BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Monday, October 12, 2020, 6:30 PM
Webinar ID: 828 3698 1526
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82836981526

Welcome
6:34 PM start

1. Roll Call

Attending

Tom Meredith  Sheila Irani  George Skarpelos  Jim Van Dusen  Coyote Shivers  Margaret Marmolejo
Brandi D’Amore  Matt Wait  Andrew Chadsey  Michael Connolly  Fouzia Burfield  Marshall Cobb
Robert Morrison

Excused

Luis Saldivar  Erin Penner

Absent

Susan Swan  Jeff Ramberg

2. Approval of Minutes

Jim Van Dusen requested changes to the minutes: under page 8 under C, project 1959 Vista Del Mar, Officer White didn’t vote to approve, he just did not see any issues. On page 9, 5th paragraph, starting with Mr. Van Dusen, said reading the draft EIR, it should be the developer Bob Champion, not HUNC. Two more sentences later, it says that “they” can be in opposition to something, but it should refer to Mr. Van Dusen. In the paragraph right after starting with Mr. Skarpelos, in the second to last sentence where it says it’s right there where they’ve agreed to pay for that, it should be that it’s been stated in the draft EIR.

Motion Made: Motion to approve the minutes for the September board meeting

Vote:

Yes-10, No-0, Abstain-2, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Motion:  George Skarpelos  Second:  Brandi D’Amore

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

Stakeholder Annie Gagen called to remind people that there is a Millennium city planning hearing October 15.

Stakeholder Bill said he would like to make a comment to the full board of an incident that occurred in August to him. At the end of August, he was the target of a road rage incident. He felt the LAPD does not handle road rage incidents very well.

4. Comments from any City, County, State or Federal representatives in attendance (5 minutes each)

Field Deputy for Councilmember O’Farrell Sean Starkey introduced himself and wished attendees and the board a happy Indigenous People’s Day. He said that DOT parking enforcement will go back into effect later this month. Mr. Starkey mentioned the Emergency Eviction Defense Fund was subsequently approved and has 10 million set aside for tenants being evicted. CD 4 is working with the
Salvation Army on Bronson and Hollywood to activate a 24-hour year-round 30-bed shelter.

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Heather Mata introduced herself and said she would be more than happy to look into the incident involving Stakeholder Bill. Her email is 40988@lapd.online, and her direct contact phone is 213-308-0455. She explained that crime overall in the HUNC area is down compared to last year in most categories except for grand theft auto and theft. She cautioned stakeholders to make sure they are not leaving their keys in their car, make sure to secure their vehicle, and not to leave it. She said if stakeholders have been a victim of Mail Theft or the EDD scam, please email her directly and she will help with the best way of reporting that. The city is preparing for possible unrest because of the election. Violent crime is up throughout the city. Due to the defunding movement going on in the city, Hollywood division will be losing 20 officers by January, including 10 patrol cars.

Stakeholder Lisa said that there have been a lot of dirt bikes around Hollywood doing tricks in the streets. SLO Mata said she does not know why, but she got 2 phone call complaints of dirt bike racing in the Dell. SLO Mata has asked if they can get some extra motor patrol during those times to please let her know if it continues so the LAPD can track the trend.

5. Community Updates

A) Report by the Youth Representative

Marshall Cobb introduced himself as the youth representative, and the main issue that he finds concerning many of his peers and people his age is online schooling and how to navigate it, and how to make the mental adjustment. COVID in LA county has been going down, but they’re trying to figure out what’s appropriate and what’s safe for everyone. Particularly about when they’ll regain a sense of normalcy. Back in March when the Pandemic began, they made rules that were only supposed to be temporary, but as they have moved forward and it’s continued longer than students expected. Now these changes may be permanent for the semester or the year. He has heard a lot of kids are dropping out and going off to somewhere less populated where school is still in session. A friend of his said 50 of his classmates have dropped out since the beginning of the fall semester, so that’s a massive problem right now.

B) Presentation by the MRCA

Paul Edelman from the MRCA spoke about Measure HH, a 10-year tax that would replace a tax expiring in 2022 to maintain open space. The MRCA has about a dozen little park ownerships between the 101 and Griffith Park. They are really in a position where they are the best agency to accept donated or other parcels of land.

Walt Young from the MRCA added that thanks to the previous measure that’s going to expire, during red flag conditions they operate as California peace officers with collateral duty as firefighters. They operate 7 nights a week, 24-hours during red flag conditions.

