



**HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION  
DRAFT SUMMARY ACTION MINUTES  
Special Meeting  
June 27, 2023**

THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD HAS ADOPTED SUMMARY AND ACTION MEETING MINUTES, WHICH PROVIDE A BRIEF SUMMARY OF THE ACTIONS TAKEN AND POINTS OF DISCUSSION ONLY. ADDITIONAL COMMENTS OR INDIVIDUAL DISCUSSIONS REGARDING ANY ITEM SUMMARIZED IN THESE MINUTES MAY BE OBTAINED BY ACCESSING THE ARCHIVED RECORDINGS OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION MEETINGS AT [www.weho.org/city-government/city-clerk](http://www.weho.org/city-government/city-clerk) AND SELECTING ACCESS CITY RECORDS.

Land Acknowledgment: “The West Hollywood Planning Commission acknowledges that the land on which we gather and that is currently known as the City of West Hollywood is the occupied, unceded, seized territory of the Gabrieleño Tongva and Gabrieleño Kizh peoples.”

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Sotsky called the meeting of Historic Preservation Commission to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Chair Sotsky led the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. **OATH OF OFFICE:**
  - A. **Administer the Oath of Office to Re-appointed Commissioners.**

**ACTION:** Councilmember Chelsea Byers officially administered the Oath of Office to Jacob Sotsky, Lola Davidson and Matthew Dubin to the West Hollywood Historic Preservation Commission.
  - B. **Administer the Oath of Office to Re-appointed and Newly Appointed Commissioners.**

**ACTION:** Staff Liaison Doug Vu officially administered the Oath of Office to Gail Ostergren, Yawar Charlie, and Amy Zvi to the West Hollywood Historic Preservation Commission.
4. **ROLL CALL:**

Commissioners Present: Zvi, Davidson, King, Dubin, Charlie, Vice-Chair Ostergren, Chair Sotsky.

Commissioners Absent: None.

Staff Present: Doug Vu, Senior Planner/HPC Liaison, and Sharita Houston, Commission Secretary.
5. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA.**

**ACTION:** Approve the Historic Preservation Commission agenda of Tuesday, June 27, 2023 as presented. **Moved by Vice-Chair Ostergren, seconded by Commissioner Charlie and unanimously passes.**

**6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES.**

**A. April 24, 2023**

**ACTION:** Approve the minutes of Monday, April 24, 2023 as presented. **Moved by Chair Sotsky, seconded by Commissioner Charlie and passes, noting Commissioner Zvi abstaining.**

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns about the accuracy of draft meeting minutes for April 24, 2023 and stated the West Hollywood Preservation Alliance encourages a full time historic preservation planner be hired.

LYNN RUSSELL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed concerns about the accuracy of the draft meeting minutes for April 24, 2023.

Chair Sotsky recommended that if the minutes do not convey a transcript, they be named accurately as notes, not minutes.

**B. May 22, 2023**

Commissioner Ostergren noted the corrections she suggested to add the word original, and not the hyphenation of the word one-story.

**ACTION:** Approve the minutes of Monday, May 22, 2023 as amended. **Moved by Vice-Chair Ostergren, seconded by Commissioner Charlie and passes, noting Commissioner Zvi abstaining.**

**7. PUBLIC COMMENT.**

LYNN RUSSELL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about a possible formal invitation to the Los Angeles Audubon Society returning to Plummer Park.

**8. CONSENT CALENDAR. None.**

**9. EXCLUDED CONSENT CALENDAR. None**

**10. PUBLIC HEARINGS.**

**A. 9009-9015 SUNSET BOULEVARD:** Jennifer Davis, Senior Contract Planner provided a verbal Zoom presentation, as presented in the staff report dated June 27, 2023, for the recommended Certificate of Appropriateness for new internally lit and digital billboards located at 9009

Sunset Boulevard (Roxy Theatre) and 9015 Sunset Boulevard (Rainbow Bar & Grill) in West Hollywood, California.

Chair Sotsky noted there were no official disclosures.

AARON GREEN, Afriat Consulting Group, provided a presentation on the details of the proposed Roxy Theatre and Rainbow Bar and Grill billboards and discussed how their designs evolved since the HPC granted their previous approval.

JOHN LOCASCIO, Consulting Architect of the Historic Resources Group, provided a historic overview of The Roxy and Rainbow Bar and Grill and how the new signs will be structurally independent and will not damage or destroy historic features of the two structures, while meeting the Secretary of the Interior's Standards for Rehabilitation.

The commission requested confirmation that the rolling Roxy sign will still be visible from both directions of traffic and the finial for the Rainbow blade sign will be kept, and not removed. Clarification was also requested regarding the Roxy sign pole and its location, removal of the driveway apron between the Rainbow and Roxy, use of the poster wall, replacement of the Rainbow billboard pole structure, visibility of the various sign elements, the significance of the Rainbow sign, and the height of the proposed signs compared to the existing signs.

