

GRIFFITH PARK ADVISORY BOARD

FINAL MINUTES

Thursday, May 22, 2025

1. Call to Order at 6:02pm Chair Crow

Roll Call Laib

Crow, Phillips, Chung, Greenwald, Griffin, Gustincic, Hagans, Hamilton, Laib, Lann present. Carlson excused.

2. Approval of April Minutes Laib

Corrections: Gustincic did not abstain on vote. Greenwald would like a recap of Vision for GP presentation included.

Minutes approved with both corrections; one abstention by Chung, who was absent.

3. Special Guests

CD4 Deputy Jennifer Hull

-The LF Plunge design stage is funded

-Pony Ride venue decision is waiting on the Parks Commission receiving recommendations back from RAP Executive Team.

-CD4 has requested that the LA28 Olympic Committee supply a list of events to Council. All questions re: LA28 should go to the Mayor's office-David.c.nguyen@lacity.org

-The new walk/bike path behind the tennis courts and soccer field in So GP is progressing ahead of schedule, however, there will be a time soon when Sunnynook Bridge will be closed for its completion nearby.

-The council-requested Red Flag Report is waiting on LAFD to add their part.

-Prop K funds for safety additions to crosswalks at the Equestrian Center are under review.

Board Comments/Questions

Greenwald: What is the city budget update? Hull: It passed today.

Phillips: Is there funding for construction of the new LF Plunge yet?

Hull: It is only partially funded.

4. General Public Comments

-How does Tunnel 1 get cleaned-it is muddy and isn't being cleared.

-Are the approaches to the bridge being analyzed-it is unsafe and horses can't turn that sharply.

-Is CalTrans issuing an RFP for Festival Trail-it is another area of concern.

-Can there be a dedicated bicycle lane to Griffith Observatory?

-What is the status of the So Griffith Park Master Plan and the Community Center? Superintendent Smith: We may have an update next meeting.

-Thanks to T Hagans for cleaning out the water troughs in the park (loud applause).

5. Informational Reports and Presentations

-RAP report on unsanctioned/unlicensed vending in the park
Superintendent Smith: Read a lengthy description of the various department and city regulations, how they are and aren't enforced and the nuances of Ranger enforcement. It isn't criminal activity as City Council overrode all park rules, eliminating all non vending zones, including GP. Permitting violations are only a civil offense, which likely would not be prosecuted, unless there's a repetitive notorious offender. Permits are required for highly organized and attended commercial activities.

Board Comments/Questions

There were many claritive questions and several board members suggested we could be helpful when RAP begins offering their own park and Hollywood Sign tours.

Public Comments

-An Easter Field instructor asked if they take out and pay for a permit, and could there be better maintenance there
-A request for clarification as to what activities require a permit.
-There should be a separate account for permit revenue at Easter Field that redirects funds to better maintenance
-The Equestrian Center ASM permit office doesn't have any knowledge of how the permitting system works
-Can a member of the equine community be involved in the fee management structure?
-Is a day use permit required for GP? Smith: No
-The new signs in Easter Field stating permits required have caused a great deal of concern, as historically we all have been able to ride and train there without a permit.

-Is there a permit fee structure and who manages the system?

Smith: I have taken a lot of notes re your concerns and will be making inquiries.

The Board of Commissioners approves levied fees.

Vision Plan Built Facilities Review and discussion Alex Phillips

A long interactive discussion entailing the flats and hillsides, city and urban wilderness aspects, where structures are appropriate and not, all grounded in the tenets of the Vision for GP.

A further discussion about whether it is in the purview of the board to "rewrite" the plan or "score" the goals and objectives conclusions at the conclusion of each chapter.

Chair Crow (aka King Crow, Big Kahuna Crow, etc) formed an ad hoc committee to study and report back to board. Ad hoc members are Greenwald, Hamilton, Lann and Laib.

6. Superintendent Updates Superintendent Smith

-RAP Executives have been regularly attending Council budget

meetings; some full time positions have been reduced to part time and part time employees have been reduced.

-Crystal Springs safety improvements next phase walk through has taken place with vendors bidding to revise plans.

Board Comments/questions

Greenwald: Will the phase one consulting group be one of the bidding vendors? Smith: Yes

7. Committee and Ad Hoc Reports Chair Crow

-Griffith Park Visitors Center ad hoc

Chair Gustincic reported concisely that the ad hoc is meeting and progressing nicely.

-Executive Committee

Chair Crow reported that the meeting was good and that this meeting agenda was the output.

8. Board Business Chair Crow

-Board requests that there be a Jazz Festival update and that we visit the Equestrian Center and Easter Field in upcoming meetings

9. Adjournment at 8:38pm

First: Griffin

Second: Greenwald