

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

Chair: Susan Swan
Vice Chair: Don Seligman
Secretary: Kris Sullivan



BOARD MEMBERS:

Lynn Brown	Chris Laib
Chip Clements	Susan Lee
Barbara Ferris	Janell Mullen
Laura Howe	Lucinda Phillips
Ted Johnson	

Griffith Park Advisory Board
Minutes
Thursday, July 23rd, 2015, 6:30pm
Griffith Park Visitor's Center Auditorium
4730 Crystal Springs Drive, L.A., CA, 90027

Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. All Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, for a maximum of 20 minutes total, unless waived by the presiding Officer of the Board.

Note: Agenda items may be taken out of order or merged as deemed appropriate by Board.

All items for discussion and action unless otherwise noted.

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.

Welcome and Introduction

Item 1. Approval of Minutes

With the correction of the spelling of Joe Salaices's name and that Tracy James is the Griffith Park Representative for Council District 4, Chris moved to approve as amended, Lynn seconded. The vote to approve was unanimous.

Item 2. Roll Call

Committee members Present: Susan Swan, Don Seligman, Kris Sullivan, Lynn Brown, Barbara Ferris, Laura Howe, Ted Johnson, Chris Laib, Susan Lee, Janell Mullen. Absent: Chip Clements, Lucinda Phillips. Department of Recreation and Parks: Joe Salaices. Griffith Park Representative for Council District 4: Tracy James.

Item 3. Former Councilmember Tom LaBonge

Former Councilmember Tom LaBonge presented his ideas for the future of Griffith Park. His suggestions included: setting up senior centers in the Park; more connections of the Park to be in line with a recent river study; the landscaping or the development of a picnic area in Toyon canyon; the creation of a reclaimed water line to Vermont and into the Bird Sanctuary; the setting up of a shuttle system in the Park which would also connect with the subway system; the opening up of the river area on Chevy Chase and consolidation of Park maintenance buildings into a smaller area; the exploration of rafting on the river as a money maker for the Park; the creation of non-offensive cell towers on public buildings; and more bike lanes within the Park.

Item 4. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

A representative from Friends of Griffith Park noted that a study of the Western Grey Squirrel in Griffith Park concluded that a dead squirrel in the Park showed evidence of rat poison. She noted that 150 bobcats and our own mountain lion, P22 also ingested rat poison. A member of the public stated that any solutions to the traffic problems need to include the input of nearby neighborhoods. A representative from the Sierra Club suggested that culvert and washes be cleared in advance of the rains for this year's potential El Nino forecast.

Item 5. Possible updates from Recreation and Parks staff, City representatives, local community groups.

No reports.

Item 6. Possible Board Member updates.

Laura reported that the LA Conservation Corps spent 3 days of cleanup, graffiti abatement, mulching and watering in the Captain's Roost area of GP. She noted that the National Park Service, RAP, and Friends of Griffith Park also worked together on this project. Don noted that the Los Feliz Improvement Associations' 100th Anniversary party would be held this weekend at Crystal Springs.

Item 7. Update regarding Toyon Canyon.

Joe stated that the contract with the Montoc Corporation to collect methane gas is up and that the City is seeking contractors to continue with the collection of gas. He noted that there are problems with landscaping the site, including shallow soil.

Item 8. Update on proposed traffic, trail, and other signage in and around Griffith Park.

Laura reported that the Cardac Company will make 24 signs for the first phase to include 4 trailhead signs. RAP and several rangers worked on maps to take off single tracks that are not official, and to include fire roads and main trails. The combination of maps and signs will protect against erosion and the need for rescues. All of the trail signs will have directional arrows and mileage.

Item 9. Development of a process to implement the Vision for Griffith Park

A. Discussion regarding review of Chapter One, ongoing review of definition regarding Urban Wilderness

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

C. Development of a method to inspect all restrooms for repair or remodeling, and to demolish restrooms that are in low or no demand (Vision of Griffith Park page 42 <http://www.laparks.org/dos/parks/griffithpk/pdf/visionPk.pdf>), review of sanitation locations and effectiveness of placement, necessity for new facilities

This item was tabled.

Item 10. Special events (sponsorships, donors) to support Park; Special Events in Griffith Park Calendar

A. LA Parks Foundation 1/2 Marathon

This item was tabled.

Item 11. Report on Mount Hollywood Drive Traffic Flow Study and Feasibility Project

Joe presented a comprehensive report on the results of the Traffic Study of the opening of Mt. Hollywood Drive over Spring Break this year. The study suggested future routes for free shuttles. Joe stated that he wanted to expand the shuttle program and that additional resources would be needed for this. He noted that a traffic consultant has been hired to find a long term solution.

Chris moved that the GPAB wants currently closed mountain roads to continue to be closed to private vehicles according to the Adopted Vision Plan for Griffith Park. Ted seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

Public comment on this topic followed.

Item 12. Old/Ongoing Business.
No report.

Item 13. New/Future Business
No report.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38 PM.

Next meeting will be Thursday, August 27th, 2015
Agendas will be posted at the Crystal Springs Ranger Station and online at <http://www.la-parks.org/dos/parks/griffithpk/>