

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

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



BOARD MEMBERS:

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

## Griffith Park Advisory Board MINUTES

Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>, 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.

Welcome and Introductions  
Called to order at 6:40PM

### 1. Approval of Minutes

With the correction that Lucinda Phillips did not ask for a historic report for Item 17, Chris moved and Chip seconded. The vote was all in favor.

### 2. Roll Call

Committee Members Present: Chip Clements, Laura Howe, Ted Johnson, Chris Laib, Kris Sullivan, Susan Swan, Don Seligman, Lucinda Phillips  
Absent: Barbara Ferris, Lynn Brown, Susan Lee.  
Department of Recreation and Parks: Joe Salaices. Council District 4: Adam Miller

### 3. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda

There was concern that some culverts in the Park are full and could become a problem during an El Nino year. Laura Bauernfeind reported that culverts are being cleaned and the Park is working on this process. There was a concern whether sunset closure of parking lots was being enforced. Joe responded that the Park's hours are 5 AM to 10: 30 PM and that no parking is allowed in lots after sunset.

4. Possible updates from Recreation and Parks staff, City representatives, local community groups (2 minutes each)

Future events were noted including a Community Open House at the Greek Theater on November

5. Possible Board Member updates (2 minutes each)

It was announced that Lynn secured 11 horses with handlers for the Anza Trail celebration with the National Park Service on February 20, 2016.

Chip announced that the private lots near Mt. Lee had fallen out of escrow.

6. The LA Parks Foundation to give a short presentation on the upcoming 1/2 Marathon.

The Parks Foundation did not have a representative present to give the 1/2 Marathon report.

Joe announced that it will be at 6 AM on Sunday, January 24, 2016.

7. Update from Laura Bauernfeind and concessionaire representative re rodenticide usage in Griffith Park and the Observatory, Greek Theatre, and the golf course concessions

Laura gave an update on rodenticides in the park which said that a motion in the City Council to ban rodenticides in the city spurred action in the Park. The Park did a thorough assessment and made changes including to not use 2nd generation products. She noted that pest control companies have been put on notice not to use these products. She mentioned that there are many bait boxes to control the size of ground squirrels, particularly near the Observatory, and that these are maintained by the concessionaires not the Park. Joe said we will get a report back about the concessionaires' use of rodenticides.

8. Update on the usage of Rodenticide in Parks, what RAP is doing, what the vendors ( ie. the observatory, Greek, golf courses) are doing, possible letter

Duplicate item see above #7

9. Update on the removal of trees in Griffith Park

Laura reported that the former operator of the Greek Theater, Nederlander, had dropped over 200 trees above the Greek Theater and are reimbursing the Park for removal of the logs. Removal of dead trees in the Park will emphasize those areas with lots of patrons and where they would be a hazard to the public. Chris suggested that if Rec and Parks needs the \$50,000 available in discretionary CD4 money for tree removal, it should inform the Council office. Laura offered to check into this

10. Approval of letter regarding the proposed usage of the Griffith Park for the Olympics, including; biking – BMX, Mountain, etc.

Chris gave us a rough draft of a proposed letter to the City from the Board regarding the Olympic Bid. It was suggested that links to specific pages in the bid book should be included. Additional language was supported. Don moved to approve the amended letter, Kris seconded . The letter was unanimously approved.

11. Approval of request to the Park Commission to ask for an assessment of any private land that may exist inside or on the edge of the Park. Property adjacent to Griffith Park for sale and potential issues, including 0 Mt Lee Drive land for sale,

( [http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/0-Mt-Lee-Dr-Los-Angeles-CA-290068/2101821591\\_zpid/](http://www.zillow.com/homedetails/0-Mt-Lee-Dr-Los-Angeles-CA-290068/2101821591_zpid/) ), potential cataloguing of properties under private ownership that are park adjacent or properties using parkland as private.

