



**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS  
MINUTES  
CITY COUNCIL  
SPECIAL MEETING  
January 26, 2012**

The Special Meeting of the City Council of the City of Beverly Hills was held in the Council Chambers at 6:30 pm.

***PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE***

**A. ROLL CALL**

Present: Councilmember Gold, Councilmember Bosse, Councilmember Mirisch, Vice Mayor Brien, and Mayor Brucker  
Absent: None

**B. ORAL COMMUNICATIONS**

1. TELEPHONE CALL-IN (310.285.1020)  
(Members of the public are invited to place telephone calls to comment on issues that do not appear on the evening's agenda. The City Council will take up to three telephone calls per meeting. Comments on the evening's agenda must be made in person as the item comes before the City Council.)

None

2. AUDIENCE COMMENTS. Any person wishing to address the City Council on any matter not on the agenda may do so at this time. However, the State open meetings law (Government Code Section 54950 et seq.) prohibits the City Council from providing a detailed response or acting upon any item not contained on the agenda posted 72 hours before a regular meeting and 24 hours before a special meeting. If you wish to address the City Council at this time, please complete a speaker's card and give it to the City Clerk prior to the commencement of the meeting. Please use the microphone provided, clearly stating your name for the official record and courteously limiting your remarks to three (3) minutes so others may have the opportunity to speak as well.

None

**C. CONTINUED AND NEW BUSINESS**

1. REVIEW OF THE ROXBURY COMMUNITY CENTER PROJECT AND REQUEST FOR DIRECTION. Comment: Per City Council direction, staff will present an overview of the Roxbury Community Center project and ask for Council direction on next steps with the Roxbury Community Center.

Assistant Director of Community Services Nancy Hunt Coffey presented the staff report along with a PowerPoint presentation. She discussed the project history from February 2006 to present, project funding, concerns and misunderstandings that staff has heard from the community, and information regarding the current building vs. the proposed building. Associate Project Manager Donielle Kahikina and Assistant City Manager Mahdi Aluzri answered questions pertaining to building specifications and parking.

Speaking:

1. Alan Block, Recreation and Parks Commissioner
2. Rick Wolfen
3. Eileen Gelon
4. Juliet Levesque
5. Ken Goldman, Southwest Homeowners Association
6. Linda Roberts
7. Winnie Hervey, Beverly Hills Active Adult Club President
8. Ellen Vittoria
9. Mildred Heller
10. Sherry Tedeschi
11. David Bronte, Beverly Hills Little League
12. Victor Moss
13. Herb Young
14. Ray Flade
15. Les Bronte
16. Judie Fenton; also read a letter into the record from her mother Donna Goldstein
17. Fern Seizer
18. Paul Bernstein
19. Caryl Marks
20. Brian David Goldberg, Beverly Hills Unified School District Board President
21. Marjorie Blatt
22. Murray Fischer
23. Rose Norton
24. Melody Doff
25. Philip Asherian
26. Alma Ordaz
27. Norma Zager
28. Ellyn Snowden
29. Dr. Finerman
30. Marilyn Gallup, also read a letter from Michael Libow
31. Debra Judelson, MD
32. AJ Willmer
33. Gloria Seiff

34. Mel Spitz
35. Frances Harper
36. Nancy Barth
37. Randy Steinberg
38. Lester Boxer
39. Frances Boxer – Mayor Brucker read her opposition into the record
40. Allison Revivo - Mayor Brucker read her opposition into the record
41. Lori Goldman
42. Diane Forrest, Citizens for Roxbury Park
43. Mervyn Mandelbaum
44. Liora Shily
45. Rochelle Ginsburg
46. Red Richmond
47. Colleen Rabin
48. Kathi Rothner
49. Kurt Rother
50. Scott Kend
51. Jessica Wolf
52. Earl Goldstein, DDS
53. Judy Okun
54. Robert M. Kaus
55. Frances Shloss
56. Andrea Kune
57. Steve Dahlerbruch
58. Thomas White, Municipal League of Beverly Hills
59. Steve Weinglass
60. John Mirisch
61. Marilyn Gallup read a letter from Christine Skirmuntt into the record
62. Marilyn Gallup read a letter from Larry Larson into the record
63. Marilyn Gallup read a letter from Rosemary into the record
64. Vice Mayor Brien read a letter from Michael Karlin into the record
65. Vice Mayor Brien read a letter from Shahram Melamed into the record

Mayor Brucker thanked all the speakers as well as staff for the presentation.

Councilmember Bosse pointed out that the \$14.7 million cost, originally solely being taken from the Recreation and Parks Fund, is being taken from the Recreation and Parks Fund (\$6.65M), Capital Assets Fund/General Fund (\$6.5M), and Infrastructure Fund/General Fund (\$1.5M). She spoke about fiscal responsibility, and stressed the need to focus on how much money the community is willing to spend on this project and what residents really want. She questioned the staff cost that has been put into the project, and stressed the need to obtain the accurate cost of renovating the existing building or building a new Community Center, need for an EIR and addressing the parking impact. She briefly addressed the various issues raised by the residents such as the basketball court, kitchen and banquet facilities, emergency shelter and revenue generation among others. She requested Mayor Brucker to put her or Councilmember Mirisch in the Council liaison committee.

Councilmember Gold agreed with Councilmember Bosse that in order to move forward, the various issues raised by the community need to be addressed. These include

whether to renovate or build new, preserving the green space, involving the community and being transparent, the budget for this project, preserving the footprint, and thinking about green and sustainable concepts.

Councilmember Mirisch commented on the various issues raised during public comment such as drainage, green space, seniors' needs, upgrading or building facilities to Beverly Hills standards, and being fiscally responsible. He advocated for building a brand new state-of-the-art facility that's open to everyone while retaining the scope and height of the existing center and character of the park. He recommended that Councilmember Bosse be put on the liaison Committee.

Vice Mayor Brien thanked staff for their presentation. He spoke about preserving green space, addressing the needs of the seniors in the community, being dynamic, having continued dialogue and working together productively as the community moves forward with the project.

Mayor Brucker thanked the community for displaying civility despite the diversity of opinions, and staff for the presentation and additional information about the project. He noted the Roxbury Park project liaisons will not be changed, and Vice Mayor Brien and Councilmember Gold will continue as the Council liaisons for the project.

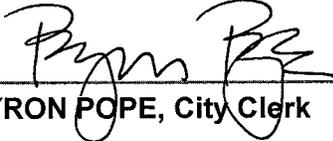
***D. OTHER BUSINESS***

None

***E. ADJOURNMENT***

There being no further business, Mayor Brucker, with the consent of the Council, adjourned the meeting at 10:58 pm.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted  
this 7<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2012

  
BYRON POPE, City Clerk

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**BARRY BRUCKER, MAYOR**

**This meeting was broadcast on live television, on City of Beverly Hills municipal government television access Channel BHTV10 Time Warner Cable.**