

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, September 27, 2018 @ 7:00 PM
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

Minutes

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Charity called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

ROLL CALL: Commission Secretary Celeste Barrino took roll call.

PRESENT: Commissioner Josh Kurpies, Commissioner Rob Bergstein, Commissioner Richard Maggio, Commissioner Agassi Topchian, Commissioner Karen O'Keefe, Vice Chair David Gregoire, Chair Garrett Charity.

ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan, Legal Counsel to the Commission Alison Regan, Commission Secretary Celeste Barrino.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Commissioner Maggio to approve the agenda for the September 27, 2018 meeting. Commissioner Gregoire seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Commissioner Bergstein to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2018 meeting as amended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maggio. The motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Esther Schiller, West Hollywood, introduced herself as Director of the nonprofit organization Smoke Free Air for Everyone. She spoke about the benefits of a smoke free policy for multi-unit housing.

DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT: Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan reviewed the Look Ahead calendar.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner Bergstein presented an article in the Wall Street Journal about the tobacco company Phillip Morris International committing to a smoke-free future. He also asked the question if City Council was going to agendize the potential of smoke free housing in October.

Housing Manager Peter Noonan replied that he could not confirm if the City Council would make a decision in October. He stated that the Code Compliance office is leading the report.

APPEAL:

D-4332

1000 Palm Ave Unit 16

(Commissioner Maggio recused himself from the Appeal D-4332)

Commissioner Josh Kurpies arrived

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

Jeffrey David, Irvine, landlord representative, spoke on the appeal.

Following Commission deliberation, a motion was made by Commissioner Topchian to adopt the Resolution 18-533, as amended, affirming the hearing examiner's decision in D-4332. The motion was seconded by Vice Chair Gregoire. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-0-0.

NEW BUSINESS: The Rent Stabilization Commission will consider forming a new Sub-Committee to study the Unit Re-Registration process.

(Commissioner Maggio rejoined the Commission)

Rent Stabilization & Housing Manager Peter Noonan recommended the Commission discuss the topic and if the Commission wished to proceed, make a motion and take a roll call vote

Commissioner Kurpies discussed how the interest of the Unit Re-Registration process came about at a previous meeting. Staff was asked to present a report on the rent stabilization ordinance requirement of the unit re-registration process. The staff suggested the Commission consider forming a Sub-committee to review the process which will allow them to get a better understanding.

Commissioner Charity inquired as to the inner workings of the re-registration process.

Commissioner Kurpies made a motion to form an Ad Hoc Sub-Committee to learn more about the Unit Re-registration process. The motion was seconded by Commissioner O'Keefe. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-1-0.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner Bergstein attended the Apartment Owner's Association of Los Angeles that will be reforming the West Hollywood Chapter. He encouraged the Landlords to attend the Commission meeting. He also spoke about an article on rent control in New York.

STAFF COMMENTS: Housing Manager Peter Noonan spoke about the annual Disability Service Awards as part of the City's observance of disability awareness month. The awards will take place in the Council Chambers on October 24th at 6:00 p.m. He also mentioned that incentives for Multi-family Historic Resources report will be presented at the next Council meeting, October 1, 2018.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. on October 11, 2018 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

These minutes were submitted by Celeste Barrino, Commission Secretary, and approved by a motion of the Rent Stabilization Commission on this 11th day of October 2018.

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:



Garrett Charity, Chair



Celeste Barrino
Commission Secretary