This replacement carries on those services and two additional services. The community has felt that these programs were underfunded by the previous measure. Another issue is roadside brush along Mulholland. The city owns 100 feet from the centerline, bordered by public and private property. They have decided to make this commitment, and if the measure passes, the MRCA will do roadside brush clearance for the public benefit. They will not be doing 100% brush clearance, but there are areas that are problematic.

George Skarpelos said that one thing that is MRCA property is the La Rocha trail; regularly neighbors have to call in MRCA to say that it needs brush clearance. Considering the fact that they raised extra money for that specific parcel in their jurisdiction when they donated the parcel to the MRCA, and since fire season comes earlier every year, he asked what the MRCA commitment would be for that trail and others in their district as early as possible. Mr. Young said that they absolutely can’t do all the brushing simultaneously in the district. So they always start as early as they can, and always run late. And what their executive director has committed to, if there are areas that have to be brushed twice, it can be funded out of this proposition. A lot of it depends on weather and rain. The commitment is to do it early and more often if need be. Mr. Edelman guaranteed the board that they will get the La Rocha property done prior to the deadline no matter what.

Sheila Irani about the fees on her property tax. Mr. Edelman explained that one is for maintenance and the other is for land acquisition. Miss Irani asked why only hillside residents have to pay this tax, and Mr. Edelman explained that the tax boundaries are determined by the state.

Stakeholder Rosalind Helfand really supports the vacant lot acquisition. She asked about the brush clearance, saying that she understands it’s important to protect the residences, but she has become concerned that as things get dry the wildlife and the environment will be impacted.

Brandi D’Amore wanted to address that these gentlemen also came to Public Safety to address this, and they said it would also enable them to have more rangers to protect the parks.
Stakeholder Kristina O’Neil asked if the Lake Hollywood area can get extra rangers in to patrol, because the existing ones are spread thin. Mr. Young said one car with two rangers are currently funded, and they are swimming upstream.

Mr. Skarpelos thanked Mr. Young and Mr. Edelman for attending their board meeting on Indigenous People’s Day.

C) Report from the Budget Advocate
   No report.

D) Report from the NC Election Administrator
   Tom Meredith explained that they are not coming tonight due to Indigenous People’s Day.

E) Update on new LAFD cameras on Mt Lee
   LAFD Chief Armando Hogan also wished everyone a happy Indigenous People’s Day, saying he cannot wait for them to get back with in-face and person-to-person dialogue. They have 8 cameras in the area around Mountain Gate Canyon back trail, Westridge Road, and San Vicente peak. He wants something up to give them warning about potential fires and help LAFD preparedness. Those are all up and online. They’re currently looking at adding 25 cameras. As far as where they’ll be placed, he is looking at it from a standpoint where if there is poor cell service, they need to get a camera to cover that viewshed.

Ms. Irani asked how many cameras they will be putting on Mt Lee and whether they will be able to get into the dark areas like Lake Hollywood Park or the Vista, since they don’t have a lot of lights around there, but there’s a lot of dead pine trees. Chief Hogan said that his hope is they are looking to cover all those areas from Mt. Lee. The dark areas are one of the questions he has spoken about with the wildfire folks, so they think they can put enough light there. On high hazard days or red flag days they need more coverage.

Brandi D’Amore asked if they were going to connect those cameras to the What Three Words service that looks for lost people. Chief Hogan said they would for stakeholders like hikers, but their focus and approach is on being more of a deterrent in an area.

Chief Hogan said that the cameras would be monitored by the Metro dispatch building. On High Fire Hazard days, they need to be able to get resources to hillside areas and to get city citizens out of danger.

6. HUNC Committee & Liaison announcements on items not on the Agenda
   None

7. Executive Committee

A) Report by the President
   George Skarpelos wanted to mention is that the board has its retreat on Saturday; they want to focus on what the board wants to do as a neighborhood council for the rest of this fiscal year through May or June, and talk about strategy and areas they want to focus on. He encourages everybody including stakeholder committee members to join in.
   Tom Meredith wanted to reinforce that board should identify strategies that they want to achieve in this fiscal year, as well as the tactics that will help achieve those strategies
   Brandi D’Amore asked if they are going to measure what they did this year in relation to last year. She also thought the retreat was to address how they handle their interactions with each other. Mr. Skarpelos said that if they are going to keep it to an hour and all 20 people on the board get to weigh in 3 minutes each, that’s that hour. He is trying to limit the amount of time they have to spend on additional Zoom meetings.

