

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, April 9, 2015 @ 7:00 PM
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Topchian called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Chair Topchian led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover took roll call.

PRESENT:

Chair Agassi Topchian, Commissioner Josh Kurpies, and Commissioner Richard Maggio.

ABSENT: Vice Chair Sanes

STAFF PRESENT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan, Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan, Project Development Administrator Andi Lovano, and Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Maggio and seconded by Commissioner Kurpies to approve the agenda for the April 9, 2015 meeting. The motion was approved (3-0-0).

OATH OF OFFICE:

Stephanie J. Harker was sworn in as Commissioner by Councilmember Lauren Meister at 7:04 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Maggio and seconded by Chair Topchian to approve the minutes of the March 26, 2015 meeting. The motion was approved (2-0-2) with Commissioner Kurpies and Commissioner Harker abstaining.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Wojtkielewicz of West Hollywood spoke to the Commission about persons that reside in Affordable Housing and their limited rights under the Rent Stabilization Ordinance. He also spoke regarding management services under The John Stewart Company.

DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan reviewed the Director's/ Manager's Look Ahead Calendar and announced a May 14th celebration of the 30th anniversary of the Rent Stabilization Ordinance.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Chair Topchian welcomed Commissioner Harker and thanked outgoing Commissioner Gregoire for his years of service.

Commissioner Maggio welcomed Commissioner Harker and expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Gregoire.

Commissioner Kurpies welcomed Commissioner Harker and thanked Commissioner Gregoire for his years of service.

Commissioner Harker thanked her fellow Commissioners for their warm welcome and expressed her thanks to staff for the orientation she received.

APPEALS:

A. D-3698 CD3

**620 N. Westmount Dr. #A
(Rent Reduction)**

Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan provided a case summary and analysis of the appeal as provided in the staff report.

No representative for the Tenant was in attendance.

Landlord representative Ronen Cohen was in attendance and spoke to the Commission regarding the appeal.

After a public discussion among the Commissioners regarding the appeal, a motion was made by Commissioner Maggio to adopt Resolution 15-464, with a correction to the effective date, to reverse the hearing examiner's decision. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harker. The motion passed (4-0-0).

B. D-3958

**1304 N. Hayworth Ave. #14
(Rent Reduction)**

Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan provided a case summary and analysis of the appeal as provided in the staff report.

Tenant Shawn McAllister was in attendance and spoke to the Commission regarding the appeal.

No representative for the Landlord was in attendance.

After a public discussion among the Commission regarding the appeal, a motion was made by Commissioner Maggio to adopt Resolution 15-465 to affirm the hearing examiner's decision. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kurpies. The motion passed (4-0-0).

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Legislative Update:

Project Development Administrator Andi Lovano provided a report detailing state legislative activities concerning rent stabilization and housing issues current as of April 2015 and responded to related questions from the Commission.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Maggio requested additional information on the 30th anniversary celebration of the Rent Stabilization Ordinance

Commissioner Harker again thanked the Commission for welcoming her. She also spoke of the various resources available to both tenants and landlords at City Hall.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan spoke regarding Open Data, a project the City is working on to make public information more easily accessible.

ADJOURNMENT:

Chair Topchian adjourned the Rent Stabilization Commission meeting at 8:01 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on April 23, 2015 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

These minutes were taken and submitted by Laura Schoonover, Commission Secretary.
Adopted this 23rd day of April, 2015.

ATTEST:



Agassi Topchian, Chair



Laura Schoonover, Secretary