

Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee
Monday, April 26, 2010
6:30PM
Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:47PM by Facilitator Kevin Regan.

Members present: Dale Gibson, Jill Haber, Lynn Brown, Melanie Coto, Mary Benson, Kevin Atkins, Randall Young, Mary Kaufman, and Gene Gilbert. (Note: Mr. Young was not present for Item No. 1-3 on the agenda.)

A recommendation was made to amend the minutes of March 22, 2010; to state that Mr. Gibson made a motion to approve the minutes of March 22, 2010, seconded by Mr. Young, and the minutes were unanimously approved. On a motion by Mr. Gibson, seconded by Ms. Brown, the minutes of the meeting of March 22, 2010, was amended.

Ms. Benson stated that she has several copies of the Department of Recreation and Parks' lease agreement with the Hansen Dam Equestrian Center on CD and that additional copies would be available to any Los Angeles Equestrian Advisory Committee (LAEAC) member who wished to have one. She stated that the Hansen Dam Master Plan is currently being updated by the US Army Corps of Engineers and that their next community meeting is scheduled for April 29 at 7pm at the Lakeview Terrace Recreation Center. Ms. Benson shared that Bronco Entertainment, the current concessionaire, is considering discontinuing the sale of alcohol at events after 5pm. The concessionaire has also agreed to e-mail their schedule of events for the remainder of the year to community groups. Issues and problems related to events at the equestrian center that were discussed at a previous LAEAC meeting have been taken into consideration by the concessionaire and will be monitored by both the Office of Public Safety (OPS) and the Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD), as well as by Recreation and Parks (RAP) staff.

Ms. Kaufman stated that she requested Item No. 5 on the agenda to find out about Scot Perez, the Mayor's appointment to the committee, as she was not familiar with him. Further discussion followed with the suggestion that members provide a short 'bio' and photo that could be posted to a web page. On a motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Ms. Kaufman, this was unanimously approved.

Next, the LAEAC took nominations and held elections for the positions of Secretary, Vice President, and President. All candidates accepted their nominations and the following committee members were elected by unanimous vote to their respective positions: Secretary – Randy Young, Vice President – Lynn Brown, President – Dale Gibson.

At this point in the proceedings, Mr. Gibson assumed chairing the meeting.

An audience member stated that she was a freelance reporter and asked if the committee had a position regarding the round up of wild horses. Mr. Gibson stated that the committee did not

have an official stand. Ms. Benson shared the background of the LAEAC's establishment and that their jurisdiction covered matters only within the City of Los Angeles.

Next, on a motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Ms. Benson, the LAEAC unanimously voted to table Item No. 8 (Trails Subcommittee) until feedback was received from the City Attorney's Office, regarding the Brown Act. Trails Subcommittee members are: Kevin Atkins, Lynn Brown, and Randy Young.

On a motion by Mr. Young, seconded by Ms. Benson, the LAEAC unanimously voted to table Item No. 9 (Planning Subcommittee) until feedback was received from the City Attorney's Office, regarding the Brown Act. Planning Subcommittee members are: Dale Gibson, Gene Gilbert, and Jill Haber.

Ms. Benson then shared that the City's trail and trail easement policy are not always being followed. She stated that there are over 300 items in the City Council File regarding horse and trail issues. Ms. Kaufman volunteered to catalog items in the City Council File system.

Next, members discussed alternate meeting locations. Ms. Brown stated that the Equestrian Center would welcome the committee back to meet at their facility at any time. Ms. Brown also stated that Councilmember LaBonge offered the use of his field office as a meeting location. Mr. Regan said that the Los Feliz library was available as well. Mr. Young suggested that this could be a topic for discussion at the next meeting.

Ms. Kaufman shared that Chatsworth's 7th Annual Day of the Horse Celebration would be taking place on May 23 at Stoney Point Ranch. Mr. Gibson shared that a fundraiser, "Ride for a Cure," would be taking place at his ranch. Ms. Benson noted that some of the City Council Offices may still have the ability to finance bus transportation for field trips, and that this would be an opportunity to get children involved with horses.

The next LAEAC meeting will be held Monday, May 24, 2010, at 6:30pm at the Ranger Station Auditorium.

On motion of Mr. Young, seconded by Ms. Gilbert, the meeting adjourned at 7:55pm