Chair Sotsky opened public comments for Item 10.A.

MICHAEL MAGLIERI, OWNER, spoke about how the proposed changes will benefit the business and the City, along with preserving rock 'n' roll on the Sunset Strip.

RICHARD EASTMAN, EAST HOLLYWOOD, spoke about his personal experience in Hollywood over the years and in support of the families of the Roxy and the Rainbow Bar and Grill.

DANIEL ALEXANDER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the public courtyard between the Roxy and the Rainbow Bar and Grill billboard project.

JARED JAKOVICH, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the project.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the project and inquired about the rocking "R" sign be considered a character defining feature.

STEVE MARTIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke in support of the project and inquired about the rocking "R" sign be considered a character defining feature.

**ACTION:** Close public comment portion of the public hearing for Item 10.A.  
**Motion carried by consensus of the Commission.**

Commissioner Dubin thanked the applicant and stated the revised design is better.

Commissioner Zvi agreed the re-design is better and appreciated the presentation.

Commissioner Davidson thanked the applicant and stated her support to preserve them.

Chair Sotsky stated that he liked the stripping back of the columns to simplify the space and appreciated the improvements that were made since the Commission last reviewed the project.

Commissioner Ostergren stated the new design is a huge improvement, was happy to support it, and thanked HRG for the comparison table in the report that was very helpful.

Commissioner Charlie thanked staff, the applicant, and the community.

**Commissioner King moved to approve staff's recommendation of approval to the City Council.**

**Seconded by Commissioner Charlie.**

**ACTION:** 1) Approve staff's recommendation of approval; 2) **Adopt Resolution No. HPC 23-167 as presented:** "A RESOLUTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD RECOMMENDING THAT THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A CERTIFICATE OF APPROPRIATENESS IN CONJUNCTION WITH NEW INTERNALLY LIT AND DIGITAL BILLBOARDS AT 9009 AND 9015 SUNSET BOULEVARD, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA." **Moved by Commissioner King, seconded by Commissioner Charlie and unanimously passes.**

**THE COMMISSION TOOK A FIVE (5) MINUTE RECESS AT 8:28 P.M. AND RECONVENED AT 8:36 P.M.**

- B. 1150 AND 1200 VISTA STREET:** Doug Vu, Senior Planner, provided a verbal presentation as presented in the staff report dated June 27, 2023, for the recommended Cultural Resource Designation of the buildings at 1150 Vista Street (Fiesta Hall) and 1200 Vista Street (Plummer Park Community Clubhouse), West Hollywood, California.

Vice Chair Ostergren disclosed that she met with staff and made a site visit.

Chair Sotsky disclosed for the record he made a site visit as well.

Doug Vu stated there were a total of three site visits and five commissioners attended.

There were no other official disclosures.

The Commission inquired about the lighting fixtures in the Community Club House and Fiesta Hall and whether they were considered as character defining features, as well as the significance of the flagstone paving in the courtyard at Great Hall/Long Hall and the fireplace inside the Reception Room/Audubon Room.

Chair Sotsky opened public comments for Item 10.B.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, West Hollywood Preservation Alliance, spoke in support of the item and agreed that the character defining features should include the fireplace and flagstone pavers.

HELENE SCHPAK, spoke in support of this designation and described ACT UP Los Angeles' activities here 1987 to 1997.

STEVE MARTIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated he appreciated the inclusion of ACT UP LA and suggested a plaque at Fiesta Hall to commemorate the first City Council meeting.

DAVID REID, WEST HOLLYWOOD adjacent, spoke about ACT UP LA and support of the item.

STEPHANIE HARKER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, noted she was co-founder of Protect Plummer Park, thanked the commission and staff, and requested that the Fiesta Hall exterior should always be board form concrete, the address for Fiesta Hall and the Great Hall/Long Haul be corrected, and that Eugene Plummer be referred to his full name as Eugene Rafael Plummer.

CATHY BLAIVAS, WEST HOLLYWOOD, expressed appreciation for the revised background information, thanked staff and the commission, and spoke in support of the item.

JAMIE FRANCIS WENDELL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated that Plummer Park is a refuge, has historical value, and spoke in support of the item.

LYNN RUSSELL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, noted her written comments and spoke in support of the item.

**The following people chose not to speak but are in support of item 10B regarding the cultural resource designation: MICHAEL**

**ABRAHAMSON, WEST HOLLYWOOD; LAURA BOCCALETTI, WEST HOLLYWOOD; MICHAEL CARTER, WEST HOLLYWOOD; GARY DAHLE, WEST HOLLYWOOD; CHERYL DENT, WEST HOLLYWOOD; CONNER FISCHER, WEST HOLLYWOOD; WENDY GOLDMAN, WEST HOLLYWOOD; SALLY HENLEY, WEST HOLLYWOOD; EDYTH MAGOUN, WEST HOLLYWOOD; JACOB PEDERSON, WEST HOLLYWOOD; STEVE WEINSTEIN, WEST HOLLYWOOD; CHRISTOPHER XIMENEZ, WEST HOLLYWOOD; GEORGE CREDLE, WEST HOLLYWOOD; ROY OLDENKAMP, WEST HOLLYWOOD; KEVIN BURTON, WEST HOLLYWOOD.**

**ACTION:** Close public comment portion of the public hearing for Item 10.B.  
**Motion carried by consensus of the Commission.**

Commissioner King spoke about his personal experience visiting Great Hall/Long Hall and when the building was first named and added to the National Register, the importance of this nomination, his support for a commemorative plaque, and request for urgently needed funds to maintain and repair the buildings.