B) Discussion and possible motion to appoint Maureen Diekmann to the Education representative seat
   Maureen Diekmann introduced herself, saying she was the president of Immaculate Heart High School and Middle school. She attended the school long ago, and her two daughters attended as well. She and those at Immaculate Heart like to think of themselves as sort of the founding members of this community, so they are very interested in seeing progress and safety and traffic issues, and all of those taken into consideration. She is happy to be part of this and hopefully will have something to contribute.
   George Skarpelos said he was thrilled someone from Immaculate Heart would want to be part of HUNC and bring their institutional knowledge to it.
**Motion Made: Motion to appoint Maureen Diekmann to the Education representative seat**

**Motion:** George Skarpelos  
**Second:** Brandi D’Amore  
**Vote:** Yes-11, No-0, Abstain-1, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

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**D) Discussion and possible motion to appoint Tony Zimbardi to the Business Area A representative seat**

George Skarpelos introduced that Tony Zimbardi as the AMDA College and Conservatory of Dramatic Arts Director of Campus Operations and Production. In addition to being with AMDA for 22 years and part of the Hollywood campus for 17 of them, he also lives in Hollywood. He has served on the Hollywood Partnership BID Board of Directors for the last 4 years.

Tony Zimbardi has seen a lot going on in Hollywood over the past 17 years, and they look forward to the next 17 years and contributing to cleanliness and safety of the neighborhood with the community in mind.

Brandi D’Amore asked what plans he has to bring in the area A businesses to the council and his students. Mr. Zimbardi said that he interacts with businesses all through the Business Improvement District. He can help inform them what HUNC does and what they are doing at the BID meetings as well.

**Motion Made: Motion to appoint Tony Zimbardi to the Business Area A representative seat**

**Motion:** George Skarpelos  
**Second:** Andrew Chadsey  
**Vote:** Yes-12, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

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**E) Discussion and possible motion to appoint Bianca Cockrell to the Business Area B representative seat**

George Skarpelos clarified that “Business Area A” should read “Business Area B”. Tom Meredith said that it is an obvious typo, and that they are correcting it now so they should still be able to consider the motion as originally intended.

Mr. Skarpelos read Bianca Cockrell’s application, explaining that she is a documentary filmmaker and lifelong resident of LA County, and recently served on the SORO NC. If she can make a valid claim to operate a business in that area and a business certificate she could certainly apply for that seat for business area B.

Ms. Cockrell said that she does like the distinction made between brick and mortar and freelancer businesses, and that even though brick and mortar businesses are the traditional business model, freelancers are just as valid. She is passionate about tenant rights, public transit, as well as homelessness and helping out their unhoused neighbors and an effective conduit of public resources.

**Motion Made: Motion to appoint Bianca Cockrell to the Business Area B representative seat**

**Motion:** George Skarpelos  
**Second:** Tom Meredith  
**Vote:** Yes-11, No-1, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

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**F) Discussion and review of applicants for the Renters Area C rep seat**

George Skarpelos said they have two applicants. The first is Theresa Gio who is a stakeholder on the Transportation and Works committee and is a renter in the area as well.

The second is Joseph Paniagua who has lived in the Ivar Hill area for 8 years. He assisted in creating a neighborhood watch.

The board voted for Joseph Paniagua as the new Renter Area A board rep.
1. Discussion and possible motion to approve the winner of the board vote for the Renters Area A rep seat

*Brandi D’Amore confirmed that all of these seats need to run in the next election in March and filing starts November 13th. Tom Meredith added that filing will close December 28th*

*Motion Made: Motion to approve Joseph Paniagua as the Renters Area A rep seat*

**Motion:** George Skarpelos  **Second:** Robert Morrison  **Vote:** Yes-10, No-0, Abstain-2, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

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G) Discussion and possible motion to recommend the board appoint Lisa Zaripov as a stakeholder member to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee

*Motion Made: Motion to recommend the board appoint Lisa Zaripov as a stakeholder member to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee*

**Motion:** George Skarpelos  **Second:** Jim Van Dusen  **Vote:** Yes-10, No-0, Abstain-1, Recused-0, Ineligible-2

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H) Discussion and possible motion to recommend the board appoint Deborah Brosseau as a stakeholder member to the Non Profit Education and Arts Committee

