

COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Lara Zvirbulis, Voting Stakeholder
Ben Famous, Voting Stakeholder
Kasia Mays
Bianca Cockrell
Theresa Gio
Brandi D'Amore, Chair



HOLLYWOOD UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
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COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Transportation & Works Committee

Monday, October 18, 2021, 6:00 PM

Webinar ID: 837 2732 2434

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83727322434>

Bianca Cockrell was dropped from meeting at 6:16 PM due to technical difficulties and returned to the meeting at 6:20PM

Welcome

6:06 PM start

1. Roll Call

~~Though~~ **Lara Zvirbulis could be seen present at meeting, she did not appear to respond to initial requests to confirm presence, and seemed to not register being addressed.**

Caroline Johnson is no longer on the board/committee, so she will be registered as ineligible as her listing cannot be removed from the system at this time.

Brandi D'Amore Theresa Gio Bianca Cockrell Ben Famous Lara Zvirbulis

Absent

Caroline Johnson Kasia Mays

2. Approval of Minutes

Note: Caroline Johnson had resigned prior this meeting, but the system had already produced the meeting. Therefore she was marked as ineligible in the vote.

Motion Made: Motion to approve September '21 minutes

Motion: Bianca Cockrell **Second:** Ben Famous **Vote:** Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Ben Famous Bianca Cockrell Brandi D'Amore Lara Zvirbulis Theresa Gio

Ineligible

Caroline Johnson

3. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (2 minutes each)

None

4. Chair Report

Reminder that when Chair sends emails out, she needs a response in order to meet deadlines and make decisions.

Caroline Johnson resigned and will no longer be a board member on this committee. She will consider whether or not she will remain as a voting stakeholder on this committee.

5. Discussion to change day and time of Transportation & Works meeting to accommodate need for more meeting time starting in 2022

Brandi D'Amore said we are confined to an hour as another committee starts immediately at 7, and committee is seeing more and more requests to be heard in this committee. When scheduling to fit in an hour, not all requests can be accommodated which at times creates issues due to deadlines. As Chair, she wishes to consider moving the meeting utilizing the bylaws to be considered at Full Board.

Voting Stakeholder Ben Famous suggested committee being more efficient and starting at time. B. D'Amore said the meeting start time

is done by the president; if President starts late, that is what happens. She also indicated that committee members may need to do more before coming to meeting (i.e., minutes), yet subject matters by their nature may require more time.

Theresa asked if committee is confined to certain times. Brandi said the scheduling on the meetings as they are now was based on meeting in person, and the availability of the room at the time, which has carried over. Even in electronic virtual governance mode, committee still has days and the time it can possibly start. Mondays are out due to other meetings, as are first and fourth Thursday. Timing needs to consider how committee can meet electronically and when returned to in-person. Most people don't want to start before 6. Keep this in mind for next month to finalize a date.

Note: Bianca Cockrell dropped off at 6:13pm due to technical problems.

6. Finalizing presentation of Mission Statement to be presented at Board Retreat on 10/30/21

Committee briefly discussed finalizing the Mission Statement created in August '21 for Full Board Retreat on 10/30/21. As Kasia Mays indicated in August she would create the presentation, it was discussed that she would do it. As K. Mays was not present, Chair indicated she would send Kasia the request.

7. Discussion of issues and possible solutions with CD4, LAPD, Rec & Parks, MRCA to discuss the Franklin Ivar Park and the continued failure to have the park secured at night.

Brandi D'Amore said she regularly get reports that at midnight/1:00am people are in the park smoking and it is on the edge of a high fire severity zone.

Bianca is back at 6:20pm

Alexa Skarpelos - President of the Hollywood Dell Civic Association and stakeholder is presenting on the Franklin Ivar Park situation. Pretty soon after the park opened in 2017, it was clear the MRCA Park Rangers were not equipped to patrol these parks so Councilmember Ryu worked with Rec & Parks to have Rec & Parks take over security and maintenance of the park. The number one issue was that it needed to be secured at night. Perimeter of the park is fenced and there are two gates. It is an on-leash dog friendly area. Gates are routinely left open at night and it creates dangerous situations such as a recent brush fire in August 2021.

