



## **Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Highlights**

### **Tuesday, March 12, 2013**

Below are highlights from the March 12, 2013 Mayor's Cabinet meeting, a monthly meeting with the mayor and City commission chairs or their representatives. Please note that this meeting is intended to exchange information on commission activities; no official actions are taken.

#### **REPORT FROM COMMISSION CHAIRS**

##### **Architectural commission – Zale Richard Rubins**

The commission is considering new sign codes that would give staff more discretion in making decisions. Commercial building facade projects under consideration include Nespresso and Infinity Service Center. Sign projects under consideration include Christophe and Chase Bank. The design for three-story commercial building on S. Robertson Boulevard is being considered. The commission is considering ways to mitigate the impacts of illuminated ATMs at Chase and Wells Fargo banks.

##### **Fine Art Commission – Fiona Chalom**

The Plensa sculpture was installed in Beverly Gardens Park. The commission is working on revisions to the Fine Art Ordinance. Installation of the Millard Sheets mural at the Civic Center is underway. The Fine Art Commission is working with the Recreation and Parks Commission to find ways to keep people from climbing on and defacing the public art. Options under consideration include fencing and security cameras.

##### **Charitable Solicitations Commission – Alyssa Roston**

This was the first cabinet meeting for new commission Chair Alyssa Roston. About half of the new charities proposing fundraisers in Beverly Hills do not meet the City's requirement for 50% of proceeds going to the charity. The commission will undertake an effort to educate these organizations on the City's requirements.

##### **Cultural Heritage Commission – Noah Furie**

The commission initiated the nomination for designation as a city landmark of a home designed by master architect Rex Lotery and once owned by Elvis Presley. The commission will be reviewing a number of properties for landmark designation at the April 10, 2013 meet including Beverly Hills City Hall and a home on the 800-block of Rodeo Drive.

**Design Review Commission – Arline Pepp**

Committee has recommended changes to a home on Palm Drive to meet the City's goals regarding residential design.

**Health and Safety Commission – Peter Landau**

CERT graduation was held. Twenty-one people completed the 21-hour class, which included lessons on urban search and rescue and fire suppression. The Emergency Operations Center will be open for the LA Marathon on Sunday to provide communications among the City staff, volunteers and the race officials in the Los Angeles operations center.

**Human Relations Commission – Ilona Sherman**

The commission will present a Celebration of Spring display at the April 2 City Council meeting. Two classes on how to create a video will be held in order to help potential entrants to the bullying prevention video competition. Commissioner Barbara Linder received an award from the California Parks and Recreation Society for her work creating a community garden at Greystone Estate. Produce from the garden is donated to homeless shelters.

**Planning Commission – Brian Rosenstein**

Projects under consideration include condominiums next to the L'Ermitage Hotel, the Infinity Service Center on Olympic Boulevard and a three-story commercial building on S. Robertson Boulevard. The commission has approved the SoulCycle exercise club and extended weekend and holiday hours for the Peninsula Hotel's rooftop bar. The also approved the three-story commercial building on S. Robertson Boulevard.

**Public Works Commission – Barry Pressman**

An educational video on recycling in Beverly Hills is nearly complete. The commission will participate in the discussion on the proposed water rate increases and explain why they support them.

**Recreation and Parks Commission – Robert Anderson**

There was an outstanding turnout for the Woofstock event. A ribbon cutting was held for the outdoor fitness equipment and snack bar at La Cienega Park. A department showcase was held at the most recent Farmers' Market and featured early class registration discounts, performers and activities for kids. Sixty families signed up for early registration. The outing to the Pechanga Resort and Casino was very successful, attracting 56 participants. The marathon will take place as in previous years, but roads will start to open at noon. The Fine Art Commission is working with the Recreation and Parks Commission to find ways to keep people from climbing on and defacing the public art. Options under consideration include fencing and security cameras.

## **Traffic and Parking Commission – Alan Grushcow**

Coldwater Canyon between Mulholland and Ventura boulevards will be closed for most of the day March 23-April 26. The LA marathon will be held Sunday with citywide road closures from 6 a.m. to 1 p.m. Construction of the bike lane pilot project will begin the first week in May and should be complete by June 30. There will be bike lanes and bike routes on Burton Way (from Crescent Drive to eastern City border) and on Crescent Drive (from Wilshire Blvd. to Sunset Blvd.), with markings that meet national standards. The City Council has chosen a post-and-loop bike-rack design in stainless steel with a Beverly Hills logo.

## **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor Brien discussed the economics behind water rate increases and urged commissioners to get involved in the debate on issues before the City Council has made its decisions.

*The next Mayor's Cabinet meeting has not been scheduled.*