

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, September 10, 2015 @ 7:00 PM
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Sanes called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Commissioner Gregoire led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Acting Commission Secretary Tom Trevor took roll call.

PRESENT:

Chair Gail Sanes, Commissioner Stephanie Harker, and Commissioner David Gregoire

ABSENT: Vice Chair Richard Maggio and Commissioner Agassi Topchian.

STAFF PRESENT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan, Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan, and Acting Commission Secretary Tom Trevor

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Commissioner Gregoire to approve the agenda for the September 10, 2015. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harker. The motion was approved (3-0-0).

At this time Commissioner Topchian arrived to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Gregoire and seconded by Commissioner Harker to approve the minutes of the August 27, 2015. The motion was approved (4-0-0).

DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan reviewed the Manager's Look Ahead calendar.

APPEALS:

A. D-4019

**8917 Cynthia Street #3
(Rent Decrease)**

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

Tenant Carlo Capomazza was in attendance and spoke to the Commission regarding the appeal.

Landlord Paul Kalt was in attendance and spoke to the Commission regarding the appeal.

After the Commission deliberated, a motion was made by Commissioner Gregoire to affirming the hearing examiner's decision. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harker. The motion passed (3-1-0) with Commissioner Topchian voting nay.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. Review of the 2014 Annual Report: Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan gave a summary report of the 2014 Annual Report and answered questions from the Commission about the report.

Commissioner Topchian commented on the statistics regarding appeals that were heard by the Commission and the volume of phone calls and counter contacts that were processed by the Rent Stabilization and Housing Division. He also commented on the number of rent stabilized units in the City.

Commissioner Harker commented on the photography work in the Annual Report and expressed her appreciation for the historical buildings that are located within the City. Commissioner Harker also took this opportunity to comment on the need for affordable housing for moderate income people.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Dan Morin of West Hollywood spoke regarding the agenda packets that are prepared for the Rent Stabilization Commission meetings. He also spoke regarding his experience with tenant harassment.

Victor Omelczenko of West Hollywood spoke regarding developments on Norton Avenue and Alfred Street and their impact on the availability of affordable income units.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Commissioner Topchian clarified the difference between affordable units and rent stabilized units.

Commissioner Harker thanked the public speakers and encouraged the public in general to participate in and educate themselves on issues regarding housing, in particular the Ellis Act.

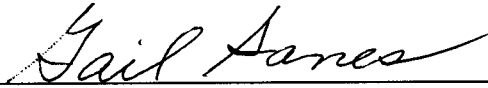
ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on September 24, 2015 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

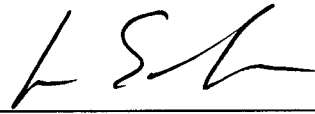
These minutes were submitted by Laura Schoonover, Commission Secretary and approved by a motion of the Rent Stabilization Commission on this 24th day of September, 2015.

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:



Gail Sanes, Chair



Commission Secretary