

**Rent Stabilization Commission  
City of West Hollywood  
Thursday, September 22, 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 7:02 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 Stephanie Harker, and Commissioner Alexander Gurfinkel

**ABSENT:** Commissioner Gail Sanes

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan and Commission Secretary Laura Schoonover

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

A motion was made by Vice Chair Gregoire to approve the agenda for the September 22, 2016 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Harker. The motion was approved (6-0-0).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

Commissioner Kurpies requested that the minutes of the September 8, 2016 be amended. Vice Chair Gregoire made a motion to approve the minutes as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gurfinkel. The motion was approved (6-0-0).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Michael Wojtkielewicz of West Hollywood spoke regarding reasonable accommodations requests.

**DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT:**

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan reviewed the Look Ahead Calendar. The remaining Commission meeting dates for the calendar year are 10/13, 10/27, 11/10, 12/8, 12/22. November 24, 2016 is Thanksgiving and there will be no meeting.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commission Kurpies commented on the possibility of cancelling the December 22, 2016 Rent Stabilization Commission meeting

Commissioner Bergstein commented on the current Ellis status of 1301 N. Sweetzer (1302-1310 N. Sweetzer). He also commented on a Los Angeles Times article about a new development project in Los Angeles.

Commissioner Harker spoke about her attendance at the September 20 RSO Building Blocks seminar entitled Reasonable Accommodations for Disabled Tenants. She commented that the attendance was low and suggested that staff review ways to do outreach to the public.

Chair Maggio shared information on various upcoming WeHo Art events.

Commissioner Gurfinkel commented on Russian language outreach materials.

## **APPEALS:**

A. D-4131

1114 N. Clark St. #4  
(MAR)

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

No representative for the Landlord was in attendance.

No representative for the Tenant was in attendance.

A motion was made by Commissioner Gurfinkel to affirm the hearing examiner's decision. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bergstein. The motion passed (6-0-0).

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan provided the Commission with an update on the 2015-16 Priorities.

Commissioner Bergstein commented on the status of various priority topics. He also asked that the priority item related to S.C.E.P. program information not be scheduled this year.

Commissioner Kurpies commented that he would like training on Robert's Rules, and on the Commission by-laws, including placing items on the agenda, and making recommendations to City Council. He commented that he sees the priorities as an educational piece and not a work plan. He also commented the Commission should take a more active role in reviewing the Rent Regulations and by-laws, and have a more active role in the annual report. He also commented that the Commission should have a more active role in particular housing recommendations that are presented to Council.

Chair Maggio spoke about various motions that can be made by a Commission member.

Vice Chair Gregoire, Commissioner Harker, Commissioner Gurfinkel and Chair Maggio thanked staff for the priorities update and stated that they look forward to the upcoming Study Session.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:**

Commissioner Kurpies made a motion to cancel the December 22 Commission meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gurfinkel. The motion was passed (6-0-0).

Commissioner Kurpies spoke about his attendance at a recent Beverly Hills public meeting regarding a development project.

Commissioner Bergstein made a comment about the importance of having a will, power of attorney and medical directive and commented on different social service agencies that can help prepare those documents.

**STAFF COMMENTS:**

Staff distributed the Russian language newsletters to the Commission and answered questions from the Commission.


**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held on October 13, 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 13th day of October, 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