/Future Business

It was announced that Neighborhood Council Elections are coming up.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.