Alexa made a presentation that showed the topography of the park and a video of a fire taken by a stakeholder that shows how large and quick a fire can get in this area.

Chief Losorelli of Rec & Parks is present because at some point the LAPD Security Services Division took over this park. They do try their best to lock the gate at sunset but if there is a priority call, that gets attended to first. LAPD security services does not have any obligation to lock the gate but only to maintain it. So they get to it when they can. Brandi suggested a timed lock, aka "Trilogy Lock". Chief said it does not prevent anyone that's already in it to leave at sunset if the gates lock, but the park still needs staff to secure the park and make sure it is empty. It would take a City Council motion to put it on the Gate Closure Program to request that the park is secured and locked after sunset. The park is right now low priority. Get CD office onboard to put in a motion to have the park put on the gate closure program. Recs & Park have an agreement with LAPD to have LAPD close and secure some parks. In order to add parks to the gate closure program, it takes a motion.

Chief Zipperman is here to discuss why it needs to be closed from a fire safety perspective.

Stakeholder comments:

Erin Penner: "Thank you, Brandi, for being so helpful." Erin talked o Ranger Kleckner last week as she is in the park every other day in this park. "It used to be once in a while that it is open at night and now it is just never closed. There are now people that party at midnight or 1:00 am nightly and daily there are unhoused people that sleep and defecate there because they have no where to go. Residents have screamed at unhoused for not picking up their own bio waste. It's all dry brush. It's one match away from being a huge problem. It's constant passing the buck. We just need an answer. Someone just needs to be in charge of closing the gate."

George Skarpelos wanted to say this park has been supported by HUNC which purchased those bike racks that are there. The NC has a long history with this park. If what it takes is to get a motion made, then maybe the NC can approve a letter asking CD 4 to add this park into the gate closure program and ask Chief Losorelli to put a letter in support as well. That would be sufficient support for the City Council to approve a motion of that type.

Jodi Ehrlich: "This is a park that was started by the community and the drugs and fires are dangerous." She expressed real concern for the fire aspect. Brandi clarified it's not just people experiencing homelessness that is causing problems, it is just people going in at night.

Terry Gerger helped start the proposal to get the park. She believes the correct avenue is to get on the gate closure program and make that motion.

A) Possible recommendation to full board for a letter from HUNC to include but not limited to address the need for a

solution based on discussion.

Brandi D'Amore said she thinks the committee should bring a letter to the full board requesting this gate closure request. Closing the park earlier is not an option as Chief Losorelli advised her. Bianca Cockrell said this reminds her of conversations past of anti-homeless rhetoric disguised as fire safety and asked if it is brush and dead things, then asked if the park is maintained. Brandi said yes it is maintained yet the nature of the vegetation is subject to burn. B. Cockrell likes the idea of the time locks as an interim solution. B. D'Amore said Chief Losorelli reminded that the timed lock will not be an option as there still needs to be staff to sweep the park. Ben asked if there are other parks within our area that we should also address in this letter. Brandi said no the only other park in HUNC borders is Griffith Park which the Rangers secure the entry points like Bronson at Sunset.

Motion Made: Motion to recommend to full board for a letter from HUNC to Council District 4 to request that it create a motion to include the Franklin Ivar Park for inclusion in the Gate Closure Program

Motion: Brandi D'Amore

Second: Ben Famous

Vote: Yes-5, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes

Ben Famous

Bianca Cockrell

Brandi D'Amore

Lara Zvirbulis

Theresa Gio

Ineligible

Caroline Johnson

8. Committee Member announcements on items not on the Agenda

Chair advises please make sure board members complete the anti-bias trainings before the end of November, and if anyone is interested in the remaining vacancies, the due date is next Friday at 5pm.

9. Old/Ongoing Business

Chair asked Bianca Cockrell the status of the submission of the Community Impact Statement (CIS) from last month. B. Cockrell will file it tonight.

10. New/Future Business

None

Adjournment at 6:57 PM

Reconsideration: The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed on the agenda if that reconsideration takes place before the end of the meeting at which it was considered or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: (1) Make a Motion for Reconsideration and, if approved, (2) hear the matter and take an action. If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the next meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: (1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and (2) a [Proposed] action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A Motion for Reconsideration can only be made by a Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken. If a Motion for Reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Recording Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.