

**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS  
MINUTES - STUDY SESSION  
November 18, 2014  
2:30 p.m.  
City Council Chambers**

PRESENT: Mayor Bosse  
Vice Mayor Gold  
Councilmember Brien  
Councilmember Mirisch  
Councilmember Krasne  
Jeff Kolin, City Manager  
Mahdi Aluzri, Assistant City Manager  
Laurence Wiener, City Attorney  
Michelle Tse, Senior Management Analyst  
James Latta, Human Relations Administrator  
William Withers, Police Sergeant  
Lincoln Hoshino, Police Lieutenant  
Nancy Hunt Coffey, Assistant Director of Community Services

**A - DIRECTION**

- 1. Review of the Beverly Hills Taxicab Franchise Request for Proposal (RFP)**  
Review Panel Recommendations, Evaluation Process and Proposed Changes with Respect to Matters Governing Taxicab Service Staff to report on the Taxicab Franchise RFP process and the review panel recommendations to the City Council, Award of Franchise based on the criteria set forth in RFP 14-36, proposed revisions to relevant sections of the Beverly Hills Municipal Code (BHMC), and proposed franchise agreements.

Item not discussed; carried over to the meeting of December 2, 2014

- 2. Commission Structure Review Update**  
This report provides an update from the Ad Hoc Committee regarding the Commission structure, which includes a training curriculum and a meeting format to promote uniformity and transparency.

Senior Management Analyst Michelle Tse reported on the framework proposed by Ad Hoc Committee members composed of Vice Mayor Gold and Councilmember Krasne, which was approved by Council on June 24, 2014. Ms. Tse provided information regarding the details of implementation, the implementation schedule, and a review of the Commissioner selection process in other cities.

Speaking:

1. Lillian Raffel
2. Ilona Sherman

Charitable Solicitations Commission (CSC) Chair Lillian Raffel expressed her concerns about the proposed process and asked for clarification on the charity solicitations protocol. Vice Mayor Gold and Councilmember Krasne addressed Ms. Raffel's questions and explained that it would be advantageous if the CSC investigate and solicit home based charities and/or charities that help residents in the community then work with the Community Services Department to provide the information to Council for consideration.

The Ad Hoc Committee members spoke about the committee's intentions. Mayor Bosse, and Councilmembers Mirisch and Brien thanked Vice Mayor Gold and Councilmember Krasne for their work. Council consensus was to move forward with the proposed plan except to keep the current term of six years and to further clarify the reappointment and absence policies.

### **3. Positive Change Not Spare Change Update**

Review progress of outreach efforts and discuss areas that still need improvement.

Human Services Administrator James Latta provided an update on the Positive Change Not Spare Change outreach initiative, discussed current challenges with addressing and discouraging panhandlers from operating in the community, and asked for Council direction on the ambassador option provided to address and discourage aggressive panhandling.

Speaking:

1. Frank Morse
2. Mark Tronstein, President of the Rodeo Drive Committee
3. Joan Lopatin
4. Rio Morse
5. Eva Feldberg
6. Rita Lewkowitz
7. Ilona Sherman

Mayor Bosse asked Councilmember Brien to read a letter from All Saints Episcopal Church in to the record. Police Sergeant William Withers and Police Lieutenant Lincoln Hoshino answered Council questions about the Police Department's bicycle patrol involvement with policing panhandling and the homeless. Police Lieutenant Hoshino stated that an operational plan has been placed to address issues during the holiday season. City Manager Kolin updated Council on the status of the current Police Department recruitment. Mr. Latta answered Council questions about the proposed Block-by-Block option.

Council consensus was that resident and community safety is a priority and asked staff to prepare a plan of action and update Council on the status of filling police officer position vacancies. Council asked staff to provide more specific statistical data related to panhandlers in the City. Council also requested for more information on the Block-by-Block program, requested a tour of other cities that use Block-by-Block's ambassador services but also asked staff to look into other non-profit organizations or solutions that can immediately address the issue.

Mayor Bosse and Councilmember Brien acknowledged that solving homelessness will take some time and offered to collaborate with Mr. Latta to meet with other organizations to discuss methods that will collectively benefit the region.

**4. Information Regarding Fine Art Commission Recommendation to Locate the Center Obelisk by Joan Brown in the North East Planter of the Rexford Entry to the Civic Center Parking Structure**

The Fine Art Commission recommends adjusting the proposed location of the Center Obelisk from the south east planter, as was recommended at the December 4, 2012 City Council meeting, to the north east planter of the Rexford entry to the Civic Center parking structure. Unless City Council directs otherwise, staff will proceed with the plans to install the Obelisk in this revised location.

Assistant Director of Community Services/City Librarian Nancy Hunt Coffey provided a brief report on the item and asked Council for direction on the recommendation of the Fine Arts Commission to change the originally approved location of the Center Obelisk.

Council did not approve the proposed location and suggested various other locations.

**B - ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER (TIME PERMITTING)**

None at this time.

**C - INFORMATION**

**5. Information regarding Fine Art Commission recommendation to adjust the language of the revised Fine Art Ordinance.**

The Fine Art Commission has considered the feedback from City Council on the revisions to the Fine Art Ordinance. The Fine Art Commission recommends that the Fine Art requirement be triggered at \$500,000, rather than \$250,000. In addition, the commission recommends deleting the requirement to post a security deposit if the building permit value is \$250,000 in case the fine art obligation is triggered within one year. Unless Council directs otherwise, staff will proceed with this adjustment and prepare the ordinance for final readings.

Item not discussed.

**6. Pilot Bicycle Route Project Update**

Update on the Burton Way and North Crescent Drive pilot bicycle route project and restriping of bike lanes.

**7. Grand Re-opening Event of Coach Rodeo Drive on Thursday, December 11, 2014**

Transmits information regarding Coach's re-opening event to be held on the rooftop of the 9510 Brighton Way parking structure on Thursday, December 11, 2014

Item not discussed.

**8. Sustainability Plan Update**

This report transmits an update on the City's accomplishments as it relates to the 2009 Sustainability Plan.

Item not discussed.

The Study Session recessed at 5:14pm to the Closed Session to discuss items that are identified on the agenda that has been prepared for the meeting.

PASSED, Approved and Adopted  
this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of December, 2014

  
BYRON POPE, City Clerk

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LILI BOSSE, MAYOR

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