

MINUTES

THE GRIFFITH PARK ADVISORY BOARD DEPARTMENT OF RECREATION AND PARKS FEBRUARY 22, 2018

The Griffith Park Advisory Board of the City of Los Angeles, Department of Recreation and Parks, was called to order at 6:35 p.m. at the Griffith Park Visitor's Center, Los Angeles, CA 90027. **Present:** Chip Clements, Ron Deutsch, Laura Howe, Sheila Irani, Lucinda Phillips. **Absent:** Chris Laib, **Recreation and Parks:** Joe Salaires, Deirdre Symons

ITEM 1 ROLL CALL Ron Deutsch, Griffith Park Advisory Board (GPAB) Chair, formally called the meeting to order at 6:35 p.m. and attendance was taken.

ITEM 2 APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

The GPAB minutes of January 25, 2018, were approved.

ITEM 3 COMMENTS FROM ANY CITY, COUNTY, STATE OR FEDERAL REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE (5 Minutes each).

Ron Deutsch, GPAB Chair recognized Catherine Landers, Council District 4 Deputy Director of Special Projects. Catherine gave an update on the Dixon LTD Griffith Park Access and Mobility traffic study, advising that the next step would be going to the various City departments involved to determine feasibility. Catherine stated that on March 8, 2018, Dixon Ltd. would present their study to the public, and that a GPAB meeting would be the best channel.

ITEM 4 PUBLIC COMMENTS ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (2 Minutes each).

The Chair recognized Marian Dodge, President of the Friends of Griffith Park (FOGP), who asked when the Fern Dell restroom, which was gutted by fire, would be replaced. Marian advised that she has spoken to the Department of Restoration and it was deemed that the building should be replicated in the style of Spanish Revival.

The chair recognized Victor, on behalf of T Moble, who brought examples of cell tower designs and enhancements that he hoped would blend into Griffith Park's urban wilderness. It was determined that he should return once the Request for Proposal was official.

Joe Salaires, Griffith Park Superintendent, read comments from patron and cyclist, Eban Leher, who finds "cut through" traffic dangerous. Eban recommended either traffic calming methods like speed bumps or a reconfiguring the eastern part of the park.

ITEM 5 RAP ANNOUNCEMENTS AND/OR REPORTS FROM GRIFFITH PARK SUPERINTENDENT, JOE SALAICES.

Joe advised that the Griffith Park "plunge" pool needs to be refurbished and that Quimby funds will be required.

Joe stated that the Merry-Go-Round Café will most likely be operated by a current concessionaire in the interim. The café will go out for a Request for Proposal, which will allow others the opportunity to bid. The building has been brought up to ADA access and the roof has been re-done.

Joe said that the Fern Dell restroom will be rebuilt in the Spanish Revival style. Joe was originally advised that this would require over \$100,000 in funding. The cost has been revised to \$500,000.

Joe stated that the sidewalk from the Greek Theatre to the Griffith Observatory is moving forward.

Joe advised that the Rustic Signage white paper has been forwarded and GPAB should expect a response the Executive Office.

Joe said that the letter of support for the GPACC expansion had been forwarded to the President of the group.

Joe stated that one (1) more Park Ranger has graduated from the LAPD Academy and that RAP will be hiring ten (10) more.

Joe advised that spring break will begin on March 17 and will end on April 8, 2018. The Traffic Division is making preparations and RAP is working with the Department of Transportation.

ITEM 6 HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT ON SEXUAL HARASSMENT

Lucinda Phillips made a motion to remove item No. 6. Sheila Irani seconded and the motion carried.

ITEM 7 SRI CHINMOY PRESENTATION

Yohan Lin gave a slide show report about the organization. Mr. Lin is proposing the planting of a tree and plaque in Griffith Park to commemorate the Sri Chinmoy annual peace run. BPAB's support is requested. Ron asked for more time for GPAB to research the history of Sri Chinmoy. Mr. Lin offered to send references. The possible vote was tabled until the next regular meeting.

ITEM 8 REQUEST THAT GPAB SUPPORT THE REDESIGN OF VERMONT AVENUE TRAFFIC LANES AND THE INSTALLATION OF A CROSSWALK ON VERMONT FROM COMMONWEALTH TO THE BIRD SANCTUARY.

Sheila made a motion to support. . Chip Clements seconded and the motion carried.

Emme Goldknopft, a member of the Sierra Club, stated that Griffith Park needs dedicated parking lots in Hollywood.

Marian Dodge, President of the Friends of Griffith Park, requested that the message board on Vermont, near the Bird Sanctuary, be relocated further south.

ITEM 9 DISCUSSION ON ELECTION OF A SECRETARY.

The election was tabled. The position will rotate alphabetically until further notice. Chip Clements will hold the position next month.

ITEM 10 DISCUSSION OF WATER FOUNTAIN AT THREE MILE TREE. POSSIBLE ACTION TO CHANGE THE CURRENT STAINLESS STEEL COLOR.

Several GPAB members want the current fountain to be exchanged for one with a more rustic color. Joe will ask if any other color is available or if it can be painted.

ITEM 11 DISCUSSION ON PROTOCOL OF FORWARDING GPAB LETTERS

Ron offered a protocol for review. Lucinda made a motion to approve. Shelia seconded it and the motion carried.

ITEM 12 RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUTURE PROJECTS

- A. Ron suggested two short term and two long term projects.

- B. A comprehensive recycling program was proposed.
- C. Trail Erosion was submitted. Lucinda, Laura and Chip formed an Ad Hoc committee
- D. Sheila suggested the possible installation of an archery range with Prop K funding. Catherine Landers, of CD4, offered to find out when the next round of funding would be available. Sheila and Ron volunteered to be on an Ad Hoc Archery Feasibility committee.
- E. Formation of a fund raising committees was suggested. Ron and Sheila volunteered to be on the Ad Hoc committee.
- F. The suggestion of pre-fab restrooms was tabled.
- G. Laura advised that she is working with Tracy James on a tree planting at Cedar Grove for Earth Day. Laura said that the 300 trees had been planted in the last year and a half. Laura advised that there will be a "tree care" day in Fern Dell on March 3, primarily watering and mulching

Lucinda suggested that there be "auto" watering in Fern Dell and at the Pony/Train Ride. Lucinda recommended that a letter be sent to Stefanie Smith be written to address the viability. Laura offered to help.

Rodenticides were brought up and tabled. Lucinda made a motion that a discussion of rodenticides be put on the next regular meeting's agenda. Chip seconded and the motion carried.

ITEM 13 OLD/ONGOING BUSINESS

None

ITEM 14 NEW BUSINESS / RECOMMENDATIONS

Proposed discussion of rodenticides.

Letter to RAP requesting installation of auto watering systems.

The next regular Griffith Park Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 22, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. The February 22, 2018 meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

There will be a Special GPAB Meeting on March 8, 2018 at 6:30 in the Griffith Park Visitor's Center Auditorium.