Commissioner Charlie spoke about his recollections of Great Hall/Long Hall being discussed for designation, thanked the community advocates and public, and spoke in favor of this item.

Vice-Chair Ostergren spoke about her personal experience regarding the designation of Great Hall/Long Hall beginning in 2009, and her support for these expansive designations.

Chair Sotsky thanked ACT UP LA, Cathy Blaivas, and staff. He requested that any motion made should include the additional items discussed during the hearing.

Commissioner Davidson thanked the community, spoke in support of the item and its importance, and also requested that funds for the maintenance of these buildings be allocated.

Vice-Chair Ostergren reiterated the importance of giving these buildings some much needed attention and programming.

Commissioner Zvi commended staff on the report, thanked the community, and stated her support of the item.

Commissioner Dubin reiterated the importance of the Chair and/or Vice-Chair attending the City Council meeting to advocate for the repair and restoration of the buildings on behalf of the Commission, and thanked Cathy Blaivas, Stephanie Harker and Jen Dunbar.

**Vice-Chair Ostergren moved to: 1) approve staff's recommendation of approval to City Council; 2) amend draft Resolution No. HPC 23-168 to include the courtyard pavers, fireplace in the Audubon Room, wrought iron chandeliers in Great Hall/Long Hall, and decorative ceiling beams in the Audubon Room as additional character-defining features.**

**Seconded by Commissioner Charlie.**

**ACTION:** 1) Approve staff's recommendation of approval to the City Council; 2) **Adopt Resolution No. HPC 23-168 as amended:** "A RESOLUTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL DESIGNATE THE PLUMMER PARK COMMUNITY CLUBHOUSE LOCATED AT 1200 N. VISTA STREET, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA AS A LOCAL CULTURAL RESOURCE. **Moved by Vice Chair Ostergren, with the addition to include the list of character defining features of the courtyard pavers, the fireplace in Audubon room, the wrought iron chandeliers in Great Haul Long Haul and the thick decorative ceiling beams in the reception/Audubon room seconded by Chair Sotsky and unanimously passes as amended.**

**Vice-Chair Ostergren moved to approve staff's recommendation of approval to the City Council.**

**Seconded by Commissioner Charlie.**

**ACTION:** 1) Approve staff's recommendation of approval to the City Council; 2) **Adopt Resolution No. HPC 23-164 as presented:** "A RESOLUTION OF THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD, RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL DESIGNATE FIESTA HALL LOCATED AT 1150 VISTA STREET, WEST HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA AS A LOCAL CULTURAL RESOURCE. **Moved by Vice-Chair Ostergren, seconded by Commissioner Charlie and unanimously passes.**

**11. NEW BUSINESS.**

**12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.** None.

**13. ITEMS FROM STAFF.**

**A. Planning Staff Update.**

Dou Vu, Senior Planner/HPC Liaison provided an update of tentative items scheduled for upcoming Planning Commission meetings.

**14. PUBLIC COMMENT:**

STEPHANIE HARKER, WEST HOLLYWOOD, suggested making the Historic

Preservation Commission a quasi-judicial body and referenced Bruce Kaye who was on the commission and has passed.

VICTOR OMELCZENKO, WEST HOLLYWOOD, spoke on behalf of the West Hollywood Preservation Alliance, expressed interest in the Historic Preservation Commission acting as a quasi-judicial body, mentioned two items going to City Council for 7900-7906 Santa Monica Boulevard and the appeal of Temple Beth El Synagogue on Crescent Heights.

LYNN RUSSELL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, reiterated the upcoming appeal of Temple Beth El Synagogue.

JAMIE FRANCIS WENDELL, WEST HOLLYWOOD, stated the importance of historical buildings and appreciating their value.

**15. ITEMS FROM COMMISSIONERS:**

Commissioner Davidson thanked staff and the community, and congratulated Commissioners Charlie and Ostergren.

Commissioner Dubin welcomed the new commissioner and inquired from staff the details for the September 9<sup>th</sup> event and possibly honoring Commissioner Levin.

**ADJOURMENT.** The Historic Preservation Commission adjourned at 9:48 p.m. to a regularly scheduled meeting on Monday July 24, 2023, beginning at 7:00 p.m. until completion at Plummer Park, Rooms 5 & 6, West Hollywood, California.  
**Motion carried by consensus of the Commission.**

