

**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
MINUTES - STUDY SESSION
December 5, 2013
Council Chambers
2:45 P.M.**

**PRESENT: Mayor Mirisch
Vice Mayor Bosse
Councilmember Brien
Councilmember Gold
Councilmember Krasne
Jeff Kolin, City Manager
Larry Wiener, City Attorney
Jonathan Lait, City Planner
Ryan Gohlich, Senior Planner
Susan Healy Keene, Director of Community Development
Megan Roach, Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager**

A - DIRECTION

Mayor Mirisch held a moment of silence honoring Nelson Mandela.

1. Request of Mayor Mirisch to Discuss the Infiniti Project Located at 9031 Olympic Boulevard
This item was scheduled to provide residents an opportunity to share their concerns regarding the subject project to the City Council and for the Council to ask questions of staff. The subject project was approved by the Planning Commission on March 28, 2013.

City Planner Jonathan Lait presented the item at the request of Mayor Mirisch. The Planning Commission approved the Infiniti project on March 28, 2013. On April 11, 2013 the City Council declined to call-up the project.

The following members of the public spoke:

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- David Galst
- Hadar Geller
- Murray D. Fischer, representing Roundtree Automotive Group

City Planner Jonathan Lait and Senior Planner Ryan Gohlich responded to questions regarding various aspects of the project and the process by which it was approved.

Mr. . . . commented that he is not the official spokesperson for the residents on Wetherly Drive. Council expressed its concern that Mr. . . . presented himself as the spokesperson.

Council could not take any action since the time period for calling up the decision by the Planning Commission has passed.

2. Request of Mayor Mirisch for Council Consideration to Extend Design Review to the Hillside Area
Design review of single family homes currently is applicable only to the Central area of the City. This request would consider extending design review of single family home to also include the Hillside area.

Mayor Mirisch clarified that this item is not a request by him but that it is a City Council priority item.

Director of Community Development Susan Healy Keene indicated that extending design review to the hillside area is a "B" item on the Community Development Department's Work Plan. She further indicated that it will be part of the Council's discussion at their priority setting session on December 17. Vice Mayor Bosse inquired why this item is on the agenda if it is being discussed on December 17. Ms. Healy Keene responded that the Mayor requested that the item be placed on today's Study Session agenda for discussion.

Design Review Commission Chair Ilene Nathan spoke on behalf of the Commission regarding their purview. She spoke to the fact that their purview does not include the hillside area of the City. Commissioner Arline Pepp also spoke to the issue of extending the Commission's purview so that they could control the bulk and mass of the homes in the hillside area.

Ms. Healy Keene spoke to the fact that at last year's Council Priority Setting Session, Council decided to make R-1 standards a higher priority than hillside design review.

City Manager Kolin commented on the considerations of increasing the scope of the Design Review Commission's purview to include the hillside. Ms. Healy Keene commented further on the issue with regard to staff resources and the current scope of the Design Review Commission purview.

Chair Nathan commented on the Commission's ability to add hillside design review to their work load.

Council directed staff to bring more information to the City Council Priority Setting Workshop on December 17.

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3. Report on the Recommendation of the Public Works Liaison Committee Regarding the Establishment of an Appeals Board to Arbitrate Disputed Water Charges
Staff to present recommendation of the Public Works Liaison Committee proposing the establishment of an appeals board to hold hearings to address issues related to disputed water bills.

Item not discussed.

4. Summary of 2013 Resident and Business Satisfaction Survey Results
Staff to present and highlight results from the 2013 resident and business satisfaction survey.

Item not discussed.

5. Request for Donor Recognition Opportunity Associated with the Beverly Gardens/Cactus Garden Restoration Project
As part of the ongoing Beverly Gardens restoration effort, City Council is being requested to consider the approval of a donor recognition plaque similar in size and content as previously approved for the lily pond.

Item not discussed.

6. Proposed Amendment to Farmers' Market Annex Rules
Staff seeks direction for proposed amendments to the existing Farmers' Market Annex rules as they pertain to the maximum number of dates allowed per year that nonprofit health organizations may have a booth at the Market Annex and the assessment of fees as relates to this participation.

Item not discussed.

7. Request by Mayor John Mirisch to Discuss a "Hire Local Program"
Mayor Mirisch is asking the City Council to consider establishing a program with emphasis on hiring residents on the City's workforce.

Item not discussed.

8. Request by Councilmember Gold to Discuss a Venue Coordinator Position at Greystone Estate
Councilmember Gold is asking for discussion regarding the possibilities of hiring a Venue Coordinator for Greystone Estate. The responsibilities of the position would be to market and manage all uses of the estate.

Item not discussed.

9. Request from Mayor John Mirisch to Consider Declaring April 24 as "Beverly Hills Independence Day"
Requests City Council direction on naming April 24 as Beverly Hills Independence Day in recognition of the day in 1923 that Beverly Hills residents voted to remain a separate City rather than be annexed to the City of Los Angeles.

Item not discussed.

10. Request by the City's Legislative Committee to Formally Oppose Hydraulic Fracturing ("Fracking")
This item is from the City's Legislative Committee requests that the City Council review and recommend actions to be taken regarding the hydraulic fracturing process commonly known as 'fracking'.

Item not discussed.

11. Request by Centennial Cookbook Volunteer Committee for Additional Funds to Provide for Distribution and Mailing of the Centennial Cookbook
The Centennial Cookbook Volunteer Committee is requesting City Council approval for \$5,000 in Centennial contingency funding to promote and distribute the Centennial Cookbook.

Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager Megan Roach reported on the request by the Centennial Cookbook Volunteer Committee for \$5,000 in additional funding for postage and mailing of the cookbook.

Committee members Judy Henning and Ellyn Snowden spoke briefly on their progress to-date and their request for additional funding. Ms. Roach responded to a question regarding how the commerce will work if the Conference and Visitors Bureau cannot sell for the City and whether the book can be sold on the City's website.

Council approved the request for an additional \$5,000 in funding for the Centennial Cookbook.

B - ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER (TIME PERMITTING)

No items at this time.

C - INFORMATION

12. Request by Councilmember Krasne to Provide Information Regarding the City's Ability to Limit Tour Bus Travel on Narrow Streets
Provides information on the City's options to restrict tour bus travel on narrow streets such as Rodeo Drive.

Council directed staff to bring this item back at a future Study Session as an "A" item for discussion and direction from Council.

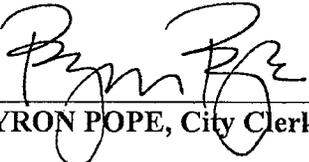
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13. Summary Report - City Council November 5, 2013 Retreat
This item transmits the summary report and notes from the City Council Workshop

Item not discussed.

The Study Session recessed at 5:07 p.m. to the Closed Session to discuss items that are identified on the agenda that has been prepared for the meeting. The Closed Session adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted
This 17th day of December, 2013


BYRON POPE, City Clerk

JOHN A. MIRISCH, MAYOR

This meeting was televised on City of Beverly Hills Municipal Government Television Access, BHN/10, Time Warner Cable.