

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, June 11, 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 7:09 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL: Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover took roll call.

PRESENT:

Chair Agassi Topchian, Vice Chair Gail Sanes, Commissioner Josh Kurpies, Commissioner Richard Maggio and Commissioner Stephanie Harker.

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan, Rent Stabilization Information Coordinator Chris Uszler, Rent Stabilization Information Coordinator Anwar Zraikat, and Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Vice Chair Sanes and seconded by Commissioner Harker to approve the agenda for the June 11, 2015 meeting. The motion was approved (5-0-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Harker and seconded by Commissioner Kurpies to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2015 meeting. The motion was approved (5-0-0).

DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan spoke regarding the New Business item on unit swapping and gave the Commission more details on what would be discussed. Mr. Noonan also reviewed the Manager's Look Ahead calendar.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. **Unit Swapping:** Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan began the discussion by giving a detailed report on the unit swapping concept and reported that it had been identified by the Community in the in the 2013 Housing Element update as a method by which residents could remain in their units as they age. Mr. Noonan also

explained the possible obstacles to unit swapping that are present as a result of Costa Hawkins.

Following Mr. Noonan's report the Commission engaged in an extended conversation in which ideas, suggestion, comments and questions were presented to staff.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michael Wojtkielewicz of West Hollywood commented on unit swapping. He also mentioned that the Housing Building known as Sierra Bonita may not be in complete compliance with ADA requirements.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioner Maggio requested clarification on when the topic of relocation fees will be brought before the Commission again

Commissioner Harker thanked Mr. Wojtkielewicz and asked staff for information about who a person can contact regarding questions about the Americans with Disabilities Act. She also announced that the annual Historic Preservation Commission event will be held July 22 at Plummer Park.

Commissioner Kurpies also commented on Mr. Wojtkielewicz's comments and gave information about how to contact the ADA government agency.

Chair Topchian also asked staff to review ways to assist Mr. Wojtkielewicz with his concerns.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Public Comments was reopened to allow Victor Omelchenko of West Hollywood to speak regarding the Ellis Act.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan commented on recent legislation regarding the Ellis Act. He also offered information regarding the Sierra Bonita Apartments.

Mr. Noonan responded to an earlier question from Chair Topchian about the upcoming report on relocation benefits.

Mr. Noonan also responded to a question from Chair Topchian about receiving a legislative update from the City's lobbyist in Sacramento.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on June 25, 2015 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.


These minutes were taken and submitted by Laura Schoonover, Commission Secretary.
Adopted this 25th day of June, 2015.

A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request.
(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the recordings are not of commercial quality.)

ATTEST:



Agassi Topchian, Chair



Laura Schoonover, Secretary