

Los Angeles Equine Advisory Committee

Monday, February 23, 2010

6:30PM

Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:45PM by Acting Chair Mary Benson. Members present: Dale Gibson, Lynn Brown, Melanie Coto, Todd LaVergne, Kevin Atkins, Gene Gilbert and Scott Perez.

The meeting minutes of January 25, 2010, were approved.

Newly appointed committee member Scott Perez was introduced. Mr. Perez has 20 years of equine business experience and looks forward to contributing to the committee. Ms. Benson provided background information to the Committee's establishment and a current status of its accomplishments.

After a short discussion among the members present, it was decided that committee meetings will be on the fourth Monday of each month at the Equestrian Center. Elections for the offices of president, vice-president and secretary will take place at the March meeting. It was also stated that the various sub-committees may also meet on a Monday in lieu of a full committee meeting.

It was noted that the sparse attendance at tonight's meeting was due to a simultaneous Park Advisory Board meeting regarding the issuance of an ABC license to the Equestrian Center at Hansen Dam. Committee members requested a presentation from Recreation and Parks Concessions Unit regarding the lease agreement at Hansen Dam.

The Planning and Code Sub-committee was established. Members are: Jill Haber, Dale Gibson, and Gene Gilbert.

The next item for discussion was the Trails Master Plan, which has not been updated since 1968. Now is the appropriate time to update this plan as many trails have been lost and paved over. In light of the City's economic constraints, the possibility of using some of the funds for the Rim of the Valley Redevelopment Plan for this master plan was discussed. It was also noted that grant monies may be available and the use of volunteers and public-private partnerships would greatly reduce the cost of updating this master plan. Costs could be further reduced if the City were to partner with Los Angeles County and if the committee would act as its own consultant. It was unanimously decided that a letter be sent to the Mayor and Councilmembers to authorize work on this master plan.

Several committee members inquired about the possibility of the Department providing them with business cards. Gene Gilbert shared that she attended the Glendale Narrows meeting regarding trails connecting to Griffith Park. Dale Gibson stated that the LAPD would be providing a safety training session at his ranch and information was available on the ranch's website.

There were no public comments.

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 22, 2010.

The meeting adjourned at 8:07PM.