*Deborah Brosseau introduced herself, saying she is particularly interested in this committee because it sits at the intersection of things really important to her, having worked in the arts her whole life, and some of her work is in the non-profit field as well. Now more than ever education is really important, so she thinks being able to connect more with those entities in their neighborhoods is important. She thinks there are a lot of independent artists that now more than ever are struggling to find ways to do their work and to be seen and she thinks the board really needs to support those people and find different avenues to assist them during the pandemic and after.*

*Motion Made: Motion the board appoint Deborah Brosseau as a stakeholder member to the Non Profit Education and Arts Committee*

**Motion:** George Skarpelos  **Second:** Margaret Marmolejo  **Vote:** Yes-12, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

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I) Discussion and possible motion to recommend the board appoint Rosalind Helfand as a stakeholder member to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee

*Ms. Helfand said she is a freelance consultant in environmental and social policy. She was born in Hollywood and raised in Simi Valley, worked on land use and development issues, and became is well versed in assessment and building issues. She has been living on Beachwood Drive for about 9 years now and is excited to start giving back to her community. She is interested in taking on that role. But on a very personal level, one of the things she was always concerned about is the ecological integrity of wherever people live. She knows there are a lot of parcels of land on the hillsides that developers are still hoping to develop, and she does have concerns about wildlife corridors and hazards and seeing if there might be some creative ways to start protecting those habitats, especially as climate change gets worse.*

*Motion Made: Motion to recommend the board appoint Rosalind Helfand as a stakeholder member to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee*
8. PLUM Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

B) Review of the Griffith Park Aerial Transit System Feasibility Study and possible motion to not support the proposed aerial trams in Griffith Park

Jim Van Dusen displayed the proposed transit system. He explained that this item came out of the Dixon study and its suggestions to mitigate pedestrian travel around the hillside and into Griffith Park. This feasibility study's study period ends tonight, and it has outlined about 3 different options. There's a 4th option that's from Warner Bros also on the map.

Mr. Van Dusen explained that there is some dispute as to how much the funding would be, but since it's aerial they'd be building towers, etc. The response from all the neighborhood groups surrounding the park is they think it will not address the traffic issue and could increase it. Also, as a wildlife park, turning it into a Disneyland with aerial trams is anathema to its identity as a wildlife park. Every group and HOA, Friends of Griffith Park, Griffith Trust, have opposed the plan. At the PLUM meeting they unanimously voted to recommend opposing aerial trams in Griffith Park.

Tom Meredith asked if they knew what the Los Feliz NC's position is, and Ms. D'Amore said that they are categorically opposed.

Stakeholder Linda Othenin Girard, representing the Oaks, underlined all of the previous comments and objections and feels the project is completely unacceptable, and they wrote a letter to the city to be on record opposing.

Ms. D'Amore said that this proposal does not qualify as transportation. It will not stop additional people from not wanting to pay and continuing to access the park like they are currently.

Gerry Hans with Friends of Griffith Park confirmed there are 19 organizations in opposition, including HOA’s, one NC, various non-profits and city advisory board. Even if it weren’t for the fact that the tram would transform Griffith Park as a natural area, it wouldn’t actually solve the problem. Continuing the feasibility study when the city has a declared fiscal emergency would be a waste of money and staff time.

Stakeholder Kristina O’Neill said that the Lake Hollywood HOA has written a letter as well that they unanimously oppose it.

Mr. Skarpelos summed up that the issues are the commercialization of the park and the impact of putting this massive structural ride in the middle of a wildlife preserve, its impact on views, etc.

Ms. D'Amore said that the city has no idea how it would fund this, so it would most likely be somehow attached to the stakeholders to pay for it.

Ms. Burfield asked if some sort of a solution could be found with maybe Uber or to deal with the parking stuff.

Andrew Chadsey said that it just seems that neighbors don’t want tourists on our streets, so they're trying to find a way to move these people and handle them, and it seems like at times they cannot find within their community a way to agree upon moving forward, and to promote growth and business.

Motion Made: Motion to not support the proposed aerial trams in Griffith Park

C) Review of Historic-Cultural Monument Nomination Form for Sister Mary Corita Studio at 5518 Franklin (dry cleaner at
Jim Van Dusen noted that the Corita Art Center filed an application for Historic-Cultural Monument (HCM), so they don’t tear down the building instead they use the building to support Sister Corita’s memory and her work. There was no indication of what they’d use the building for, but after hearing from them and stakeholders, PLUM voted to support their application for HCM status.

