



HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION (HPC)
SPECIAL MEETING
TELECONFERENCE MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 30, 2023 – 7:00 P.M.

- 1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Sotsky called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and read the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh Land Acknowledgement.
- 2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Commissioner Davidson lead the pledge of allegiance.
- 3. **OATH OF OFFICE** Mayor Pro Tempore John Erickson administered the Oath of office to Commissioner Yawar Charlie.
- 4. **ROLL CALL**
PRESENT: Chair Jacob Sotsky, Vice-Chair Gail Ostergren, Commissioners Dubin, Davidson, King and Charlie.

ABSENT None.

STAFF PRESENT Doug Vu, HPC Liaison, Roger Rath, Associate Planner, Nels Youngborg, Chattel, Inc. Consultant and Sharita Houston, HPC Secretary
- 5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**
Action: Approve the January 30, 2023 special meeting agenda as presented **Motion by Commissioner Charlie, second by Vice-Chair Ostergren and passed.**
- 6. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
Action: November 28, 2022 as presented. **Motion by Chair Sotsky, second by Commissioner Dubin, and passed; noting the abstention of Commissioner Sotsky due to his absence.**
- 7. **SPECIAL ITEM:**

A. MEETING DEDICATION AND RESOLUTION: Meeting dedication and resolution in memory of former Historic Preservation Commissioner, Edward S. Levin.

DRAFT RESOLUTION NO. HPC 23-162: A RESOLUTION HONORING THE SERVICE OF EDWARD S. LEVIN TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA.

CHAIR SOTSKY read into the record the language and purpose of Draft Resolution No. HPC 23-162 before the Commission.

Item 7.A. Staff Presentation: None.

Item 7.A. Public Comment: None.

THE COMMISSION spoke in favor and support of adopting the resolution. They also requested that an in-person, memorial ceremony be held in his honor and that it be open to members of the community.

Vice-Chair Ostergren moved to approve Draft Resolution No. HPC 23-162, second by Commissioner Dubin.

Action: The Commission moved to adopt Draft Resolution No. HPC 23-162 as presented, **motion by Vice-Chair Ostergren, second by Commissioner Dubin and passed on roll call vote 6/6 in favor of the motion**

8. **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None.

9. **CONSENT CALENDAR:** None.

10. **EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR:** None.

11. **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

A. 8549 SUNSET BOULEVARD: Request for Cultural Resource Designation of the Pillar Structure located within the public right-of-way and adjacent to 8459 Sunset Boulevard, West Hollywood, California.

STAFF ROGER RATH gave a presentation of information provided in the January 30, 2023 staff report that requested the Historic Preservation Commission (HPC) consider an application to nominate the pillar structure referred to as, "Queens Road Gate".

He stated the property meets the City's Criteria A3 and A5 requirements. Therefore Staff recommends that the HPC adopt Draft Resolution No. HPC 23-161.

Item 11.A. Public Comment:

ITEM 11.A. - APPLICANT PRESENTATION:

APPLICANT HOLLACE BROWN spoke in favor of Staff's recommendation. She gave a presentation which included details of her first iteration, previously presented to the Commission.

She provided historic and current photographs of the site, gave a brief history of the pillar's construction and purpose, and thanked colleagues, residents and staff for their assistance.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO WEST HOLLYWOOD/WEST HOLLYWOOD PRESERVATION ALLIANCE (WHPA) PRESIDENT thanked the applicant for the prestation. He spoke on behalf of the WHPA in support of the Staff's recommendation.

MICHAEL CARTER emailed staff in support of the proposed project and staff's recommendation.

Item 11.A. Public Comment Closed.

Items 11.A. Commissioner Comments:

THE COMMISSION AND STAFF discussed information pertaining to the remaining aspects of the pillar, the origin and/or accuracy of its name "Queens Road Gate", discussed future maintenance of the site to be completed by City Staff and proposed that a historic plaque or identification landmark be added to the site.

