

Minutes for GPAB Sept. 22, 2016

1. Roll call- Ron Deutsch and Kris Sullivan absent

2. Approval of Minutes

Don moved Lucinda Seconded

Discussion on protocol for letters being written by board and how they can be viewed by both board members and the public.

3. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

Gerry Hans – LA Nordic Noir at Greek this Sunday

Oct 22 LA Wildlife Federation having P-22 event Friends of Griffith Park and many other participating. Oct 16-22 National wildlife week.

Gerry Hans – Haunted Hayride- Concerns there has never been anyone come from 1031 production to speak to public regarding event and public concerns. What is the RFP process in regards to them now in the 7th year. They take over the Old Zoo from Sept. 21st –Nov. 5th. Makes the Old Zoo off limits to the public and hard to pass through on trails.

Emmy -Concerns over the agenda being distributed.

4. Comments from any City, County, State or Federal representatives in attendance

Susan Swan wants to use Mail Chimp to send out agendas and post letters.

Kathryn CD-4 nothing to report

5. Recap of the Griffith Observatory parking and traffic circulation enhancement plan and next steps.

Friday September 5th 2016 the Parks Commission approved the Mobility Traffic Plan.

Everyone thanks everyone

Tracy James - gives report Nov. – The expansion of Dash is main focus and connecting Red Line – Re-route of traffic flow at observatory parking lot creating a circular flow with Dr. Krump working with RAP Parking meters to be put in at Observatory-Dickson is company doing the meters. RAP working towards getting electric buses as trams. There is hopes of having Western Canyon Road having parking on only on side. And walking path up from Bird Sanctuary to Observatory.

6. Follow up to 120th Birthday Event for Griffith Park

Friday Dec 16th from 3-7pm near Merry-Go-Round

Attendees-FOLAR-FOGP-Shakespeare in the Park-Zoo Critters-LFIA-Food trucks
Hoping to get lots of people! No GPAB meeting so everyone is expected to attend.
Put on agenda for next month.

7. Follow up on dead trees, and the cause

Laura gave report: The ongoing drought has severely stressed all of the trees in park. The public will need to be educated on the devastating effects of the drought and invasive beetles attacking the trees. Native trees such as Sycamore, Oak, and Pines are all under attack from various beetles and fungus projecting extreme die off in park and all of Southern California. Laura met with Steve Dunlap (head forester for RAP), Stefanie Smith (head of maintenance), Joe S, and Tracy James to discuss course of action. It was decided that a series of trees plantings over the next several years would be one step necessary to ensure the future of shade trees in Griffith Park. FOGP will work with RAP and volunteers so set up a plan and the follow up tree care to ensure that health of the planting and hopeful future survival. There are several beetles responsible for the sudden die off and those reports will be put in GPAB records.

As of now there are no means available to rid the pests once they have started to attack a tree. US Riverside is experimenting in hopes of finding solution.

Gerry Hans commented that it is important that native trees be planted for the health of the entire ecosystem of park. Perhaps planting in clusters would be good for better shade results.

8. Follow up on water infrastructure throughout the park

Laura reported she noticed several areas in the park seemed not to be getting water. In meeting with Joe and Stephanie it was determined that in some areas maintenance was necessary to fix certain water mains that have been broken by work from DWP and just basic repair that happens over time. Stephanie said that her crews would work towards watering more and finding ways of working to water more. The water truck would make regular stops to fill the irrigators. It would be an ongoing process to see what more could be done. There are still many water restrictions to it is important to work responsibly but do whatever can possible be done. There would be follow up in next meeting.

9. Update on water tank removal

Gerry Hans asking why can't this get going for there is funding through FOGP and we even have vendor willing to do the removal? Gerry reported there is enough money to remove at least one tank and just asking for a protocol to be developed for future removal. Laura commented it would be a shame not to take advantage of opportunity.

Joe S. said he would look into and try and facilitate. Report back on next meeting.

10. Update on turf reduction project near front entrance

It was determined that it is not practical to plant anything under the mature Dead or Tress at main entrance. Joe is saying they will not be planting anything in this area. Laura wants assurance that this is the case.

11. Water fountain install at 3-mile tree

Joe S. says there is piping for a water fountain at 3 Mile Tree and there is \$12,000 dedicated to putting fountain there.

12. Update re GPAB Board seats, vacancies

Joe says he is accepting applications and that geography should limit people who want to apply.

13. Follow up on the future of Don's History project and brainstorming of ideas for publishing

Don reported: If you want to publish as book you need to first have a business plan. There are costs and just to start 2,000 books would be \$12,000-\$15,000. Then there is distribution and permissions to consider. He wants to make sure money would go to RAP and Griffith Park.

Don is concerned that it is a major undertaking and lots of work so a big commitment of time is necessary to make it happen.

Susan Swan expressed interest in helping. Could Rec and Park be the publisher? Would CD4 fund?

Susan and Don formed an AD HOC Committee to look into.

14. Board Member comments on items not on the Agenda

Joe S. says Greek Theater is doing very well with almost one year under their belt. The GM report card gave them good review. Shuttle service is working and Uber and Lift seems to relieve traffic as well.

15. Old/Ongoing Business 16. New/Future Business ADJOURNMENT