

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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



BOARD MEMBERS:

Chip Clements Laura Howe
Ron Deutsch Sheila Irani
Lucinda Phillips Chris Laib
Greg Bertens Jamie Robertson

Griffith Park Advisory Board
DRAFT MINUTES
THURSDAY, JULY 27th, 2017, 6:30pm
Griffith Park Visitor's Center Auditorium
4730 Crystal Springs Drive L.A.CA, 90027

Welcome and Introductions

1. Roll Call

Present: Susan, Don, Kris, Sheila, Ron, Jamie, Greg, Lucinda, Chris
Absent: Chip, Laura
CD4: Catherine Landers
GP: Joe Salaices, Tracy James

2. Approval of Minutes

Correction for Item 7: The Observatory will be (instead if is now) shuttling staff from Commonwealth Nursery....
Next Meeting July 27 (instead of June).
Minutes approved 7 - 0, Lucinda and Kris abstained due to absence.

3. Comments from any City, County, State or Federal representatives in attendance (5 minutes.)

Catherine announced that the Bureau of Engineering is working on a survey to find out the exact boundaries of public and private land at the top of Beachwood Drive and along Dirt Mulholland. She stated that a survey of residents from CD4 has been published and that data collection will be completed by Labor Day. The scope of the Traffic study is to look at the western areas of the park that are most impacted by traffic and getting to the Hollywood Sign.

4. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (2 minutes each)

Marian Dodge of the Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight presented information about an Los Angeles City Sign Ordinance that may allow for digital signs in City parks. Susan stated that the issue will be placed on the August GPAB Agenda.

Emmy Goldknopf showed photos of graffiti in the Park including offensive Nazi symbols on a Park bathroom. She stated that the Rangers immediately removed the graffiti. Joe announced that GP now has a full-time graffiti removal employee.

Joe responded to a comment about infrequent Dash buses at the Greek by saying that another circulating bus will be added to the Observatory route at night. He also said that the Park is planning to install blinking crosswalks at the Greek.

Former Councilmember Tom LaBonge introduced Jerry Maldonado, Councilman of the Gabrielino-Tongva tribe. Mr. Maldonado brought up the topic of the proposed plaque for Fern Dell and that the project has been stalled. Joe noted that the project had been an item at the Board of Commissioners and that he would check into the project's progress at RAP. It was noted that GPAB sent a letter in support of the project in February, 2015.

Mr. LaBonge also announced that there is a documentary about Amir's garden. He brought several volunteers for the Park and suggested that the Park hold a public recognition day for all Park volunteers. He presented a list of Griffith Park improvements for the next 10 year period.

5. RAP Announcements and/or Reports from Griffith Park Superintendent Joe Salaires

In the interest of creating more access points into the park that would not impact neighborhoods, Joe suggested the idea of creating parking lots at the Headworks Reservoir and starting up shuttles from there into the Park.

6. The Sirens - Carmen Zella from Now Art LA. Request for support.

Tracy stated that Carmen Zella will be in the Autry to set up programs that will probably start in Spring, 2018. Chris moved and Lucinda seconded the motion to support Now Art LA in principal if the light and noise levels are appropriate for our park. The motion passed 8 to 1. Susan will write a letter in support to CD4, copied to Tracy James.

7. Request for support for Floral Mural on playground wall at Lake Hollywood Park

Sophie Pleshette, a local artist, presented her drawings for the proposed floral mural. Sheila noted that HUNC has provided funds for labor and materials. Sheila moved and Kris seconded the motion to support the project. The motion passed unanimously.

8. Update from Ad Hoc committee regarding pedestrian access via the Beachwood Gate to the Hollyridge Trail and opportunities for trail access

Chris and Kris presented updated information on the access issue at the Beachwood Gate. It was announced that HUNC voted at their last meeting 9 to 1 in support of GPAB's Alternative Access to the Hollyridge Trail from Beachwood Drive. There is a lawsuit to open access to Griffith Park from the top of Beachwood. Joe responded to questions about a chain closing the gate from egress and said that it was put up by the Ranch in conversation with the City. Kris noted that there has been no response from any of the City entities to the GPAB letter detailing the Alternative Access Proposal. It was noted that the Gate at the top of Beachwood was paid for from public funds and now in effect is private. Ron moved and Lucinda seconded a motion to send a letter to Sunset Ranch to cease and desist locking the Beachwood gate for egress and informing park users that the gate is closed. The motion passed unanimously.

A discussion about encroachments on Griffith Park land followed.

9. Update on state of trees within Park and on dead tree removal on golf courses.

Tracy presented a report on the state of trees in the park. She noted that tree planting has been taking place and that the new trees are thriving. She stated that Laura Howe has done a great job of getting volunteers to plant trees.

Chris suggested that fundraising could be set up to help pay for dead tree removal.

10. Announcements/Updates from GPAB Liaisons or Ad Hoc Committees not on the Agenda (3 minutes each)

No reports from liaisons.

Discussion followed after Greg presented the Ad Hoc Communications Committee report.

The issue was how GPAB can best promote our goals using an online presence and getting input from the public.

11. Board Member announcements on items not on the Agenda (2 minutes each)

There will be a week-long event for P22 Day on October 22 with Park Center celebrations.

12. Old/Ongoing Business

Chris stated that he and Chip met with the Haunted Hayride people and Chris passed out a summary of the meeting.

13. New/Future Business

Action items

Susan will put the Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight on the August Agenda.

Letter of Support to CD4 copied to Tracy for the Now Art LA Project

Letter of Support for the Lake Hollywood Park Mural Project

Letter to Sunset Ranch from GPAB about locking the egress gate and telling the public that the gate is closed

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM

Next meeting Thursday, August 24, 2017