



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

MINUTES

**RECREATION AND PARKS COMMISSION SPECIAL MEETING
Monday, June 1, 2015
2:00 p.m.**

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Commissioners Present: Rosoff, Anderson, Gersh, Bilak, Friedman

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Zoet, Hunt-Coffey, Meyerowitz, Pfalzgraf, Acuna, Knebel

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

Tab 1. Regular Meeting of April 28, 2015

MOVED by Rosoff, SECONDED by Anderson, to approve with correction. (5/0)

AYES: Rosoff, Anderson, Gersh, Bilak, Friedman

NOES: NONE

ABSENT: NONE

ABSTAIN: NONE

CARRIED

ORAL COMMUNICATION FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

NEW BUSINESS/STAFF REPORTS/CORRESPONDENCE

Tab 2. Friends of Greystone Proposal to Convert the Library into a Museum

Friends of Greystone Board Members Susan Rosen and Arline Pepp and Reggie Sully (from McCoy Construction) presented diagrams and photographs of proposed library restoration options and items to be contained within the proposed Museum and discussed the historical interest and importance of the project.

MOVED by Rosoff, SECONDED by Friedman, that the Recreation and Parks Commission recommends and supports the second proposal plan submitted by the Friends of Greystone for the restoration of the Greystone Library subject to adequate and appropriate financing being obtained and further understanding of what memorabilia items will be provided in the cabinets in the proposed museum. Security concerns will be discussed at a later date. (5/0)

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

Tab 3. Recognition of Friends of Greystone Student Representatives

Beverly Hills High School Student volunteers Richa Vijayvergiya and Yael Atiya were presented with Certificates of Appreciation for their contributions to the Friends of Greystone and the City during this past school year.

Tab 4. Peck Drive Street Tree Master Plan

Parks and Urban Forest Manager Ken Pfalzgraf reviewed the public process for replacing the street trees on Peck Drive. The residents presented petitions signed by 72% of the addresses on the street with one or more tree sites (78 of 107 addresses).

Speaker

- Eric Schwartz

MOVED by Rosoff, SECONDED by Gersh, that the Recreation and Parks Commission accepts the petition to replace the Idaho Locust trees on Peck Drive with Drake Chinese Elms and that the Commission supports staff's intention to seek the City Council's approval of this project in an upcoming study session meeting. (5/0)

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

The item has been placed on the June 16, 2015 City Council Study Session Agenda.

Tab 5. Dog Park Discussion

Speakers

- Mark Elliott – in favor of Dog Park at Roxbury. He brought this item forward for the Commission to re-visit. The Roxbury Park location would be accessible to many residents. He was not involved with the Foothill/Alden location approved by City Council.
- Susan Eisenberg – in favor of Dog Park at Roxbury for her dog's exercise needs, She noted there are areas of Roxbury Park that are under-utilized that could be developed for a Dog Park.
- Reggie Sully reading statement from Marcia Hobbs – in favor of two Dog Parks in Beverly Hills.
- Ken Goldman – representing Southwest Homeowners Association. He commented there are already many activities at the park and it is surrounded by residents. The Board is opposed to a Dog Park at Roxbury.

- Rose Norton – commented that the location recommended by City Council is more appropriate. She is opposed to Dog Park at Roxbury due to proximity of pre-school and busy Olympic Blvd.
- Kathi Rothner – commented on many aspects of the overall issue noting her support for a Dog Park in Beverly Hills.
- Dr. Sharon Ignarro – in favor of Dog Park she can walk to Roxbury for her dogs exercise needs.
- Dr. Lou Ignarro – wants an accessible area nearby his home and is in favor of the Dog Park being at Roxbury.
- Cindy Norian – is concerned with the safety of the dogs and is opposed to Dog Park at Roxbury.

After discussion, the Commission provided feedback with regard to Mark Elliott's interest in an off-leash dog area at Roxbury Park. There was no official vote taken but Commissioner comments indicated there was not majority support for bringing back the Roxbury Park Dog Park proposal. The Commission is in support of the Foothill/Alden location the City Council has previously approved and is awaiting further information on that location.

Tab 6. Personal Trainers in City Parks

Recreation Supervisor Patty Acuna commented on the Staff Report about personal trainers in City Parks. Staff concerns include liability and proper background checks of trainers (in the case of instructing youth.)

Speakers

- Hilary Kraft
- James Wood

Second speaker representing company FitSpot. They have developed a computer app and provide on-demand fitness training.

The Commission agreed that the rules of personal trainers in the park should be reviewed. The next steps will be a meeting with the Commission liaisons and staff to further discuss options and bring findings back to the entire Commission for further review.

Tab 7. Parks and Recreation Facilities Fund Update

Due to the unavailability of a Finance Administration staff person, this item was tabled to a later date.

Tab 8. Youth in Government 2015

Human Services Administrator James Latta reviewed the recent Youth in Government program that took place on May 6, 2015.

Tab 9. Capital Improvement Projects Update

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

Gateway Signage Projects, Greystone Theatre Restoration, Coldwater Park Playground Restoration, La Cienega Park Mainline Irrigation Replacement and La Cienega Park and Community Center Public Assessment.

Tab 10. Director's Report

Community Services Staff updated the Commission on the following items:

- Publicist Dana Beesen was introduced.
- Coldwater Canyon Donation – Staff is anticipating donation update by the next Commission Meeting.
- Kusama Fencing – Custom fencing solution was agreed upon in December 2014. Drawings and engineering are nearly completed. Estimates have been provided with contingency. Will be put out to bid once drawings are complete. Was previously presented to City Council with no reservations. Kusama Restoration was discussed as well. Early estimate provided by Rosa Lowenger and Associates, with an updated estimate being submitted, and another estimate will be provided by Fine Art Finishes, recommended by RPC Commissioner Gersh. In addition, Commissioner Gersh advised that the Zwirner Gallery, representing the Artist Kusama, is willing to provide feedback about the restoration and it is important to have the firm chosen experienced in this specific type of sculpture renovation. Further information on the project will be disseminated when available.
- Concours D'Elegance Report – 813 tickets sold, an increase of 24% over 2014. Revenue is approximately \$93,000 with credit card sales still to be reconciled. 16 sponsors participated. Further information will be provided at next Commission Meeting.
- Parkway Ficus Tree – Automated replacement of declining trees will be discussed at the June 23 Commission Meeting.
- Water Conservation – met with Public Works Commissioner for discussion about irrigation spray. Mr. Pfalzgraf will provide a monthly update from the Water Conservation Task Force. In addition, Public Works Commissioner/s will be scheduled to report at a future Recreation and Parks Commission Meeting.
- Event Calendar and Meeting Dates were reviewed. It was proposed to change the June 23 Commission Meeting, but a mutual date was not agreed upon.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS/COMMENTS BY COMMISSIONERS INCLUDING TOPICS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

- JPA Quarterly Meeting and Annual JPA Report follow up.
- Budget review to be scheduled for the August Meeting.

Tab 11. 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 (Anderson/Rosoff) – Request was made to switch Commissioner on this Ad Hoc Committee.
- 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.
- q. Public Works Department Liaison (Friedman/Rosoff)

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted on this 23 day of June, 2015.



 Simone Friedman, Chairperson