

Griffith Park Advisory Board

Minutes – November 21, 2019, 6:30 PM

1. Roll Call: Ron Deutsch, Gene Gilbert, Sheila Irani absent.
2. Approval: Minutes approved.
3. Special Guests:
4. General Public Comment:
5. Informational Reports and Presentations:
 - A. Discussion on information requested by Stantec on the Ariel Transit System (ATS) for Griffith Park.
 - Jason Greenwald, on subcommittee to draft summary of the Board's responses to Stantec's questionnaire on the feasibility study, along with Mike Hain, Sheila Irani, Bryan Mercke, and Lucinda Phillips, presents subcommittee's draft letter and summary of questionnaire responses. The letter clarifies the Board's position that it cannot make a formal judgment on whether to support an ATS based on the information provided. A general summary of individual Board members' concerns and areas of focus for the study, including concerns on: traffic, transportation, environmental concerns, how the ATS will impact the natural beauty of the park, the financial feasibility and impact of the ATS, and how other measures may address the same problems that the ATS is attempting to fix. Further affixed to the subcommittee's letter were eight individual GPAB responses to Stantec's questionnaire.
 - Public Comment: Community members present expressed deep concern about the proposed ATS, including concerns that it will destroy the beauty of Griffith Park, concerns that there are other ways to address the problems the ATS is attempting to fix, questioned how it will be implemented equitably, questioned whether this would actually bring revenue to the park, questioned seemingly sly rebranding as a "tram".
 - Motion made to send the subcommittee's letter, summary, responses, and vision plan to Stantec, City Councilmember Hon. David Ryu, General

Manager of Recreation and Parks Mike Shull, and Superintendent Joe Salaices. Motion passes.

- B. Discussion on final draft of recommendations to be considered in mitigating filming in sensitive areas of Griffith Park.
- Laura Howe and Lucinda Phillips, part of the filming impact subcommittee, presented filming guidelines to be given to park film office, film crews, location scouts, and film monitors to supplement existing guidelines. These supplemental guidelines will preserve the healthy wildlife and ecosystems of Griffith Park. Further, a map was presented which detailed areas of the park where filming is recommended, where night filming is discouraged, where sensitive habitats or restoration exists within the park, and where daytime and nighttime sound sensitive areas are located. The subcommittee proposes including the guidelines in the existing film office guidelines and utilizing the map for the film office to use to regulate filming within certain areas of the park.
 - Additional action items for filming guidelines: Prepare cover letter and include scientific citations for impact of light and sound pollution on wildlife. The inclusion of penalties for breaching the guidelines must be handled by the City.
 - Public Comment: Gerry, of Friends of Griffith Park, discusses the creation of the map and the criteria for placing restricted areas within the map, such as sensitive species within the park that may be trampled, have their nesting disturbed by crews, etc.
 - Motion made to generate cover letter of the presented packet to send to Rec. and Parks, Rec. and Parks maintenance with the inclusion of additional scientific citations urging Rec. and Parks to accept recommendations and guidelines. Motion passes.
- C. Discussing cancelling the December 21, 2019 meeting due to upcoming holiday. Next meeting would then take place on Thursday, January 23, 2020.
- Motion to cancel December meeting made, and passed.
- D. Ad Hoc Reports:

- Trail restoration – Hikes and evaluations are pending. A trail maintenance volunteer task force is planning a hike to evaluate and scout the trails.
- Communications – Updated board on success of the Harvest Festival, in which Board members attended, handed out snacks to guests, handed out trail maps, and informed guests of the new Park Line Shuttle. A logo was presented for the Board for potential merchandising.

E. Superintendent Report:

- Fern Dell Bridge to be completed within the week.
- Park Line Shuttle – December 3 start date at 9:00 a.m., in which a press conference will be held. Shuttle will run on the weekends from noon to 10:00 p.m. to give people options for travel in the Park, and will provide access throughout the Park.
- Canyon Drive – Looking into how to get sidewalk over historic wall, and looking into playground and restroom in the area.
- Plaque put up from the 1933 fire to memorialize the victims.

6. Board Business:

- Propose adding to agenda discussion of providing alcohol at the pony rides.
- Propose adding to agenda way to link Park into LAUSD system.
- Propose adding to agenda proposal to write a letter supporting the hiring of more park rangers.

7. Next meeting will be January 23, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. at the Griffith Park Visitors Center Auditorium, 4730 Crystal Springs Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90027.

8. Adjourn: Motion to adjourn, passes.