



MINUTES
LOS ANGELES EQUINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 Monday May 23, 2022
 6:30 pm
LOS ANGELES EQUESTRIAN CENTER
 480 West riverside Dr. Los Angeles, CA 91506

	Present	Absent
Stefanie Smith, Chair Department of Recreation and Parks		X
District 1 VACANT		
District 2 Jeffrey Rewald	X	
District 3 Jill Haber		X
District 4 Lisa Hanawalt	X	
District 5 David Ramey, DVM	X	
District 6 Mary Benson		X
District 7 Dale Gibson	X	
District 8 Kevin Atkins	X	
District 9 Vacant		
District 10 Todd La Vergne		X
District 11 Larry Watts	X	
District 12 Stacia Crane	X	
District 13 Gene Gilbert	X	
District 14 Vacant		
District 15 Vacant		
Mayor's Representative, Scott Perez		X

Item No. 1 Call to Order. Member Gibson acted as Chair and called the meeting to order at about 6:35 p.m. The Chair then led the Pledge of Allegiance. Thereafter the Chair welcomed the public in attendance and called a roll of the Members present.

The Chair next recognized several members of the public who had requested time to address the Committee, including Jay Geisenheimer who described efforts to establish a Rancho Trail Plan and Caroline Menjivar, who is seeking election to the State Senate in District 20. She introduced herself and described her interest in horses and her equestrian experience.

The Chair also recognized Joe Salaces who gave an LAEAC operations report and comments.

Item No. 2 Motion, Action Regarding DWP Water Restrictons

The Chair called for discussion of the impact the new water restrictions recently adopted by the LADWP will have upon equine keeping properties. There was discussion that the current restrictions do not recognize the daily water requirements of equines.

THEREAFTER, upon a motion duly made and seconded it was resolved as follows:

RESOLVED, the Los Angeles Equestrian Advisory Committee recommends the following

Item No. 3. The Chair recognized Member Rewald who introduced Christopher Robin Bredesen of Bredesen Productions. Mr. Bredesen explained that his company is in the process of producing a documentary film tentatively titled *Cowboy Town* about the Rancho Burbank community. He explained how important that community has been in maintaining an equestrian lifestyle in an urban setting. He is interested in speaking to people familiar with Rancho Burbank and its equestrian history. The Committee acknowledged the importance of the community, but no action was requested or taken by the Committee.

Item No. 4. The Chair next called for a discussion concerning the Circle K Stables located at 910 S. Mariposa St. in Burbank.

Several members of the public addressed the Committee urging support for the acquisition of the property by the City of Burbank, including Constantine Anthony, Vice Mayor of Burbank, Liz Bradley and Michael Elric.

THEREAFTER, upon a motion duly made and seconded and further discussion, it was resolved as follows:

WHEREAS, Circle K Stables is the last horse boarding stable in the historic Rancho District horse community and the last such stable within Burbank city limits.;

WHEREAS, the stable serves residents of both Burbank and Los Angeles and they in turn rely on facilities in both cities to pursue their sport;

WHEREAS, its closure would reduce the ability of residents of both cities to participate in equestrian activities;

WHEREAS, these stables provide a vital way for people to recreate and enjoy the outdoors;

WHEREAS, this property is connected to the Mariposa Bridge and is a gateway to the perimeter and Griffith Park trails;

WHEREAS, putting it under public ownership ensures that equestrians can continue to safely access these areas and use the other amenities and equestrian infrastructure maintained by the Cities of Burbank and Los Angeles;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles Equestrian Advisory Committee inform the Burbank City Council of its strong support of the proposal for the City of Burbank to purchase the 910 S. Mariposa Street site and to improve its facilities and operate it as a public horse stable.

Item No. 5. The Chair next called for discussion of the current status of the Griffith Park pony ride concession and recognized the current concessionaire, Mr. Steven Weeks.

Mr. Weeks indicated he is close to concluding a renewal of his concession agreement. He explained the process has been complicated because of approximately 12 protesters, some of whom are paid protesters, regularly intimidate and threaten families visiting the pony rides concession. They have used bullhorns and sirens, some have been cited and some arrested.

Member Gilbert noted that the concessionaire has responded to recommendations made by a veterinarian engaged by the City of Los Angeles.

THEREAFTER, upon a motion duly made and seconded it was resolved as follows: That the LAEAC urge Mr. Michael A. Shull, General Manager of the Department of Recreation and Parks to expeditiously renew the pony ride concession with Mr. Weeks.

Item No. 6. The Chair next gave a brief update on the status draft Rodeo Ordinance the Committee has recommended for adoption by the City Council and efforts to explain the LAEAC's rationale for the proposed ordinance to members of the City Council.

Item No. 7. LAEAC Elections. The Chair next announced it was time for the LAEAC to elect officers and called for nominations. The following members were nominated to the positions indicated: President: David Ramey DVM; Vice President Dale Gibson; and Secretary Larry Watts. Thereafter, following a brief discussion the foregoing were unanimously elected to the positions indicated.

Item. No. 8. The Chair announced that the next regular meeting of the LAEAC will on Monday July 25, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. at the Los Angeles Equestrian Center, 480 west Riverside Dr. Los Angeles, CA 91506.

Item No. 9. Adjourn. Upon a motion a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Watts,
Secretary