

**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS
MINUTES – STUDY SESSION
February 16, 2016
2:30 p.m.
City Council Chamber**

PRESENT: Mayor Gold
Vice Mayor Mirisch
Councilmember Brien
Councilmember Bosse
Councilmember Krasne
Mahdi Aluzri, City Manager
Laurence Wiener, City Attorney
Byron Pope, City Clerk
Megan Roach, Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager
Cheryl Friedling, Deputy City Manager for Public Affairs

ABSENT: None

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

ORAL COMMUNICATION

Speaking:

1. Steve Mayer
2. Thomas White, Beverly Hills Municipal League

A – DIRECTION

1. **Fine Art Commission Interview Panel Report**
Transmits the Interview Panel's appointment recommendation for the Fine Art Commission.

City Clerk Byron Pope presented a staff report on the recommendation of the Fine Art Commission (FAC) Interview Panel composed of Councilmember Lili Bosse, Councilmember Nancy Krasne, FAC Vice Chair Alan Kaye and FAC Commissioner Carolyn Hiller to appoint Stephanie Vahn.

Council approved the recommendation of the Panel. The item will be placed on the March 1, 2016 City Council Formal meeting for adoption.

2. **Presentation by the Next Beverly Committee on Status of Work Program**
This item provides a status update on the Committee's work program including branding/marketing efforts, a housing white paper and a proposed community block party event.

Marketing and Economic Sustainability Manager Megan Roach introduced Next Beverly Committee members Jon Gluck and Sharona Nazarian. Mr. Gluck provided a brief background, discussed the Committee's objectives and outlined their accomplishments. Ms. Nazarian spoke on the Committee's number two priority for affordable housing. Mr. Gluck

presented on their number one priority for Food and Entertainment then provided details on the Next Beverly Launch Festival proposed for Saturday, April 9th on the 200 block of South Beverly Drive.

Mr. Gluck and Ms. Roach answered Council questions regarding logistics, marketing and the budget for the proposed event. Vice Mayor Mirisch and Councilmembers Krasne and Bosse expressed disapproval of the supplemental use of food trucks that are not related the City.

Council approved the item but asked the Committee to decrease the budget and to provide a better understanding of the event elements.

3. **Request by Mayor Gold and Vice Mayor Mirisch to Revise the City Policy Regarding the Key to the City of Beverly Hills**

This proposal would enhance the policy to bestow a Key to all former Mayors, and to automatically authorize the awarding of a Key when a Council member departs the City Council. This item brings forward a proposal to award the Key to the City to former Mayors by expanding the policy currently governing this situation.

Deputy City Manager for Public Affairs Cheryl Friedling briefly reviewed the City's policy on City Recognition and Gifts then cited examples of people who were given Keys to the City. She requested Council approval to enhance the policy to bestow a Key to all former Mayors and to automatically authorize the awarding of a Key when a Council member departs the City Council.

Vice Mayor Mirisch explained his reason for requesting the item. Councilmember Krasne approved of the request except in situations where there is not unanimous Council consensus.

Council agreed to move forward with the request.

4. **Parcels 12 & 13 Citizens Committee**

Report regarding the Parcels 12 & 13 Citizens Committee membership and discussion regarding the Committee's charge.

Mayor Gold prefaced the item by noting that the item is focused on the proposed Committee and their task. The Councilmembers each disclosed any conversations and/or meetings they have had regarding the subject.

City Attorney Laurence Wiener reported on the item and requested for Council to provide their input on the Committee's charge and the scope of its activities including the need for the Council to issue legislative subpoenas.

Speaking:

1. Robert Tannenbaum, Beverly Hills North HOA
2. Steven G. Madison, Beverly Hills Land Company
3. Dennis Roach
4. Ron Simms
5. William Riead
6. Marty Schwartz

7. Todd Hasson
8. Robbie Anderson
9. Jonathan Bloch
10. Lionel Ephraim
11. Burton Levinson
12. Alexander Haagen
13. Louis Lipofsky
14. Fred Bernstein
15. Deena Orlov Schechter
16. Lisa Greer
17. Thomas White
18. Michael Shabani
19. David Lapin
20. Elliott Megdal and family
21. Stan Gold
22. Monty Hall's letter read by Mark Egerman
23. Mark Egerman
24. Bruce Corwin
25. Eliot Finkel
26. AJ Willmer
27. Hilary Van Trees

Councilmember Brien read a letter from Linda Briskman into the record.

Council agreed to dismantle the committee, to appoint the investigation to the Council, and to hire an objective independent investigator with both an investigative and personnel background. Council also agreed to cancel the Citizen's Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 17, 2016 and instead hold an open meeting on the same date and time.

5. **Recommendation from Rodeo Drive/Special Events/Holiday Committee on Fiscal Years 2014-15 and 2015-16 Funding for the Rodeo Drive Committee**

This item transmits a recommendation from the Rodeo Drive/Special Events/Holiday Committee to allow the Rodeo Drive Committee to carryover \$346,664 in funding previously allocated for Fiscal Years 2014-15 and 2015-16 initiatives to Fiscal Years 2015-16 and 2016-17 for similar initiatives.

City Manager Mahdi Aluzri presented the item and asked for Council approval. Vice Mayor Mirisch asked Council to consider investing in the purchase of Baccarat chandeliers for use during the holiday season. Mayor Gold asked staff to add the suggestion to a future Study Session agenda.

Council approved the request.

6. **a. Conservation Program Update**

This is the monthly report to highlight the City's overall conservation efforts and programs.

b. Penalty Surcharge Framework

Staff will provide an update on the penalty surcharge framework related to excess water use.

Item not discussed; carried over to the Council Study Session of March 1, 2016.

B – ADDITIONAL ITEMS TO CONSIDER (TIME PERMITTING)

None

C – INFORMATION

7. Recommendation from Branding/Licensing Committee Regarding Settlement Agreement with JT, Brands Inc. and Disposition of Branded Fragrances

The City's Settlement Agreement with JT Brands gives the City the right, but not the obligation, to sell the remaining inventory of branded perfume. This item transmits the Branding/Licensing Committee's recommendation.

Item not discussed.

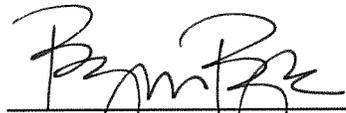
8. Fencing for Kusama *Hymn of Life* Art Piece

This item updates the City Council on the status of the fencing for the Yayoi Kusama art piece in Beverly Gardens Park.

Item not discussed.

The Study Session recessed at 6:12 pm 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 1st day of March, 2016



BYRON POPE, City Clerk

JULIAN A. GOLD, M.D., MAYOR

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