

Hollenbeck Park Advisory Board Minutes of Meeting:

Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 6pm

Submitted: by Carlos Montes, and Armando Martinez, Staff, Ex Officio

PAB Members Present with Community Representatives: (The meeting was conducted using Google Meet and entirely telephonically.) Starting time: 6:04pm

Dina Cruz, Carlos Montes, Kimberly Arazo, Susana Betancourt, Stephanie Vendig, Cynthia Gonzalez, Deputy City Attorney, Robert Rubalcaba, Caltrans, Johnny Altamirano, LAPD and Armando Martinez, staff

Board members Absent and Excused: Kimberly Arazo

*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 September 13, 2022, were reviewed and approved. Vote: 4 yes, no: 0, absent 1

Community Reports: *Cynthia Gonzalez, LA Deputy City Attorney. Updated the PAB members, biggest update, new mayor, and new city attorney Haydee. Early November multi agency meeting with various re: behind 5 freeway entrance of Boyle Ave. constant breaches, fires, encampment, is a little sliver of freeway, next to 5 freeway. Purpose how to address the problem: adopt a highway for maintenance, encroachment by local residents, CD 14 staff will look into, young pregnant people living in this area gave contact to homeless outreach. Had court with a guy living behind a recreation center, which had been vandalized, in court yesterday, now doing very well, getting overall help with the Rapid Program. Armando asked what was the cost of a wall, Cynthia said it depends on location; CD 14 can adopt a freeway to assist. Roberto gave more info on Adopt a Freeway, which would be the fastest and easiest approach.

*Roberto Rubalcaba, Caltrans, DOT, D7- Metro Region. Are going to the off ramp, Boyle St.-going to remove encampments regularly. Agree to LAFLA. Use CFR form for any state right away. Dina Cruz, yes have LAFLA, have others on call like Exodus etc. CFR is a good way to solve problems.

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* Officer Johnny Altamirano, LAPD –Senior Lead, Public Safety issues, Reviewed crime in Boyle Heights and gave his report: LAPD. Stats 31 homicides, 49 rapes, 244 robberies, burglaries, 398, GTA 1050, 548 thefts, 103 victims hit. In the park doing night patrol: CALTrans does a good job but the homeless return. Tomorrow at 5 pm to give away with tickets in line, others in general line. Only children can go in to get toys. Shot fired call yesterday but no evidence to prove. Armando questions the new 4118 muni code can LAPD enforce but not when homeless are on State property .Next meeting LAFLA invites. Deputy, Due to unforeseen circumstances he could not attend.

* Matthew Tenchavez, CD 14, Director of Homeless Strategies, not on call.

*Arturo Velasco, Supervisor, Maintenance, Rec. & Parks, Shared various projects moving forward at Hollenbeck, such as: Remove trash from 25 trash cans, several restrooms are closed due to vandalism, cleaning every day; December 6 start cleaning restrooms everyday 4 pm to 6 pm. Job orders are done daily, pruning done as needed. Question by Dina Cruz, when did the new program start for cleaning restrooms now done at night time 6-8 pm. Stephanie-dump in the lake? It is picking up. Done twice a week, clear into the intake pipe, use boat twice a week using a boat, hard to reach the perimeter on the South side of lake. 60 % of work due to homeless trash in parks and lakes.

General Public Comments:

Members of the Public Who Wish to Comment on Other Matters Not Listed on the Agenda and under the Jurisdiction of the Board.

Dina-at a Commissioners meeting some people have expressed concerns of taking power away from PABs. Friends of Hollenbeck. Parks are training community members on how to document park problems. Look at agenda items.

Matters Under Board Consideration:

1. **First Item:** Beautification Projects at Hollenbeck Park: Future Clean ups. Several community members approached Armando to do a monthly clean up by doing at least two hours per month; by volunteers, the park can do a waiver or apply to get insurance coverage. Proposal that we have a volunteer chair, Armando will be interim chair. January 21, 2023 10-am-12pm Motion was voted and approved unanimously. Vote 4 yes, No, 0

Second Item: Work with CD14 to help Connect with Roosevelt HS to promote credit for Projects at Hollenbeck Park, Gardens, Clean-ups.

Board Comment: Carlos supports this program as several neighbors already go into the park to do cleanups, Susan wants to be part of the clean up, Stephanie-RHS students can also be part of the clean up. Dina asked if any community members were to be chair of the clean up committee. Armando nominates Susana as interim chair till we find someone. Susana Accepts. Dina moves to establish the Cleanup Committee, Carlos seconds. Vote: Yes: Carlos, Susana, Stephanie, Dina; No opposition, Passed.

New Project with RHS and PAB. Stephanie reported on our meeting with RHS and reps of PAB to establish a program see attached proposal. We met with the principal with 5 teachers, to include field trips, lab, and other educational activities. Public Comments: none. Board comment: Carlos- new LAUSD board member took office today Dr. Rocio Rivas she may support in the future. Moved to approval Dina, with Stephanie as Chair, Vote Yes: Carlos, Dina, Susana, Stephane, passed and approved

Dina asked about a virus; Armando said we should not touch the animals.

Susana moves to take nominations for PAB vacancies: Susana nominates Shmuel Gonzalez, he- gave introduction of himself, he is BHNC, PLUC and History Musuem tours, represent a younger generation, brought in various communities and history. Dina asked how would you deal with the unhoused camp at Hollenbeck Park.

Vote: Yes: Susana, Carlos, Stephanie, Dina motion passed. Yes, 4, No, 0

2. Director's Report: Armando Martinez, shared with the PAB. (Park Update). Armando gave a report on programming with youth like soccer has expanded, 3 teams now. Dec.16, this Friday we are doing Winter wonderland. PAB can help. We will have various performances like ballet folklorico, three weeks of sports clinics while home on Xmas vacation. Winter 25 classes, from karate, skateboarding, etc. over 200 youth signed up. Spring programming and then Summer camp. Armando continues to monitor park with staff, bridge repairs, Carlos pointed out on the vital important programming as his son was part of the summer program years ago, Dina also complimented Armando for the hard work.

Board Business:

1. Dog Park Project, Carlos Montes, sub-committee chair: Nothing at this time. On hold until housing is found for the unhoused community living at the encampment.
2. Hollenbeck Organic Fertilizer: Will continue to research and also work with LA Parks Foundation on the Japanese Garden Pathway development. Nothing at this time.
3. Future Events: Spring Egg Hunt, Saturday, April 15, 2023 10am-2pm, Looking for volunteers to help with the event, Tables, arts & crafts and refreshments.

Meeting adjourned at 7:14pm,

Next Meeting: to be Tuesday, March 14, 2023 at 6pm.