

Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Highlights **Wed., Nov. 24, 2015**

Below are highlights from the November 24, 2015 mayor's cabinet meeting, a monthly meeting with the mayor and City commission chairs or their representatives. Please note that this meeting is intended to exchange information on commission activities; no official actions are taken.

REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Architectural Commission (AC) – Chair Andrea Gardner Apatow

Juice Served Here, the Wallis, the AT&T store, the Coffee Bean and Tea Leaf shop, Blu Luxury Apartments and Pussy & Pooch pet store came before the AC for direction on facades and signage.

Charitable Solicitations Commission (CSC) – Vice Chair Karen Platt

The CSC approved 11 financial statements in November. They are holding a second round of meetings with the catering departments at the local hotels to ask their assistance in getting compliance with permit requirements. The CSC is talking to the City Attorney's office about other ways to ensure compliance with the municipal code; among the suggestion is to charge a fee for permits, like some other cities do. They are working with code enforcement on reaching out to charities that fail to file their financial statements.

Cultural Heritage Commission (CHC) – Chair Lisa Greer

The CHS recently adopted a revised list of master architects using the new criteria. The CHC is looking for additional properties for landmark considering. The CHC is considering using the recent historic designation process for the Kate Mantilini building as a prototype of how the commission and staff can successfully work with a property owner. Steve Gordon asked that the CHC work with his group to help with the Will Rogers Awards next year.

Design Review Commission (DRC) – Chair Arline Pepp

The DRC reviewed three homes, with three very different designs. Two of them were sent back for redesign.

Health and Safety Commission (HSC) – Chair Myra Lurie

The HSC heard a presentation on El Niño preparation. Residents are urged to get ready for heavy storms this season. Measures that should be considered include purchasing plastic sheeting to help with runoff, lowering water level in pools, cleaning out gutters, updating

disaster kits, registering with the City's mass communications system and Nixle to receive updates from the City. Residents can also pick up 10 sandbags from the City. More information on El Niño preparation can be found at www.beverlyhills.org/winterstorms. The most recent Health and Safety Award went to the crossing guards at City schools. The governor signed a bill eliminating the personal belief exemption for vaccinations, but children will only be checked in kindergarten and 7th grade; children known to be unvaccinated will have to stay home from school during an outbreak. The commission heard a presentation on mindfulness. The business CERT workshop was very successful. Plastic ponchos were passed out.

Human Relations Commission – Chair Ori Blumenfeld

The Ambassador Program is getting very good response; the number to text is 424-302-1487. People who have had interactions with the Ambassadors should report on their experience to help the City Council make a decision about continuing the program. The HRC held its first hearing on tenant/ landlord cases; five cases were presented at the meeting of 22 complaints received. Tenant issues that were presented included the 10% annual rent increase allowed, harassment, retaliation and maintenance. Landlord issues included difficulty affording repairs, lack of communication from the City and maximum allowable pass-through being too low. The HRC will not be intervening in disputes, but guiding the parties to resources that will help address their issues. They HRC will collect data on the number and types of cases.

Planning Commission (PC) – Chair Alan Robert Block

The PC considered the L'Ermitage Hotel's request to build a glass enclosure over the roof and a glass elevator facing outdoors; the PC was concerned about noise and parking. No decision was made. A new Italian restaurant, Nerano, on S. Santa Monica Boulevard has requested extended hours, open air dining permit and participation in the City's in-lieu parking program.

Public Works Commission (PWC) – Chair Ron Shalowitz

The water treatment plant will be back on line sometime between February and May. The City received permits to dig wells for shallow groundwater. The re-calking bid for the Greystone reservoir will go to the City Council in December. Public notices for the new tiered water rates were sent out. Questions were raised about the school district's water consumption.

Recreation and Parks Commission (RPC) – Chair Simone Friedman

The RPC is in discussions with the school district about the JPA and how to keep City and school sports and recreation programs going during school construction. The City received responses from 10 businesses interested in operating the snack bar at La Cienega Park. The winter brochure will be coming out in the next week or so. About 2,700 tickets were sold for the Maison de Luxe Design Showhouse. Signage projects in the two gateway areas are complete. The dog park is moving forward. The RPC heard a presentation from Santa Monica officials

about dealing with personal trainers conducting business in City parks. A new policy governing the presence of adults without children in City playgrounds will go before the City Council soon.

Traffic and Parking Commission (TPC) – Chair Lester Friedman

The TPC inquired about an alternative evacuation plan during construction of Santa Monica Boulevard. Issues of traffic noise are difficult to pin down; the police department will look into special equipment to measure this type of noise. The commission will consider two City initiated permit parking zones. The TPC is concerned about access to the business triangle during construction; and mitigation efforts also will include ensuring access. The commission is seeking input from residents and businesses about improving the Beverly/Beverwil/Olympic intersection. The TPC will have the first update on the new franchise taxi system. The TPC will be reviewing current usage levels and fees for the City's electric vehicle charging stations.

Fine Art Commission (FAC) – No report

Mayor's Report

The mayor is meeting with the Israeli Consul General to discuss details of implementing the MOU. The City Council continues to analyze the impact to the JPA from school district construction; the current contract expires in 2016 and will be renegotiated. Councilmember Willie Brien is moving to Texas but no date for his departure has been set; the City Council rescinded the current ordinance for filling City Council vacancies so they will have more options. If a special election is called, it would be part of either the April, June or November 2016 elections, depending on when the vacancy occurs; if the Council decides to appoint a replacement, it has 60 days after the vacancy occurs to make the appointment.

##