Nellie Scott, representative for the Corita Art Center, said that they have been heartened by an outpouring of the community, her students, etc., and are here to ask the board to support an application for HCM status for this building.

Sheila Irani said that this is a privately owned building, and it’s been a dry cleaner’s since the time she was learning at Immaculate Heart. She asked how they are going to elevate this building. Ms. Scott said they would love nothing more than to see this property be rehabilitated, and become a mile marker for how they recognize women educators and how they ripple out into the world. They are just asking right now for it to be evaluated under Criteria 2 because of the historic events that happened there. They would love nothing more than to see it brought back to life.

Ms. Irani said the developer offered to have the whole mural on the side of his property be painted to honor Corita Kent. Ms. Scott said a mural is not enough, something you put up after you’ve made a mistake. She thinks a location with this designation could be an economic driver.

George Skarpelos clarified that this is not about the dry cleaners currently. It’s about an application for historical status. What happens after that, that’s not the issue. The issue is, does this deserve historic status.

Ms. Irani asked if they could hear from Maureen Diekmann. Ms. Scott clarified that their director is on the call from the Immaculate Heart community, and the high school is a separate 501c3.

Sheharazad Fleming said that she thinks it’s really important to recognize that there are very few designated protected spaces here that recognize minority groups and celebrate women and especially women artists. Corita Kent is internationally recognized as an artist, advocate, and trailblazer.

Annie Gagen noted some of Kent’s most iconic works were created in that building. She was an iconic artist, who was politically and historically a very important figure.

Kathleen Buczko of the Immaculate Heart community explained that they reviewed a lot of options internally and decided on applying for historical designation.

Brandi D’Amore noted that the property meets all the qualifications. Secondly everyone is under the impression that the property would stay a dry cleaner. Once it qualifies as an HCM it will get tax breaks and a number of other benefits. The property could be preserved and have Corita Kent’s art within it. It does not need to be knocked down, that was a strong request by the DOT as indicated by the developer representative last time. It also received endorsements; the LA Conservancy wants to buy this property and make a center out of it. And it doesn’t require that HUNC participate in this process, just that they weigh in.

Fouzia Burfield believes that there is something that needs to be done to honor Corita Kent, but she needs more specifics on how it’s going to be done.

Michael Connolly asked, if it gets historic status, does that mean the developer can’t do anything to it or does that force someone to do something with it. Ms. D’Amore clarified that it just means the structural exterior needs to stay. It also qualifies it for Mills Act funds.

Matt Wait said that they do not usually get the option in their NC district to approve historical designation, and he thinks it’s a great opportunity and hopes they take it.

Ms. Burfield asked, if she votes yes, what she is voting yes to. Mr. Skarpelos clarified that she would be saying she supports the application for HCM status. Ms. D’Amore added that they are not approving the designation, just that they support them going through the process. If they did get the status, it would prevent the business from knocking it down.

Ms. Scott said that they have on every occasion said they are not anti-development or anti-partnership, and that the Center’s intention is to have it reviewed, for it to receive HCM status.

Motion Made: Motion to support the application for Historic-Cultural Monument Nomination for Sister Mary Corita Studio
Motion: Jim Van Dusen  Second: Brandi D'Amore  Vote: Yes-11, No-0, Abstain-1, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes
Andrew Chadsey  Brandi D'Amore  Fouzia Burfield  George Skarpelos  Jim Van Dusen  Margaret Marmolejo
Matt Wait  Michael Connolly  Robert Morrison  Sheila Irani  Tom Meredith

Abstain
Coyote Shivers

Ineligible
Marshall Cobb


Mr. Van Dusen said that PLUM discussed it and their motion was to file a CIS in support with the proviso that emergency repairs be exempted. They had a lot of discussion about whether they want to stop construction at this time, and there was concern about affecting jobs. However, this is only until November 30, and the fire danger is real.

George Skarpelos added that construction equipment can get in the way of fire trucks and other emergency vehicles. During red flag days, he has seen many construction guys sparking their equipment on rocks and not watering it down like they are supposed to. He thinks Jim makes a good point about it only being until November 30.

Tom Meredith asked why they specifically named November 30th and, and Brandi D’Amore said that it can be extended at any time like the other ICO’s going on right now. Mr. Skarpelos said that they made the one proviso about emergency repairs, like roofs, water heaters bursting, etc. But if it’s simply because they want to do construction, they can hold off until the 30th.

