

**Rent Stabilization Commission  
City of West Hollywood  
Thursday, August 8, 2019 @ 7:00 PM  
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers  
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

**Minutes  
(Amended)**

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Maggio led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

**PRESENT:** Commissioner O'Keefe, Commissioner Kurpies, Commissioner Maggio, Commissioner Martz, Commissioner Charity, Vice Chair Topchian, Chair Bergstein.

**ABSENT:** There were no absences.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Rent Stabilization & Housing Manager Peter Noonan, Legal Counsel Alison Regan, Commission Secretary Tom Trevor.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** A motion was made by Commissioner Kurpies to approve the agenda for the August 8, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Charity seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Commissioner Kurpies to approve the minutes as amended of the July 11, 2019 meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maggio. The motion was approved 6-0-1, with Commissioner Charity abstaining.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Ted Green, West Hollywood, commented on an upcoming zone text amendment.

**DIRECTOR'S/MANAGER'S REPORT:** Rent Stabilization & Housing Manager Peter Noonan reviewed the Look Ahead calendar. Following Commission discussion, the December 26 meeting was canceled due to lack of quorum.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:** Commissioner Martz thanked the Commission for allowing him to take a vacation without an absence.

Commissioner O'Keefe thanked former Commission Secretary Barrino for her service and welcomed Secretary Trevor as Commission Secretary.

Commissioner Kurpies thanked Commissioner Charity for his service as Commission Chair.

Commissioner Maggio thanked Commissioner Charity for his service as Commission Chair.

Chair Bergstein commented on the importance of clear communication during Commission deliberations.

**APPEAL:**

D-4419

1040 N. Sierra Bonita Avenue, #3

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

Sarah Wotten, West Hollywood, tenant, spoke on the appeal.

Adam Wolin, West Hollywood, tenant, spoke on the appeal.

David Davide, Los Angeles, representative for the landlord, spoke on the appeal.

Following Commission deliberation, a motion was made by Commissioner Martz to adopt Resolution RSC 19-561, a resolution of the Rent Stabilization Commission of the City of West Hollywood affirming-in-part and reversing-in-part the Hearing Examiner's Decision on D-4419 (a rent reduction of \$5 is warranted for the kitchen/dining area ceiling fan, and a rent reduction of \$28 is warranted for the security gate deadbolt and bottom lock). The motion was seconded by Commissioner Charity. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-1-0, with Commissioner O'Keefe voting no.

**APPEAL:**

D-4354cd1

1224 N. La Cienega Boulevard

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

Charis Michelson, West Hollywood, tenant, spoke on the appeal.

Following Commission deliberation, a motion was made by Commissioner Charity to adopt Resolution 19-562, a resolution of the Rent Stabilization Commission of the City of West Hollywood reversing the Hearing Examiner's Decision on D-4354cd1. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Maggio. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-1-0, with Commissioner O'Keefe voting no.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

A. CITY CENSUS COMPLETE COUNT.

Following a brief discussion, the Commission voted by consensus to appoint Commissioner Martz to the Complete Count Committee (CCC). The committee will develop strategies to ensure that every resident is counted for the 2020 Census.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** There was no public comment.

**COMMISSIONER COMMENTS:** Commissioner Maggio attended the Transportation Commission meeting and stressed the importance of Commissioners familiarizing themselves with the work of other City Commissions.

Commissioner Kurpies said that the California state legislature will return to session on August 12 and will consider Assembly Bill 1482, which would restrict rent increases on certain properties. He mentioned a recent article in the L.A. Times that addressed caps on rent increases supported by Governor Newsom.

Commissioner O'Keefe reiterated that gas-powered leaf blowers are illegal in West Hollywood and that use of them can be reported to the City's code enforcement office via the City's app.

Chair Bergstein said that the Council heard a staff presentation on the possibility of a smoke-free housing ordinance and thanked Rent Stabilization and code enforcement staff on their contributions. The Chair will keep the Commission informed of future developments

Chair Bergstein reminded the Commission that the next meeting would be a study session.

**STAFF COMMENTS:** Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan reported that the Rent Stabilization is looking at having information available on the City's app. He shared the City's housing policies with the Commissioners and asked Commissioners to consider these and the 8-year cycle for updating the housing element when the discussion on the Commission's duties related to housing policies occurs at the upcoming study session. Manager Noonan will not be in attendance at the study session. Information Coordinator Gloria Aviles will be staffing in his absence. Manager Noonan responded to a question regarding the department's new online registration system. He responded to a question regarding a FEMA grant.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 8:48 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. on August 22, 2019 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

These minutes were submitted by Tom Trevor, Commission Secretary, and approved by a motion of the Rent Stabilization Commission on this 22nd day of August 2019.

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:



Robert Bergstein, Chair



Commission Secretary