

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, August 11, 2016 @ 7:00 PM
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

Minutes

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

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

ROLL CALL: Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover took roll call.

PRESENT: Chair Richard Maggio, Vice Chair David Gregoire, Commissioner Rob Bergstein, Commissioner Josh Kurpies, Commissioner Gail Sanes, Commissioner Stephanie Harker excused herself while the meeting was in progress, and Commissioner Alexander Gurfinkel arrived while the meeting was in progress

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT:

Director of Human Services and Rent Stabilization Elizabeth Savage, Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan, Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan, Rent Stabilization Information Coordinator Chris Uszler, Rent Stabilization Information Coordinator Gloria Aviles and Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion was made by Vice Chair Gregoire to approve the agenda for the August 11, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sanes. The motion was approved (6-0-0).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Commissioner Bergstein made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harker. The motion was approved (6-0-0).

DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT:

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan reviewed the items on the Look Ahead calendar. He also reported the Russian and Spanish language on the bi-annual newsletters had been updated.

Commissioner Gurfinkel arrived this point in the meeting.

Commissioner Bergstein inquired about the October meeting schedule and made a motion that the October 27 meeting be held whether or not there will be an appeal, and requested

the agenda include discussion topics from the Commission's priorities. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gurfinkel. The motion passed (4-3-0) with Commissioners Sanes, Gregoire, and Maggio voting nay.

Commissioner Kurpies announced he would be a panel member in a town hall type discussion on Saturday, August 13, 2016 focusing on how existing policies shape the creation of residential development in West Hollywood. He encouraged the public to attend.

Commissioner Gurfinkel made a motion to request an item on possible options for additional multi-language outreach be placed on a future agenda. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bergstein. There was discussion. Vice Chair Gregoire made a motion to continue the discussion to the next meeting on August 25, 2016. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sanes. There was further discussion. Commissioner Gurfinkel then withdrew his motion. A vote was taken on Vice Chair Gregoire's motion.

Commissioner Harker dismissed herself from the meeting at this time.

Vice Chair Gregoire's motion to continue discussing whether to request an item on multi-language outreach options at the August 25, 2016 meeting passed (5-0-1) with Commissioner Bergstein abstaining..

NEW BUSINESS:

1. **Study Session:** Staff members presented the Commission with a mock appeal scenario that introduced various situations that Commissioners can encounter such as the introduction of new evidence. There were also discussions on the standard of review, the purpose of rent reduction valuations, housing services, the Brown Act, and *de novo* hearings.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:

Commissioners Gurfinkel, Kurpies, Sanes, and Maggio thanked staff for the mock appeal presentation.

STAFF COMMENTS:

Director Savage complimented staff on the mock appeal presentation. Legal Counsel Alison Regan responded to a comment from Commissioner Maggio about how to respond to a meeting participant who displays untoward behavior. Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan announced he would be out of the office for the next Commission meeting and Gloria Aviles would be Acting Manager.

ADJOURNMENT:

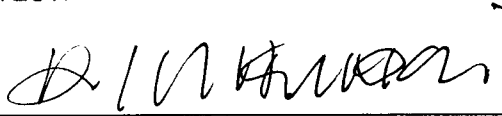
The meeting was adjourned at 9:19 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on August 25, 2016 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

These minutes were submitted by Laura Schoonover, Commission Secretary and approved by a motion of the Rent Stabilization Commission on this 25th day of August, 2016.

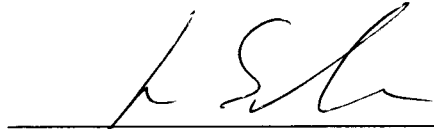
A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk's office upon request. You may also view a video of this meeting at <http://www.weho.org/weho-tv/other-city-meetings>

(Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore the audio recordings are not of commercial quality.)

ATTEST:



Richard Maggio, Chair



Commission Secretary