

Chair: Susan Swan Vice Chair: Don Seligman Secretary: Kris Sullivan
Chip Clements Ron Deutsch Barbara Ferris
Laura Howe Ted Johnson Chris Laib Lucinda Phillips

Griffith Park Advisory Board

Minutes

Thursday August 25th, 6:30pm

**Griffith Park Visitor's Center Auditorium
4730 Crystal Springs Drive L.A., CA, 90027**

1. Roll Call

Susan, Don, Chip, Laura, Ted, and Lucinda present. Chris @ 7:20pm
Ron and Kris are excused
Barbara Ferris has resigned from Board

2. Approval of Minutes

More clarification necessary of minutes from last meeting. Don and Laura regarding item #5 to reflect the overall tone of the GPAB board members which was:

- 1) Judith Kiefer gave a totally unsatisfactory account of the Commonwealth Nursery Plan. No reasons for why they are trying to obtain EIR if there is no new construction planned.
- 2) There are large discrepancies between what was presented and the much larger scope of the project given to the LFIA board members during a tour given months ago and what was presented at both LVNOC meetings.
- 3) Failure of the LAPF to clarify with the GPAB and the community their intentions to establish their permanent offices at the nursery, which is contrary to all former assurances that this would not happen.
- 4) The sense of the GPAB was that the presentation was very misleading and incomplete, with a sense that important aspects were being withheld from the GPAB.

Item #6 Laura wanted to clarify that she had put forward a motion to reflect supporting the MND on three major points:

The Griffith Park Advisory Board supports the implementation of the Griffith Park Traffic Enhancement Plan, including:

- 1) Developing East and West Observatory Roads as a one-way loop;
- 2) Installation of pay stations for parking at the Observatory areas of the park; and
- 3) Use of the parking income to increase the number and frequency of the DASH buses connecting to the Observatory pad.

Item #8

There was great concern for the landscaping being proposed under the Deodar Trees at entrance to GP on Crystal Springs Dr.

Motion to approve as amended by Susan and seconded by
Vote 5 yes 1 abstention (Chip)

3. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

Carol Brusha- Thursday Oct. 13 FOGP lecture on Bee's at the Ranger Station

Gerry Hans- Repairing pedestrian bridge in Fern Dell is in the works.

Also is has great concerns about people being able to get up and walk around at the Haunted Hayride event. Concerns of fire danger.

Sept. 25th Fund raiser for FOGP LA NORDIC NOIR Danish composure and film clips.

Kathryn Louyse – can letters being presented at the board be seen by the public prior to meeting?

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

Catherine Landers CD4 – Copy of Annual Report is ready.

Adriana Smith – new schedule for the Greek available.

Joe S. Wanted to recognize Jeff Brown for personally restoring the Merry –go-round. Gave him certificate from City.

5. Update regarding the Commonwealth Nursery Project: letter from Judith Kieffer.

Letter to be sent to LAPF, the Park Commissioners and Mike Shull.

Don wrote a strongly worded letter regarding concerns the LAPF plans are in direct contrast to the GP Vision Plan. There was no public out reach or notification of putting the LAPF offices in Commonwealth. There seems to be other plans underway besides the Prop K plan.

Motion to approve letter by Don and seconded by Laura
Unanimous approval by Board.

6. Motion to approve letter of support for Griffith Observatory Traffic Enhancement Plan.

7. Motion to approve letter to Councilmember Ryu and LADOT regarding traffic issues on Los Feliz Blvd related to Observatory traffic

After discussion by the Board it was decided to merge items #6 and #7 together to form one letter which was a letter Don Seligman wrote regarding approving the MND on 3 major points and recommending that CD4 and DOT do something about the traffic on Los Feliz which has never been properly dealt with.

Motion to approve letter by Don and seconded by Lucinda
Unanimous approval by Board.

8. Griffith Park 120th Birthday event proposed for December

The Board liked the idea of holding a public party in Travel Town in Dec. to celebrate. Board appointed Kris and Ron to head it up.

9. Discussion and possible action on removal of abandoned water tank 116 and the processes for future abandon water tank removal.

Presented by Gerry Hans

He gave a chart which will be included in Minutes that lists all the water tanks and their status. RAP is ultimately responsible for their removal and upkeep. It is felt that they got stuck with them and that DWP should take some responsibility. FOGP has set aside money for the removal of one tank. It will cost about \$100,000 to remove the 5 most hazardous tanks.

FOGP would like to request in exchange for removing the tanks they would like RAP to establish a real policy for dealing with the tanks in future.

Motion to support removal process presented by FOGP by Chris and seconded by Lucinda
Unanimous approval by Board.

Joe S. will come back to us next month with update.

10. Letters to DWP and RAP urging upkeep on the damaged water pipes and pumps that need to be repaired

Laura presented letter of concern regarding the loss of trees in GP and what can be done to save some of them. She presented concerns of broken water mains and coordination of watering in key areas of the park.

She would like to meet with RAP and see what can be done. The Board recommended there be a protocol and Laura work up some bullet points and come back to the Board next month to discuss possibilities.

11. Request to DWP to install new water fountains including but not limited to 3 Mile Tree

Board is not opposed but would like DWP to adhere to Vision Plan and to come to Board with any plans.

Board discussed installation of water fountains at 3-Mile Tree and at the top of Mt Lee, Chris to write letter and invite the DWP to a GPAB meeting.

12. Update regarding finished Historic Elements manuscript, next steps

Don has completed his Historic Elements booklet. Yay!

Where do we go from here with report? Should we publish? Should we use as a fundraiser? Request that the Board be sent a PDF. Don is open to possibilities.

The Board appreciates what a great undertaking and accomplishment.

13. Update re GPAB Board seats, vacancies

Joe says he's sorry if he sounded too strict about reapplying and encourages all Board members to stay. He also encourages any people present to apply. Applications are now open.

14. Board Member comments on items not on the Agenda

15. Old/Ongoing Business

16. New/Future Business

ADJOURNMENT 8:55pm