Andrew Chadsey asked if it was only for Red Flag Days, and Ms. D’Amore said that it is every day, a solid block, and that they can also submit feedback and suggestions even if they are not part of this motion.

Michael Connolly said he noticed the real hazard is construction vehicles blocking these roads. It would take 20 minutes for a fire truck to reverse and come back in the other way.

Mr. Skarpelos added that there have been ZA judgments saying that they need to carpool, but it doesn’t stop anything.

Annie Gagen said that she had called in to a city council PLUM committee hearing for a totally different issue and was surprised by how many people called in to support this issue. She is in a high-fire severity zone, so she’s glad Councilmember Ryu is even bringing this to the table.

Motion Made: Motion to file a CIS in support of Council File: 20-1170 Interim Control Ordinance (ICO)/Suspending Ongoing Construction/Hillside/Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zones Motion with the proviso that emergency repairs be exempted

Motion: Jim Van Dusen  Second: Michael Connolly  Vote: Yes-11, No-0, Abstain-1, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

Yes
Andrew Chadsey  Brandi D'Amore  Fouzia Burfield  George Skarpelos  Jim Van Dusen  Margaret Marmolejo
Matt Wait  Michael Connolly  Robert Morrison  Sheila Irani  Tom Meredith

Abstain
Coyote Shivers

Ineligible
Marshall Cobb

9. Outreach Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

Tom Meredith explained that Outreach is trying to find a home for HUNC's little lending library and doggy bag dispenser containers. There's a solution with Lake Hollywood park, and they will possibly be asking for an NPG from a 501c3 like the Lake Hollywood Homeowners’ Association.


George Skarpelos summarized the first CF motion. Brandi D'Amore said they would be supporting the city's support of the feasibility study in the motion.

Motion Made: Motion to submit a CIS in support of Council File CF 20-1087
C) Discussion and possible vote to recommend the board submit a CIS on CF 20-0002-S137 .R. 8015 (Maloney) / Delivering For America Act / United States Post Office / Mail and Parcel Timely Delivery / Preventing Obstructive Operational Changes (https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-0002-s137_reso_08-18-2020.pdf)

*George Skarpelos explained that this proposed CIS motion is one on the Delivering for America Act. Brandi D’Amore thought it was self-explanatory: in the last 2 months or so there have been last-minute adjustments to mail processing and dismantling of sorting machines. The federal government put out Delivering for America, LA City Council supports that, and in this motion HUNC would be supporting them.*

**Motion Made:** Motion to submit a CIS in support of CF 20-0002-S137 .R. 8015

**Vote:** Yes-10, No-0, Abstain-2, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

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D) Discussion and possible vote to recommend the board submit a CIS on CF 20-0002-S138 H.R. 7015 (Maloney) / Postal Preservation Act / H.R. 2382 (DeFazio) / USPS Fairness Act / United States Postal Service / Proper Funding / Postal Regulatory Commission / Pre-Fund Pension Fund Obligation Relief (https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0002-S138)

*George Skarpelos explained that the USPS has to pay for all of the healthcare of those workers, whereas any other federal department is not responsible for the healthcare of its retirees. Ms. D’Amore added that the USPS it’s hobbled by it, creating a vicious cycle of diminishing revenue.*

**Motion Made:** Motion to submit a CIS in support of CF 20-0002-S138

**Vote:** Yes-6, No-0, Abstain-5, Recused-0, Ineligible-1

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10. Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

*Chair not present.*

11. Homelessness and Social Services Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

B) Discussion and possible motion to recommend the board approve up to $500 for art supplies for The Center’s weekly art classes

*Tabled*
C) Discussion and possible motion to write a letter to City Councilmembers and relevant city agencies regarding the results of Project Roomkey:

The Hollywood United Neighborhood Council is disappointed in the decision to end Project Roomkey while falling far short of its goal. HUNC is especially disappointed that the mayor and City Council did not use their power or influence to secure participation from hotels receiving public assistance. Unfortunately, Project Roomkey joins Measure HHH and a litany of other efforts that have fallen far short of their promised goal to house our constituents experiencing homelessness. HUNC urges the mayor and City Council to use all tools at their disposal to ensure the people who were able to participate in Project Roomkey are actually provided the transitional housing promised and redouble their efforts to address this defining crisis of Hollywood and Los Angeles.

