

Griffith Park Advisory Board  
Minutes  
October 28, 2021  
Meeting began at 6:32pm  
via zoom

1. Call to Order Roll Call: Greenwald, Crames, Chung, Gilbert, Phillips, Thornton, Ashouri; Deutsch excused.
2. Announcements by Chair (none recorded)
3. Minutes Approved with one correction.
4. General Public Comments

How does one join board? Greenwald-applications with department. Crames added that a good way to get started with board is committee work.

5. Special Guests Helene Rotolo, Council District 4 deputy: Free Uber and Lyft rides for those in need, small business covid relief program has up to \$50,000 city grants and are still available. CD4 has called for LA Port emission improvements and streamlined development process' for high opportunity areas. Mulholland fence and Lake Hollywood pocket park community meetings via zoom on 11/14 at noon and 11/17 at 6:30pm.

Sarah Lann, LA Conservancy: Griffith Park 125th anniversary event details, including logo, and event particulars. Self guided tours of 29 park sites, speakers from Tongva tribe, Griffith Trust, Mike Eberts and other historic stake holder groups. Everything is free except any normal venue fees. Main hub/headquarters and participant group tables at the historic Merry Go Round. Multiple food sites. Tours of Greek Theatre. Emphasis on public transportation, which will be free, including park line shuttle on northeast park of park and a LA County Bicycle Coalition bike route. Info at [laconservancy.org](http://laconservancy.org).

Board Questions and Comment: Extra bicycle parking; none as of now. Covid protocols; County regulations in effect, in addition to specific venue requirements. All volunteers encouraged to mask. Will GPAB have a table; yes, Chung, Crames, Laib volunteered. Will there be a popcorn machine; no.

Public Comment: FOGP will have a table at the event. Where is Parkline Shuttle operating; north/eastside venues only.

6. Informational Reports and Presentations Griffith Park Performance Stage, Stefanie Smith, Acting GP Superintendent. Lighting and camera schedules presented. Walkways require lighting, per state law. Lighting pointing inward and on from dusk till 10:30pm.

Board questions/comments: Lighting scope; pointing inward only. Cameras record activity 24/7. Will someone review camera activity; not live, but it is recorded and saved for 30 days, if review is necessary.

Public Comment: Hans, FOGP; looks better than feared re lighting disturbance in the wilderness area.

Board Elections: Conducted by RAP. Two Chair candidates, Ashouri and Greenwald. Each gave a 3 minute speech. Vice chair and Secretary uncontested. Voting conducted via text; Greenwald reelected chair.

Motion to approve slate: Phillips first, Gilbert second, unanimous approval

Superintendent update: Acting Superintendent Smith. Effective 11/28, city requiring employee proof of vaccination for all city facilities, included in park. RAP ecologist bids are out and due by 11/16. Observatory parking budget still in information research mode and will be presented at next GPAB meeting. Haunted Hayride nearing end. There were some adjustments made, and new team is very cooperative and it is going better than expected. Old Zoo fencing scope of work has been released for bidding. Pony Ride protests were aggressive and have toned down, while still ongoing. Rangers have been present, and protestors have first amendment rights. Mulch site at Merry Go Round is activating. In person RAP meetings now approved. Hybrid meetings under discussion with City Attorney's office. Call out to board member Thornton regarding her attention to burgeoning electric vehicles on park trails. Board applause.

Public Comment: Dodge, thank you to Thornton re electric vehicles on trails and a concern that picnickers and equestrians feeling intimidated by Hayride; Ranger Brewster stated that the pony ride protests have included one group violating trespassing laws and fostering unsafe environment for horses carrying kids.

Board Comment: Phillips thanks Brewster for his work and attendance at meeting and that we should do a Ranger profile for our social media. Greenwald states his joy for the ecologist, that it is a primary goal of the vision for GP, and becoming reality. Greenwald states board participation in Observatory parking fee allocation is forthcoming.

#### 7. Committee Reports

*-Executive Committee:* Greenwald. Deutsch will be chairing the new transit and mobility ad hoc committee and Phillips will chair the new sustainability ad hoc committee. The LA Zoo EIR ad hoc has Phillips, Deutsch and Greenwald as members. Our principles for board position on EIR has been presented to the Zoo Director in a positive meeting. She acknowledged and will follow up shortly. Greenwald remains optimistic.

Board comments: Removal of 200 heritage trees a concern. Greenwald reminded board that we decided last year to focus our work on the expansion's impact on the greater park, not the internal zoo spaces, primarily due to the practical aspect of the Zoo's unique reporting status in the city.

*-Community Engagement:* Crames. We have 1,000 followers! We endeavor to have more outreach to more diverse groups, from people that use the park in different ways. Alignment is an important principle of community engagement. The new GP micro forest is getting lots of notice.

*-Public Safety:* Laib. Old Zoo letter is in final review and coming out soon. Thank you to Smith for fast action on the upper fencing replacement. Some new tent sightings in the park have been reported to Rangers-please call any into Park Central communications. The electric vehicle proliferation in park is dangerous to equestrians, hikers and illegal on unpaved roads or trails.

Board Comments: Speed limit for vehicles on fire and dirt roads in park is 15mph; no vehicles of any kind allowed on dirt roads or trails.

*-Sustainability:* Phillips. Chung and Gilbert have joined committee and first task will be a mission/focus statement.

Board Comments: Ashouri would also like to join.

*-Transit and Mobility:* Not reporting.

#### 8. Board Business

Ashouri would like to focus on bicycling aspects that are not in mobility ad hoc. Crames would like LAFD to participate in our next meeting. Laib would like us to consider a vision for the southern area of park.

Board Comment: Greenwald states that bicycling issues will be discussed at Executive Committee in the context of our existing committee structure and that they may be a good fit for our the transit and mobility ad hoc committee. Additionally, the electric vehicle issue, also referred to as the unicycle issue, may fit there, as well.

9. Adjournment Adjournment at 9:09pm. Next meeting is December 2, at 6:30pm.