

Hollenbeck Park Advisory Board Minutes of Meeting:

Tuesday, September, 2022 at 6pm

Submitted: by Carlos Montes, and Armando Martinez, Director

PAB Members Present: (The meeting was conducted using Google Meet and entirely telephonically.) Starting time: 6:05pm

Dina Cruz, President, Carlos Montes, Secretary, Kimberly Arazo, Member, Armando Martinez, Staff/Hollenbeck RC Director

Community representatives: Matthew Tenchavez , CD 14 Homeless Coordinator, Cynthia Gonzalez, Assistant Deputy City Attorney, Roberto Rubalcaba, Caltrans DOT, D7 Metro, Johnny Altamirano, LAPD, Arturo Velasco Supervisor, Maintenance Division East, Susana Betancourt, Resident, Aracelly Cruichi, Resident, Socorro Chacon, Resident, Stephanie Vendig, Resident.

Board Members who officially Resigned: Patricia Moreno, Vivian Escalante and David Silvas. We have three vacant seats on the board.

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

*Approval of Minutes of PAB meeting for May 10, 2022, were reviewed and we had quorum. Approved by board with minor changes. Adding missing attendants. Socorro Chacon and Susana Betancourt.

Community Reports: Cynthia Gonzalez, Asst. 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. Also spoke on the new ordinance approved by City Hall, Municipal Code: 41.18; 56.11

*Roberto Rubalcaba, Caltrans, District 7, Updated members on Caltrans work in the local area and his interest to continue working with all community organizations and city representatives. Clean ups on Sept. 6, Also thanked the board for their contributions to improving the community and future efforts to have clean-ups once a month.

* Matthew Tenchavez, CD 14-Homeless Resource Coordinator: Updated the members on the 30 people that were placed in temporary housing, also on the new May 16 City Ordinance 41.18 and enforcement . Currently looking to house 21 new people. Also continuing Showers of Hope at Hollenbeck RC every Tuesday. Working with Exodus, LAHSA, California Highway Patrol and CALtrans.

* Officer Johnny Altamirano, LAPD –Senior Lead, 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. Also shared on new Municipal Code 41.18 to take effect on May 16, 2022.

* Manuel Ayala Escamilla, CD 14 Field Deputy, Shared new information on future funding and current events in the Boyle Heights community. Shared forthcoming Fall events at Hollenbeck Park and in the Boyle Heights Community dealing with Bulky Items Pick-up, Community Clean-Ups in Boyle Heights, Sept. 16th Celebrations and the Vicente Fernandez Street Naming Ceremony. Voting Day Activities in Boyle Heights and Hollenbeck Park, Sept.20. from 6pm-8pm. Also, Emma Howard, New policy on Restaurant Development Program, New Alcohol Permits and Conditional Use Permits.

*Arturo Velasco, Supervisor, Maintenance, Rec. & Parks, Shared various projects moving forward at Hollenbeck, such as the daily maintenance, clean-up of restrooms, the daily landscape irrigation repairs and maintenance of the Hollenbeck park infrastructure.

Matters Under Board Consideration:

1. Nomination of New Board Members: Stephanie Vendig, Community member. Nominated by Carlos Montes, Stephanie Vendig accepts. The board votes: Yes, 4 No, 0, Stephanie Vendig , approved.
Nomination of Susana Betancourt, Community member by Armando Martinez, Susana Betancourt accepts. The board votes, Yes, 4, No, 0, approved.
2. A Beautification Project for Hollenbeck Park. A proposed monthly community clean up by residents of the community. Anyone who wants to volunteer, would need to register as a volunteer and work with the director to be officially registered. This is to protect all community members if they slip or fall, they will be covered by the City insurance policy if they are fingerprinted. Discussion, The board votes, Yes, 4, No, 0, Approved.

3. Connect with CD 14 to Partner with Roosevelt High School to promote Credit for various projects at Hollenbeck Park, such as Beautification Gardens, Clean-ups, and new workshops with Roosevelt High School students and teachers. Ideas proposed by Stephanie Vendig. Discussion, the board votes, Yes, 4, No, 0. Approved.

*Director's Report: Armando Martinez, shared with the PAB and community, the current status of the restrooms and their maintenance. Also, the Micro Forest at Hollenbeck Park is thriving we have 20 new trees. Also reviewed final plans for the outdoor patio with guard rails. Currently looking for new funding sources to fund new benches and new lights. Future plans are aimed to continue to renovate the infrastructure at Hollenbeck Park such as the Skateboard Park, the Band Shell Stage and the Hollenbeck Bridge.

Standing Committee:

1. Art Beautification Project for Hollenbeck, Dina Cruz, sub-committee chair: Nothing at this time. Waiting for new funding sources.
2. 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.
3. Hollenbeck Organic Fertilizer: Will continue to research and also work with LA Parks Foundation on the Japanese Garden Pathway development.

Meeting adjourned at 7:45 pm,

Next Meeting: to be Tuesday, December 13, 2022 at 6pm.