Matt Wait explained that the proposal is for HUNC to go on the record as being disappointed in Project Room Key, similar to how Project HHH was received: a lot was promised, none was delivered. He thinks this is part of City Council’s ongoing habit of not treating Homelessness as the emergency it is.

Stakeholder Nellie Scott said she worked with Project Room Key and there is still so much need, so they support this letter and that this should be looked at more carefully.

Michael Connolly said that according to a gentleman in the Oaks, they had rooms, they just weren’t being occupied because people were either opting out or not opting in at all.

Mr. Wait said that was not his understanding, and he knows several people who worked to get homeless people qualified for Project Room Key, and it was an arduous process.

Stakeholder Kristina O’Neil asked how Project Room Key fell short. Robert Morrison explained that the city promised they’d acquire about 15,000 rooms, and they ended up getting about 4,000 rooms. Many of the hotels did not renew their 90-day leases, and a lot of hotels didn’t provide those rooms if it was at the end of the lease. Ms. D’Amore added that if someone was a COVID risk they were not placed.

Andrew Chadsey said he wanted to mention that he does know some people in the business, and one thing to consider is some of these businesses were not set up for this. You end up with people working a desk that have a certain business structure and clientele all of a sudden being in charge of a hotel with mental issues and other problems. He does not think they should be forcing businesses to do anything.

Tom Meredith said he is not necessarily happy with this language, about the mayor and city council using their power and influence. He asked if they could say that they are disappointed in the outcome less than success of Project Room Key. Mr. Chadsey suggested asking them to reinvest to make the project work, and Ms. D’Amore suggested they could ask to train hotels how to facilitate this. Mr. Meredith clarified that he is okay with the first sentence, I’m not okay with the second sentence.

Mr. Skarpelos suggested they could change it to “HUNC feels that the mayor and city council could have used more of their power or influence”. Mr. Wait said he was okay with that, he just wants to make sure it gets across that it was not an inevitable collapse, and the elected officials could have done more.

Ms. D’Amore was uncomfortable with telling them they could have used more of their influence without citing specific examples. Mr. Wait said this is more than just a staffing issue: these hotels were taking public assistance to stay afloat. The city had leverage to get more compliance that they chose not to use.

Mr. Chadsey wanted to say that he thinks they have to realize that these people are being put in a position where they’re being exposed and becoming essential workers and some of them don’t want to do it.

Michael Connolly said as a parent of young children in school during this, they were all caught with their pants down. He doesn’t like pointing fingers because something was tried and didn’t work. They are going to have failures, because nobody’s ready for this.

Motion Made: Motion to write a letter to City Councilmembers and relevant city agencies regarding the results of Project Roomkey:

The Hollywood United Neighborhood Council is disappointed in the decision to end Project Roomkey while falling far short of its goal. HUNC feels that the mayor and City Council could have used more of their power or influence to secure participation from hotels receiving public assistance. Unfortunately, Project Roomkey joins Measure HHH and a litany of other efforts that have fallen far short of their promised goal to house our constituents experiencing homelessness. HUNC urges the mayor and City Council to use all tools at their disposal to ensure the people who were able to participate in Project Roomkey are actually provided the transitional housing promised and redouble their efforts to address this defining crisis of Hollywood and Los Angeles.
12. Transportation & Works Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

There was no meeting this month.

13. Non Profit, Education & Arts Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

Margaret Marmolejo said that they did have a meeting last month and are interested in looking at some murals even during this time. They were especially interested and fond of the wall around Western and Los Feliz as a location. But there’s a lot more to be done to create something. They discussed CERT classes, but they do not know when they are coming back. There are virtual medical classes, so they might do something further. They need to do some more with education and helping children in their area. One thing that was brought up, with virtual teaching, is that there is a need for more extracurricular activities like photography, singing, etc., because the kids just need more activity. They also wanted to do more for the children of the Cheremoya school or other students in the area for the holidays that are coming up.

14. Renters and Housing Issues Committee

A) Report by the Committee Chair

Matt Wait said that they had their new member join them for the first time for this meeting, and it’s great to have more participation. They talked about outreach to Renters area A, but now that’s not necessary.

B) Discussion and possible motion to file a CIS in support of Council File 20-1012, Home-Sharing Administrative Guidelines / Home Sharing Guest Code of Conduct / Interim Control Ordinance (ICO) / Guest Limitation / COVDI-19 Pandemic:


Ms. D’Amore said party houses have gotten out of control and people can see tik toks of hundreds of people in a house. This is not permitting AirBnBs to allow a certain amount of guests or allow other entertainment services.

