

Hollenbeck Park Advisory Board

Minutes of Meeting:

Tuesday, May 11, 2021 at 6pm

Submitted: by Carlos Montes, Secretary and Armando Martinez, Staff

PAB Members Present: (The meeting was conducted using Zoom and entirely telephonically.)

Dina Cruz, Carlos Montes, Kimberly Arazo, Vivian Escalante, David Silva
Community representatives: Michelle Bertinelli, CD 14 Area Director, Cynthia Gonzalez, Assistant Deputy City Attorney, China Gerstner, Caltrans, Jesse Griego, LAPD and Armando Martinez, staff -PAB

Board members Absent and Excused: Patricia Moreno

*Director A. Martinez, welcomed community representatives and requested that Dina Cruz, lead out on the Agenda items and Dina Cruz accepted.

*Approval of Minutes of PAB meeting for April 13, 2021, were reviewed and approved by quorum. Vote: 5 yes, No: 0, 1 absent.

Community Reports: *Cynthia Gonzalez, LA Deputy City Attorney. Updated the PAB members and community with Social Service organizations who help the local community of unhoused and people looking for mental health assistance, such as Exodus Recovery.

*China Gerstner, Caltrans, District 7, Updated members on Caltrans work in the local area and her interest to continue working with all community organizations and city representatives. Also thanked the board for their contributions to improving the community.

* Officer Jesse Griego, LAPD –Senior Lead, Public Safety issues, Reviewed crime in Boyle Heights and how to prevent certain types of crime. Locking doors and windows in your house and also securing your cars.

* Michelle Bertinelli, CD 14 Area Director, Shared new information on future funding and current events in the Boyle Heights community. Shared forthcoming Summer events at Hollenbeck Park and in the Boyle Heights Community.

*Arturo Velasco, Supervisor, Maintenance, Rec. & Parks, no report

Matters Under Board Consideration:

Vivian Escalante, Shared her vision of creating a new project on Organic Fertilizer/ Composting at Hollenbeck Park. The idea was to create a project which would help community members make free fertilizer to plant better gardens. The board was in full support and would like more information on possible locations, process and if any cost would be associated with project. Will follow up with more information and research. A new standing committee report will be given in the future. Vote: 5 yes, No: 0, 1 absent

*Director's Report: Armando Martinez, shared with the PAB and community, the current status of the restrooms and their maintenance. Also, the approval by the Board of Commissioners on the Micro Forest at Hollenbeck Park. Also reviewed new plans for the outdoor patio with new benches, lights and guard rails.

Standing Committee:

1. Art Beautification Project for Hollenbeck, Dina Cruz, sub-committee chair: Met via Zoom with community and staff members to discuss strategy, fundraisers and structure of the painting 10 trash cans at Hollenbeck Park and Lake by an artist and some of their students. Future structure and plans were planned with a proposal to be submitted shortly.
2. Dog Park Project, Carlos Montes, sub-committee chair: Currently project is on hold due to COVID 19 Issues, homeless encampment problems in current location for a proposed dog park. City officials will review tentative agreement by Caltrans to turn over adjacent land space to the Dept. of Recreation and Parks for a possible dog park.

Next Meeting: to be Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.