



CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS  
City Hall Room 280 - A  
455 North Rexford Dr.  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

**MINUTES**

**RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING**  
**Tuesday, March 31, 2015**  
**2:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Rosoff, Anderson, Bilak,  
Commissioners Absent: Gersh, Friedman  
Staff Present: Zoet, Meyerowitz, Angel, Knebel

**CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES**

**Tab 1. Regular Meeting of February 24, 2015**

MOVED by Rosoff, SECONDED by Anderson, to approve with correction. (3/0)

AYES: Rosoff, Anderson, Bilak  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: Gersh, Friedman  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
CARRIED

**ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE**

None.

**NEW BUSINESS/STAFF REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE**

**Tab 2. Recognition of Centennial Rose Committee**

The Recreation and Parks Commission welcomed members of the Centennial Rose Committee to receive certificates and a Centennial Rose Bush. The following were honored for their efforts in the selection and development of the Centennial Rose Garden at Will Rogers Park:

Dr. Tommy Cairnes  
Donna Flade  
Ray Flade  
April Jergens  
Marcia Moussa  
Kathi Rothner

Absent  
Sandra Aronberg  
Don Rosen

**Tab 3. Park Way Ficus Trees**

Speaker – Abraham Assil  
Speaker – Alan Berro

Park Way residents addressed the commission with their concerns on the current status of the Ficus trees. After a brief discussion, it was suggested this item be tabled until the April meeting due to the absence of the Parks and Urban Forest Manager.

**Tab 4. Automated Replacement of Declining Ficus Trees**

Community Services Director Steve Zoet suggested this item be tabled until the April meeting due to the absence of the Parks and Urban Forest Manager.

**Tab 5. Arbor Day 2015**

This was an informational item about the upcoming Arbor Day celebration. A tree planting will take place at Roxbury Park near the sculpture "Conversation." Further details will be disseminated to the public and commissioners.

**Tab 6. Proposed Removal of Elevated Gardens at Greystone Mansion**

Community Services Director Steve Zoet discussed the elevated gardens at Greystone and their possible removal.

MOVED by Rosoff to support the recommendation to remove the raised gardens, SECONDED by Anderson. (3/0)

AYES: Rosoff, Anderson, Bilak  
NOES: NONE  
ABSENT: Gersh, Friedman  
ABSTAIN: NONE  
CARRIED

**Tab 7. Current Park Bench and Plaque Program Review**

Item was reviewed by Community Services Administrator Gisele Grable and discussed by the Commission. Due to the absence of two of the commissioners, it was decided to table the item until the April Meeting.

**Tab 8. Capital Improvement Projects Update**

The following items were included in the report from Community Services Director Steve Zoet:

Gateway Signage Projects – Construction is moving forward with the gateways at Olympic/Spalding and Wilshire/San Vicente. It is anticipated to take 5 months to complete both projects.

Roxbury Park Restoration – Walk thru was completed at the playground. It is scheduled to open on Saturday, April 4. The Mayor has requested photo documentation to be made at the City Council Meeting on April 7. Unless Staff is directed otherwise, there will not be an opening ceremony for the playground.

Beverly Gardens Restoration – Work is progressing on the restoration of the Electric Fountain. Next phases of the entire project are being discussed.

Veterans' Memorial – Further direction to be received by City Council on April 7

La Cienega Park and Community Center Public Assessment - Informational item on the Agenda for the April 7 City Council Meeting. Purpose of future meetings will be to re-engage the public on the ideas for renovation of the La Cienega Community Center.

Dog Park - No further updates from Community Development and the City Attorney in regard to the soil analysis.

Greystone Theatre Restoration – Staff is anticipating receipt of cost estimates for restoration projects.

#### **Tab 9. Director's Report**

Community Services Staff updated the Commission on the following items:

Decomposed Granite Around Fine Art Sculptures in Parks – Agendized by Parks and Urban Forest Manager. Due to his absence, a report will be given at the April Meeting.

Peck Drive Locust Tree Replacement – Meeting was held on March 6 with 25 people in attendance. Peck Drive Resident Cindy Norian reported to the Commission that the residents submitted their tree recommendation to the Parks and Urban Forest Manager. Follow up will occur at a future meeting.

Event Calendar and Meeting Dates were reviewed.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS INCLUDING TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS**

#### **Tab 10. Ad Hoc Chairperson Reports**

- a. City Council Liaison/Mayor's Cabinet (Friedman/Bilak) – No discussion.
- b. Beverly Canon Gardens (Friedman/Gersh) – No discussion.
- c. Farmers' Market (Bilak/Anderson) – No discussion.
- d. Fine Arts (Gersh/Rosoff) – No discussion.
- e. Gateway Signage Project (Anderson/Rosoff) – No discussion.

- f. Community Charitable Foundation (Bilak/Anderson) – No discussion.
- g. Greystone Park (Gersh/Anderson) – No discussion.
- h. Master Plan for La Cienega and Roxbury Parks (Friedman/Bilak) – No discussion.
- i. Seniors/Volunteers (Friedman/Gersh) – No discussion.
- j. Special Events/Concert Series (Bilak/Gersh) – No discussion.
- k. Sports (Friedman/Bilak) – No discussion.
- l. Street Tree Master Plan (Friedman/Anderson) – No discussion.
- m. Teens (Bilak/Gersh) – No discussion.
- n. Beverly Gardens Restoration (Anderson/Rosoff) – No discussion.
- o. Off-Leash Dog Area (Friedman/Bilak) – No discussion.
- p. Joint Powers Agreement (Bilak/Rosoff) – No discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 3:37 p.m.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 28<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2015.

  
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Simone Friedman, Chairperson