

**Rent Stabilization Commission
City of West Hollywood
Thursday, September 26, 2019 @ 7:00 PM
West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers
625 North San Vicente Boulevard**

Minutes

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: The Commission said the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL: Commission Secretary Michele Pashayi took roll call.

PRESENT: Commissioner Josh Kurpies, Commissioner Karen O’Keefe, Commissioner Richard Maggio, Commissioner Kellan Martz, Commissioner Garrett Charity, Vice Chair Agassi Topchian, Chair Rob Bergstein.

ABSENT: There were no absences.

Commissioner Karen O’Keefe arrived at 7:01 PM.

STAFF PRESENT: Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan, City Clerk Yvonne Quarker, Senior Planner Doug Vu and Commission Secretary Michele Pashayi.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA: A motion was made by Commissioner Charity to approve the agenda for the September 26, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Martz seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: A motion was made by Vice Chair Topchian to approve the minutes of the September 12, 2019 meeting. Commissioner Martz seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public speakers.

MANAGER REPORT: Rent Stabilization and Housing Manager Peter Noonan reviewed the Look Ahead Calendar. He informed the Commission of study topics and one appeal in October. The November 14th meeting will focus on customer service enhancement updates.

City Clerk Yvonne Quarker was introduced to review how recommendations from the RS Commission are sent to the City Council and policies on that process.

Chair Bergstein asked commissioners if they had questions for Mr. Noonan at this point. Commissioner Maggio asked if additional hearings are anticipated. Mr. Noonan clarified a hearing could be added on October 24, 2019 or November 14, 2019.

City Clerk Yvonne Quarker gave background on the way Commissions and Advisory Boards can forward items they would like to undertake to City Council. After discussion, Chair Bergstein asked staff to include updates of pending items the Commission sends to the City Council in the Manager’s Report.

COMMISSION COMMENTS: Commissioner Martz commented on the Census 2020 meeting he and Commissioner Kurpies attended.

Commissioner Kurpies announced Assemblymember Richard Bloom is hosting a Senior Scam Stopper event with the Contractors State License Board on Thursday, October 3, 2019 from 10:30 AM – 12:00 PM at Sunrise of Beverly Hills on Crescent Drive.

Chair Bergstein reviewed the City Council packet this last week and was pleased to see a report from this Commission included in the Boards and Commissions. He also complimented Administrative Specialist III Danielle Garcia on her customer service follow-up on a unit's reregistration.

APPEAL: There were no appeals.

NEW BUSINESS: Chair Bergstein opened discussion of the code amendments related to the Alternative Maintenance Standards for Designated Cultural Resources subject to the RSO. Mr. Noonan introduced Current and Historic Planning's Senior Planner Doug Vu who reviewed the proposed amendment to the RSO establishing an alternative from the current painting schedule requirements for rent stabilized cultural resources.

The Commission asked questions and discussed how the proposed amendment would be implemented within the existing housing service rent reduction application hearing and appeal process. After discussion, the Commission asked staff to consider the comments provided and to bring the item back.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: After discussion, a motion was made by Commissioner O'Keefe to recommend to the City Council that the Commission's duty to evaluate and make recommendations to the City Council relative to the City's housing policies includes but is not necessarily limited to recommendations on any rental properties including the terms of lease and maintenance standards. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Martz. The motion failed by a vote of 3-4-0. Commissioner O'Keefe then asked fellow Commissioners if there was any alternative recommendation. No further discussion was offered regarding the Rent Stabilization Commission's duties.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: There were no public comments.

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS: Commissioner O'Keefe welcomed new Secretary Michele Pashayi.

Commissioner Kurpies thanked staff for the thorough answers to item one and Doug Vu's presentation. Commissioner Kurpies added that his comments about distrust of City staff should not be taken personally toward anyone especially the staff of West Hollywood he thinks is amazing. It was the process he distrusts sometimes, not the individual staff members.

Vice Chair Topchian thanked staff and Mr. Noonan for clarification on the second item and welcomed Secretary Michele Pashayi.

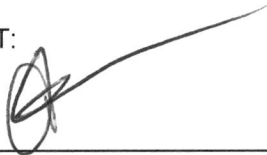
STAFF COMMENTS: Mr. Noonan followed up on an earlier question about how the Rent Regulations are changed.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m. The next regular meeting of the Rent Stabilization Commission will be held at 7:00 p.m. on October 10, 2019 in the West Hollywood Park Public Meeting Room – Council Chambers.

These minutes were submitted by Michele Pashayi, Commission Secretary, and approved by a motion of the Rent Stabilization Commission on this 10th day of October 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:



Rob Bergstein, Chair



Commission Secretary