

Hollenbeck Park Advisory Board Minutes of Meeting:

Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 6pm
Submitted: by Armando Martinez, Staff- Ex Officio

PAB Members Present: Hollenbeck Auditorium

Dina Cruz, Kimberly Arazo, Stephanie Vendig, & Schmuel Gonzalez
Community representatives: Susana Lopez & Manuel Ayala Escamilla, CD 14
Field Office, Cynthia Gonzalez, Assistant Deputy City Attorney, Roberto
Rubalcaba, Caltrans, LAPD Representatives. Also community member Vilma
Castro, and Armando Martinez, staff.

Board members Absent and Excused: None

*Director A. Martinez, welcomed community representatives and requested that
Dina Cruz, lead out on the Agenda items and Dina Cruz accepted.

*Approval of Minutes of PAB meeting for Dec.13, 2022, were reviewed and
approved by board. Vote: 4 yes, no: 0,

Community Reports: *Cynthia Gonzalez, LA Deputy City Attorney. Updated
the PAB members and community with Social Service organizations who help the
local community of unhoused and people looking for mental health assistance,
such as Exodus Recovery.

*Roberto Rubalcaba, Caltrans, District 7, Updated members on Caltrans work in
the local area and her interest to continue working with all community groups and
city representatives. Also thanked the board for their contributions to improving
the community. Also on how to make out reports on line.

* LAPD Officers, Representing Hollenbeck, Public Safety issues, Reviewed
crime in Boyle Heights and how to prevent certain types of crime. Locking doors
and windows in your house and also securing your cars.

* Susana Lopez & Manuel A. Escamilla, CD 14 Area Director, Shared new
information on future funding and current events in the Boyle Heights community.
Shared forthcoming Spring events at Hollenbeck Park and in the Boyle Heights
Community.

*Jose Mendez CD 14, Director of Homeless Strategies Team, Shared an update on their work in the Boyle Heights area and also the success they had at Hollenbeck Park. The placement of the 76 year old man who had been camped out behind the recreation center for four months. Accepted shelter and mental health services. Also shared the success of other unhoused persons in the area.

*Julio Hernandez, Supervisor, Maintenance, Rec. & Parks, Shared various projects moving forward at Hollenbeck, such as the daily maintenance, clean-up of restrooms and taking out the trash three times per day. Also, shared that the restrooms are now being open until 7:30pm each night. Updated the community on the trimming, landscape and other improvements in the cleaning and up keep of the buildings at Hollenbeck Park.

Questions raised by Community Concerns: The homeless issue at the Skate Park and around the various restrooms around the park. Armando Martinez, the director addressed it that currently, we are calling both the LAPD and the Park Rangers and both divisions have had success in getting unhoused to move out and enforced the no camping ordinance.

Matters Under Board Consideration:

1. First Item: The Board voted on continuing the clean ups for April, May and June. Also selected Susana Betancourt as chair of the Clean up committee. Vote Yes, 4 No. 0
Vote Passes to continue clean ups with Susana Betancourt as chair.
Susana Betancourt accepts the appointment.
2. Second Item: The Board voted on continuing the partnership plans with Roosevelt High School and the CD 14 Field Office. The board selected Stephanie Vendig to be the chair of the Roosevelt HS and CD 14 partnership to promote school credit, volunteering, and workshops for Hollenbeck clean-ups, biology research and future garden beautification projects. Vote: Yes 4, No, 0.
Vote passes to continue the planning and to have Stephanie Vendig as the new chair of the Hollenbeck partnership with Roosevelt HS & CD 14.
Stephanie Vendig accepts appointment.
3. Vilma Castro: Nominated to be a new park advisory member, Vilma Castro accepts. Vote: Yes, 4, No, 0

The vote passes to appoint Vilma Castro as a new board member. The paperwork will be given to Vilma so she can get fingerprinted and registered.

Informational Reports:

1. President's Report: Dina Cruz shares her various art projects in the community. Shares her support for the local artists, both students, and adults. Currently Dina is working with the Neighborhood Council to help fund new art projects for the community and to raise \$5,000 dollars for several student art projects.
2. Director's Report: Armando Martinez, shared with the PAB and community, the current status of the restrooms and their maintenance. Also, the approval by the Board of Commissioners on new guard rails and benches at the outdoor patio area next to the parking lot which was donated by the Sikand Foundation. Also updated the board on the Spring programs and success on our Winter and Fall classes.

Next Meeting: to be Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.