

HOLLYWOOD HILLS WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

June 15, 2016

6:00 pm

Will and Ariel Durant Library Branch

7140 Sunset Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90046

1. **Call to order by President, Anastasia Mann at 6:01 pm.**
2. **Roll call by Secretary Kathy Bañuelos. Anastasia, Orrin F., Jane, Kathy, Oren K., Samantha, JoAnn, Joe, Patty, Jeffrey, Richard, Brian, Joyce, Suzanne, and Barbara were present. Quorum established. Danielle arrived late.**
3. **Minutes from May 18th meeting were approved unanimously as corrected.**
4. **Introduction of City Officials and Guests**
 - a) **Catherine Landers** from Councilmember Ryu's office thanked everyone for their input on the Hollywood Community Plan EIR and reported on proposed legislation for construction overlay zone. **Nicholas Grief** from Councilman Ryu's office introduced himself.
 - b) **Daniel Halden** from Councilmember O'Farrell's office provided an update on fixing the signage re park hours in Smith Park.
5. **President's Report (Anastasia Mann)**
 - a) **Report on Ex Com Meeting** – Anastasia provided updates on the work of the CD 4 Task Force and mentioned Councilman's Ryu's attendance at the Ex Com meeting. She also proposed a buddy system pairing up new and older board members.
 - b) **Anastasia reported on the following Conflict of Interest Issues.**
 - Non-Disclosed: Mid- April 2014, HHWNC Board Member also on FORC board. Funding issue
 - Disclosed: New Board Member, perception of conflict re Hollywood Heritage funding request at Area 7 meeting. Declared and Recused at second meeting.
 - c) **Update re the Laurel Canyon and Lookout Mountain Power Reliability Project by Jason Stinnett, LA DWP.** DWP provided an overview of the impacted areas and scope of work, as well as potential traffic closures.
 - d) **Community Business**
 - **Ford Amphitheatre Hiking Trails with CD 4** (Presentation by Adam Davis). Questions re: pedestrian access to trails and trail route were posed by members of the public.

- **Update on Runyon Canyon, Rec. & Parks** – announcement made re upcoming parks and open space committee meeting.

- **Discussion and recommendations for Congress of Neighborhoods Budget Advocates Empower LA Awards** - issue was tabled.

e) **Motion to authorize DONE to issue City Hall East garage parking passes to Anastasia Mann and Orrin Feldman.** Moved by Samantha and approved unanimously.

f) Confirmed next meeting date: July 20

6. **First Vice-President's Report (Orrin Feldman)**

a) **PLUM Committee**

- Presentation re 8150 Sunset by project – discussion by board members and stakeholders.

- **Motion made by JoAnn and approved 15-0:**

HHWNC's PLUM committee recommends that HHWNC's board of directors vote to:

i.) support City Council Member David Ryu's position in his letter to Vince Bertoni, LA's Director of Planning, dated May 3, 2016, that the proposed heights of the buildings being proposed are out of scale with the site, the adjacent buildings, and the surrounding commercial and residential areas;

ii.) recommend that the City Planning Commission should not approve and/or certify the proposed project's environmental impact report because the proposed projects' buildings are out of scale with the site, the adjacent buildings and the surrounding commercial and residential areas. The proposed project would be higher and taller than anything ever built along Sunset Boulevard from downtown to the Pacific Ocean, and it's not appropriate to do so;

iii.) recommend that the City Planning Commission should not approve and/or certify the proposed project's environmental impact report for the additional following reasons:

a. the traffic impacts are significant, and the proposed circulation plan and traffic impact mitigations are NOT feasible, especially since the City of West Hollywood told the hearing officer at the Planning Department's hearing on May 24, 2016, and via a letter, that West Hollywood will not permit the installation of lights which the proposed project and its EIR seem to depend upon having in order to provide required traffic impact mitigation(s);

b. the density bonus for the site, which is based on the proposed project's site being within 1,500 feet of a transit stop in order to provide for a 3:1 density for this proposed project, rather than the 1:1

density which would otherwise applies, erroneously treats the few busses running intermittently past the site and/or nearby as a mass transit hub when the site isn't that at all. It's questionable whether the site satisfies the actual rules for obtaining the density bonus. No adjustment or variance should be granted with regard to the proposed project under these circumstances. There also is an open question as to whether the Height District for the site supports the developer's request for a 3:1 floor to area ratio.

- c. the proposed plan for integrating the current "island" at Sunset/Crescent Heights southwestern side in to the proposed project's site is not justified nor properly mitigated for its traffic impacts on both east bound and south bound traffic. East bound traffic on Sunset won't be able to turn easily to go south on Crescent Heights. And, the south bound traffic flow from Laurel Canyon to Crescent Heights, which is tens of thousands per cars daily, will be impeded significantly. Gridlock can be expected. The entire Sunset/Crescent Heights intersection warrants being redesigned for traffic and public safety reasons, rather than just incorporating the island area and the turning lane there into becoming part of the proposed project's site. Treating that space as the proposed project's open space is a give away of a public asset, and it's unjustifiable for purposes of California CEQA analysis. Additionally, there are serious public concerns about whether the Lytton Bank Building, now a JP Morgan Bank branch, should be maintained on site or preserved. Those questions were not adequately explored and analyzed.

b) Area 9 Committee (Orrin Feldman)

- **Motion made by Orrin and was approved by 16-0:** That the HHWNC allocate up to \$5,000 of HHWNC's remaining funds for this fiscal year to The Lockwood Animal Rescue Center's Warriors and Wolves project as a neighborhood purposes grant to pay for some of the much greater expenses the rescue center is incurring each year to take care of the six (or seven) wolf dogs residing there now, but who were rescued from HHWNC's area during the last few years without any request for financial assistance.

7. Treasurer's Report (Anastasia reported on behalf of Michael)

- a) Motion to approve monthly expenditures report made by Samantha and approved by a vote of 16-0.
- b) Motion to purchase a full page ad in the Los Angeles/Hollywood Beautification Team annual gala tribute book for \$1,000 made by Anastasia and approved by 16-0.
- c) Motion to approve the HHWNC Budget for FY16-17 beginning July 1, 2016 was made by Anastasia and approved by 16-0.

8. Second Vice President's Report (Jane Crockett) – no report.

9. Secretary's Report (Kathy Bañuelos) – no report.

10. Committee Reports

- a) **Email/Website Report (JoAnn Koplin)** – item was tabled for next meeting.
- b) **Community Enrichment (Emily Weithman)**
 - Report on Hollywood Heritage funding needs for 2015 fiscal year funds.
 - i.) Motion to fund request for descriptive narrative boards in the amount of \$8000 in the form of a Neighborhood Purpose Grant was approved 16-0. These funds will be used to supplement the \$1500 that the Hollywood Heritage has raised to meet the \$10,000 cost of commission.
 - ii.) Motion to fund to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant in the amount of \$6500 for Hollywood Heritage was tabled.
 - iii.) Report on the Griffith Park Shakespeare Free Festival funding needs for 2015 fiscal year funds. Motion that the HHWNC support and approve funding in the form of a Neighborhood Purpose Grant in the amount of \$1,000 was approved by 16-0.

11. **No Public Comments on items not on the agenda.**

12. **No Old Business**

13. **No New Business**

14. **Adjournment at 7:56 pm.**