Stakeholder Kristina O’Neil said the city is not doing anything to control how many people attend AirBnB gatherings. AirBnB has suspended their ability to post for 30 days, and yet they are still getting rentals, and the police aren’t able to do anything about it. Ms. D’Amore clarified that the motion allows the police to come and shut gatherings down, and according to Emma Howard, an immediate LA DBS shutdown or escalation. There’s no legislation on AirBNB’s on visitation.

Coyote Shivers asked if this was going to stop gatherings? Ms. D’Amore said it would not, but that it would prevent gatherings of more than 10 people. Mr. Shivers said he could not vote for something that tells people they can’t gather, and if he wants to have a party of more than 10 people, he does not want the mayor telling him he cannot.

Motion Made: Motion to file a CIS in support of Council File 20-1012
Discussion and possible motion to file a CIS in support of Council File 20-0995, Short Term Rental Ordinances / Short Term Rental Companies / Implementation and Enforcement: Introduced on August 11, 2020 and referred to Planning and Land Use Management Committee (https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-0995_mot_08-11-2020.pdf). The motion is requesting the City Attorney and instructing the Department of City Planning, the Department of Building and Safety, and other relevant city agencies to report on the progress of implementing and enforcing the City’s Short Term Rental ordinances and advise if more remedies are needed to ensure Short Term Rental Companies, and users, abide by established law.

Mr. Morrison explained that there were LA Times reporting that there’s been a lot of ineligible sites posted on AirBnB, a lot of feedback of illegal use of some units, and the language is just to reiterate and ask some specific questions for the new proposed city report. These questions basically come directly from the ordinance and asking how they are enforcing parts of the ordinance.

Motion Made: Motion to file a CIS in support of Council File 20-0995

A) Report by the Treasurer

Sheila Irani said that they paid up their Apple One employment. They are up to date with everything and Shower of Hope has been paid, and the laundry vouchers will come up again. They currently have about $28,000 available, plus $4,000 from Erin Penner’s cleanup project.

B) Discussion of current fiscal year budget and possible motion for adjustment for election expenses

Tom Meredith explained that with this being an election year, it does cost money to do outreach not only for the call for candidates but to remind stakeholders of the vote and the voting schedule. It will be different this year obviously, with no in-person events, but they will probably need money to boost their social media. He is an advocate for adding in direct mail where it makes sense, and they are going to have to get yard signs. He felt $12,000 would be necessary, but the executive committee felt $8,000 was sufficient. George Skarpelos said if there’s the need for more, they can adjust the budget with this standing item.

Mr. Skarpelos said they proposed pulling 4,000 from outreach and 4,000 from office expenses.

Ms. Irani said they have plenty in the office budget, and they kind of have it in the election category, so she thinks they’re okay. She directed the board’s attention at the MER on screen, and noted that the money grouped under “Office, Outreach, and Election” is almost $18,800. When they spend money on the election, she will tag it under the Office budget.

C) Discussion and vote to approve pending September Expense Report for submission

Sheila Irani explained that basically, they are keeping up with all the new changes, moving over to gmail, and they still have their mailchimp, backup, etc. They have paid off everything outstanding.

Motion Made: Motion to approve pending September Expense Report for submission
Motion: Sheila Irani  
Second: Tom Meredith  
Vote: Yes-10, No-0, Abstain-0, Recused-0, Ineligible-3

Yes
Andrew Chadsey  
Michael Connolly  
Ineligible
Coyote Shivers  
Margaret Marmolejo  
Marshall Cobb

No
Brandi D'Amore  
Sheila Irani  
Tom Meredith

Abstain
Fouzia Burfield  
George Skarpelos

Recused
Jim Van Dusen  
Matt Wait

16. Board Member announcements of items not on the Agenda

Coyote Shivers said that he was not here last month but wanted to apologize for the month before last for his line of questioning and vernacular that was at the time a little clumsy. He did not mean to ask improper questions.

Tom Meredith said they are going to put that doodle back out again for new board members’ availability regarding the Board Retreat and he asked them to fill out the doodle.

17. Old/Ongoing Business

Jim Van Dusen said he is going to send out the motion for the trams now, it’s only one line, and today is the closure of the study.

18. New/Future Business

Adjournment at 10:50 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.