

MINUTES

GRIFFITH PARK ADVISORY BOARD DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS CITY OF LOS ANGELES JUNE 25, 2015

The Griffith Park Advisory Board of the City of Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks, was called to order at 6:38 PM at the Griffith Park Visitor's Center Auditorium.

1. Committee Members Present: Chip Clements, Laura Howe, Anne-Marie Johnson, Ted Johnson, Chris Laib, Kris Sullivan, Susan Swan, Lynn Brown, Janell Mullen, Don Seligman, Barbara Ferris. Absent: Lucinda Phillips, Susan Lee. Department of Recreation and Parks: Joe Salaises. Council District Thirteen: Dan Halden.

Item 1. Approval of Minutes

With the correction that Hollywood United supported the porta-potties at Lake Hollywood Park and Barbara Ferris noting that she had voted no to the motion for Item 8 on the Agenda, Don moved to approve as amended, Chris seconded. All in favor with 1 abstention.

Item 2. Roll call

Board Members Present: Chip Clements, Laura Howe, Anne-Marie Johnson, Ted Johnson, Chris Laib, Kris Sullivan, Susan Swan, Lynn Brown, Janell Mullen, Don Seligman, Barbara Ferris. Absent: Lucinda Phillips, Susan Lee. Department of Recreation and Parks: Joe Salaises. Council District Four: Tracy James. Council District Thirteen: Dan Halden

Item 3. Public comment on Items not on agenda

There was a concern that there are no rangers in areas where there are lots of people at night, especially near Amir's garden. It was suggested that Board members have permission to park in Ranger's spots during Board meetings. Chris suggested that someone from the Park present the plans for additional rangers to the Board.

Item 4. Discussion with Laura Bauernfeind, Forestry Division, about process for removal of dead trees and best practices used.

Item 8. Laura Bauernfeind, Forestry Division, about process for removal of dead trees and best practices used *

Laura began her presentation by noting that the City got a \$200,000 Cal Fire Grant to collect tree data. So far, information has been collected on 53,000 trees, using representational sampling, so that the Park now has the ability to track both the health of trees and the work done on trees. She noted that Los Angeles has over 400 species compared to the national average of 53 species. She explained how \$72 million per year in benefits to the City comes from trees. She presented a current map of the Park showing close to 14,000 dead trees and said that work crews that remove the trees focus on areas of public safety concern such as on golf courses and where large numbers of people congregate. She noted that the park has reduced its water consumption by 30% from the mid-2000s baseline years. In addition she gave information about the interactive Park website that includes the possibility of public input on tree conditions, leaking faucets, etc. at My Treekeeper, on the Park website.

Item 4. Possible Updates from Recreation and Parks Staff

Joe mentioned that Shakespeare in the Park starts tonight at 7 PM at the Old Zoo and continues until the last part of August. The two plays this year are Romeo and Juliet and Much Ado About Nothing.

Item 5. Possible updates from City representations

Dan Halden from CD 13 gave thanks to Griffith Park for the Shakespeare in the Park program.

Item 6. Possible updates from Sierra Club, Friends of Griffith Park, and other Park Facilities.

Sierra Club: No report.

Friends of Griffith Park board member Marian Dodge presented a summary of projects her organization has completed including extensive work in Fern Dell, fund raising, work with the National Park Service to identify the Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail, and graffiti clean-up days.

Item 7. Possible Board member updates

Ted Johnson reported that the Special Olympics will be held on our golf courses in late July on the Wilson and Harding courses.

Chris Laib gave an update on the Greek Theater management.

Item 9. Update on Wayfinding signs, content of map

Laura will have more information on the signage and content of maps at the next meeting.

Item 10. Development of method to determine older unused buildings throughout the Park and if they are in need of refurbishment or removal
and

Item 11. Development of method to inspect all restrooms for repair or remodeling, and to demolish restrooms that are in low or no demand, review of sanitation locations and effectiveness of placement, necessity for new facilities

(These above two items were combined in the discussion)

Don suggested that our study of the Vision Plan should be topical rather than line-by-line, especially since there is a lot of repetition in the Plan. There was a discussion as to how the Vision Plan should be used by the Board. Joe said that he would get back to the Board as to whether the Wildlife Management Plan and the Vision Plan have been adopted by the department.

Item 12. Brainstorming of possible special events to support Park wish list in need of funding, including but not limited to repairs at Merry Go Round, historic walls, etc.

No discussion.

Item 13. Development of a Strategic Plan for Griffith Park utilizing the model of the Griffith Park Vision Plan. A discussion regarding review of Executive Summary of the Vision Plan, ongoing review of definition regarding Urban Wilderness.

Beginning discussion of the Executive Summary of the Vision Plan. Susan asked everyone to read Chapter 1 in preparation for the next meeting.

Item 14. Update on Pipe Replacement project in the Oaks and potential traffic implications and its effects on Fern Dell Park.

No report.

Item 15. Old/Ongoing Business

No old business.

Item 16. New/Future Business

No new business.

Lynn moved and it was seconded to adjourn. Motion carried and the meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.

* Item 8 out of order to accommodate our guest speaker.