VICE-CHAIR OSTERGREN requested that the resolution be revised as follows:

- Add a physical and/or architectural description and include existing character defining features.
- Name of the structure be changed to reflect its original name or function in the Resolution.
- Edit resolution, page 2 of 3, third paragraph, forth sentence, delete: *"forming a gate"* add: *"that marked the entrance to the development"*.
- Edit resolution, page 2 of 3, section B, first paragraph, delete: *'the pillar was originally constructed as a gate that highlighted the entrance'* add: *"it was constructed as an entryway"*.
- LIAISON DOUG VU recommended that the name of the site be changed to the "Queens Road Pillar". The Commission supported the recommendation.
- COMMISSIONER CHARLIE recommended language be added to the resolution to require a historic plaque or identification landmark be added to the site.

HPC LAISION DOUG VU explained adding a historic plaque or identification landmark cannot be stipulated as a requirement but language can be added to state the Commissions request for the historic plaque.

COMMISSIONER DUBIN moved to approve Draft Resolution No. HPC 23-161 amended, second by Commissioner Charlie.

Action: The Commission moved to adopt Draft Resolution No. HPC 23-161 as amended, **motion by Vice-Chair Ostergren, second by Commissioner Dubin and passed on roll call vote 6/6 in favor of the motion.**

RESOLUTION NO. HPC 23-161: A RESOLUTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL DESIGNATE A PILLAR STRUCTURE COMMONLY KNOWN AS "QUEENS ROAD PILLAR" LOCATED AT 8459 SUNSET BOULEVARD, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA AS A LOCAL CULTURAL RESOURCE.

12. NEW BUSINESS: None.

13. UNFINISHED BUSINESS: None.

14. ITEMS FROM STAFF:

HPC LIAISON DOUG VU provided the following information regarding upcoming projects:

A. UPCOMING PROJECTS

Staff provided the following updates:

- Annual 2022-2023 CLG Report
- Billboard at 8590 Sunset Boulevard
- City Council CRD Directives
- March 27, 2023 meeting canceled due to Cesar Chavez holiday.
- Special meeting in March 2023, date (TBD)

15. PUBLIC COMMENT:

VICTOR OMELCZENKO WEST HOLLYWOOD/WHPA congratulated Commissioner Charlie on his appointment to the HPC and addressed previous comments in support of identifying, honoring and the application of commemorative plaques for designated resources.

Item 13 Public Comment Closed

16. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:

COMMISSIONER KING requested an item be agendaized to discuss City of West Hollywood partnering with the California Preservation Foundation (CPF) to host future, local CPF events.

COMMISSIONER CHARLIE thanked all for their congratulatory comments and the public for their attendance. He commented about technological formats of

public awareness and social media platforms of inviting members of the public to future HPC meetings.

COMMISSIONER DUBIN congratulated Commissioner Charlie on his appointment and asked about the annual HPC event for 2023. He asked that an in-person event be held in which we also honor former Commissioner, Edward S. Levin.

COMMISSIONER DAVIDSON congratulated Commissioner Charlie on his appointment, commended staff, Applicant Hollace Brown, and members of the public on their contributions to the meeting. She said she supports Commissioner King and Dubin’s comments.

VICE-CHAIR OSTERGREN congratulated Commissioner Charlie on his appointment, thanked liaison Doug Vu for the Resolution in honor of Commissioner Levin and said she supports Commissioner Dubin’s comments.

She requested an item be agendaized to discuss the current iteration of West Hollywood’s historic plaques and requested information regarding commissions terms of office.

CHAIR SOTSKY congratulated Commissioner Charlie on his appointment, offered holiday well wishes to all and thanked Staff for the meeting.

- 17. **ADJOURNMENT:** The Historic Preservation Commission meeting was adjourned at **8:20 pm** to a teleconference meeting **Monday, February 27, 2023** beginning at 7:00 P.M.

DocuSigned by:
Jacob Sotsky
5944759A1E104D6
CHAIRPERSON, JACOB SOTSKY

ATTEST:
DocuSigned by:
Sharita Houston
62D78CDDF61449F
HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
SECRETARY, SHARITA HOUSTON

NOTE: A copy of the audio recording of this meeting can be obtained from the City Clerk’s office upon request. (Disclaimer: Staff records the meetings for the sole purpose of composing the official meeting minutes; therefore, the recordings are not of commercial quality.)