Joe said that he would go the Park real estate office and ask to have a map made of all private property near the park. He offered to bring it to the GPAB where the board could see what could be purchased and prioritize which areas would be important to purchase.

12. Update from Historic Structures Ad Hoc Committee regarding the History Element Survey that has begun. Synopsis of what has been done so far and where it is headed.

Don reported that the committee has met with Joe and driven through the Park to evaluate historic structures in the Park. The document is currently 100 pages and will be completed within 6 months. Such things as maps, historic photos, comments on the status of structures, and essays on history will comprise the final document. Don suggested that this project might make a nice publication to raise money for the Park.

13. Special Events in Griffith Park Calendar

A. Discussion and possible action re RPFs for all events. How much of the money does the Parks Foundation keep, how much goes to Griffith Park ?

Laura expressed concern about the amount of money the Parks Foundation keeps from various events. Joe noted that money is earmarked for the Park from the Parks Foundation and that the amount has been \$620,000 over the last 6 years. He stated that the Parks Foundation collects the money on behalf of the Park and then it is earmarked for the Park. He will bring a more detailed breakdown of how the money has been used, and what the Foundation's operating expenses are. Chris asked for a Parks Foundation presentation to the board.

B. Request for Event Calendar coordination, which is needed to make sure that there aren't two events at the same time ( ie the Greek Theatre and the Observatory). Approval for letter

Joe noted that that the website will have the calendar in the Park. He added that Serena Ward has provided a calendar of astronomical events and the Observatory has been told about this.

C. "Hollywood Sign Summit Walk". Update and request that GPAB be advised and informed of all Events

Joe reported that Alissa Walker, leader of the Delab-planned walk, had wanted to start walk from the Beachwood Market and Joe suggested the walk start at the Observatory. The walk was not a Griffith Park sponsored function, but had been set up by a non-profit organization

14. Update re the Griffith Park Historic Resources, including the Wilderness Areas.

Lucinda distributed the Griffith Park Historic Resources Maps to the board.

15. Update from Ad Hoc Transportation Committee on Rec and Parks Mobility Plan for Griffith Park, Joe reported that both the CEQA and consultant reports are due November 20 and are close to being final. He stated that the entire plan is part of a shuttle program to remove cars from the top at the Observatory and the Greek and to provide parking areas. The plans will be shared with Mike Shull, the Council Office and that there will be a public demonstration meeting. A second phase would be to expand the shuttle to other areas of the park.

16. Possible update from Ad Hoc Committee on proposed traffic, trail, maps and other signage in and around Griffith Park

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

Joe reported that 16 signs will be set up by mid-December.

17. Almost-one-year anniversary of the seating of the inaugural Griffith Park Advisory Board

Laura suggested that the December meeting should include a potluck to celebrate our 1 year anniversary.

18. Old/Ongoing Business

It was noted that we need to write letters for the Bond Park and Tongva Memorial.

19. New/Future Business.

A discussion took place concerning a Lake Hollywood Petition about restoring the Vista and closing access to the area. Susan noted that the petitioner refused to give information about who supported the petition. Don suggested we take a stand to state that we believe in access to the Park and that it should not be restricted.

20. ADJOURNMENT

Department of Recreation and Parks, Los Angeles, (323) 661-9465

Email us at: [rap.griffithpark@lacity.org](mailto:rap.griffithpark@lacity.org)

Find us and Like us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/GriffithParkAdvisoryBoard](http://www.facebook.com/GriffithParkAdvisoryBoard)

HOLIDAY meeting schedule:

December meeting will be Thursday, December 10th, 2015

Agendas will be posted at the Crystal Springs Ranger Station and online at

[http://www.laparks.org/dos/parks/griffithpk/Department of Recreation and Parks, Los Angeles, \(323\) 661-9465](http://www.laparks.org/dos/parks/griffithpk/Department%20of%20Recreation%20and%20Parks,%20Los%20Angeles,%20(323)%20661-9465)

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