

Hollenbeck Park Advisory Board Minutes of Meeting:

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 at 6:05 pm

Submitted: by Stephanie Vendig and Armando Martinez, Staff- Ex Officio

PAB Members Present: Hollenbeck Auditorium

Carlos Montes, Stephanie Vendig, Susana Betancourt, Don Baisa, and Vilma Castro, Community representatives, David Ebner, Park Ranger Division, Alfredo Rodriguez, Office of the Mayor, Officer Johnny Altamirano, Senior Lead Officer, LAPD Community Members, Claudi Mancía, Annabella Mazariegos, Sophia Valadez, Teen Representative, Noemi Valadez, and Armando Martinez, Ex Officio, Alicia Prieto, Hollenbeck RC staff. Quorum reached with five members.

Board Member Absent: Excused Vivian Escalante

*Director A. Martinez, welcomed community representatives and requested that Carlos Montes, lead out on the Agenda items and Carlos Montes accepted. Began at 6:05 pm

*Approval of Minutes of PAB meeting for December 17, 2024 , were reviewed and approved by board. Vote: 5 yes, no: 0,

Community Reports: *Various Organizations. Updated the PAB members and community with local organizations who help the local unhoused community and people looking for mental health assistance. Welcomed Sophia Valadez who will be our new teen PAB representative for Hollenbeck RC. This is a new city policy requirement to prepare teen students for community leadership.

- Claudia Mancía, Proyecto Pastoral: Shared info on current ICE raids in the community and the need to establish a Rapid Response Network, Also shared info on a legal team Hotline: (323) 805-1049.
- Jose Romero & Elsie Garcia, Office of Ysabel Jurado, CD 14, Gave an update on the setting up their office to service the community of Boyle Heights. Also gave the office number (323)526-9332. Shared info on future food banks, Immigrant Rights workshops and future activities in Boyle Hts.

- Alfredo Rodriguez, the representative of the Mayor's Office shared information on starting an email campaign with the Mayor and her constituents. Spoke also about some false reporting on ICE adding to the climate of fear. Also, on the importance of working together with the new Councilmember of CD 14, also that we continue to connect with the senior lead officer Johnny Altamirano of Hollenbeck Station on issues of clean ups and the unhoused population. Also shared info on Mental Health care for the unhoused and local community
- David Ebner, Officer with the Park Rangers of Rec. & Parks, Requested that we continue to place Job Orders to remove the Unhoused Encampments and for emergencies to call LAPD, 911, and for the Unhoused issues to contact LASA and CD 14 to get medical attention for Unhoused. Also gave us the dispatch number which is 323-644-6661. Shared limited patrol due to only 30 Park Rangers and dealing with 400 parks.

Matters Under Board Consideration:

1. First Item: Susana Betancourt as chair of the Clean-up committee Saturday, January 25, 9am to 12pm, and April 26, 2025 for Earth Day. The board agreed to the date. This was an update, no vote necessary
 - a. Comment: Environmental Study & Soil Analysis: The board is exploring funding for our Environmental Study report so we can understand more the toxic nature of the water run off from the freeway. The CalTrans will review the study and return with more info. Skipped no new info.
2. Second Item: The Board is continuing the research on the partnership plans with Roosevelt High School and the CD 14 Field Office on the high schools involvement. Stephanie Vendig will be working on developing a working outline. Info only, still working on details.
3. Third Item: Review of the Historic Hollenbeck Band shell Renovation Project . Built circa 1940's, discussed that this is a secondary issue and the most important is funding for Hollenbeck security through the night.

4. Fourth Item: Don Baisa shared his observations and recommendations to improve the crumbling infrastructure and ways to improve the park. Some examples are the crumbling concrete retainer walls on the southwest side of the park, the crumbling bridge, and the need for new modern drinking fountains. A formal letter from the PAB members was recommended.
5. Fifth Item: Since there is no response yet from the Mayor's office on the letter sent to her in December of 2024. Since no response yet we will ask our representative to follow up or plan a new strategy.

Informational Reports:

1. President's Report: None at this time.
2. Director's Report: Armando Martinez, shared with the PAB and community, the current status of the restrooms and their maintenance. Also updated the board on the Winter programs. Finally, the director wanted to thank CD 14 for the five major activities which were achieved this year with the Mayor and the Department of Street Services and Engineering for the 4.9 million Beautification project and the new 25 million dollars for the Hollenbeck Lake Restoration which we hope begins in the Spring of 2025. Highlights of 2024: 1. The July 4, Fireworks Celebration, 2. The new 120 trees planted. 3. The New Sidewalks installed around Hollenbeck Park, 4. The over 50 new Street Lamps installed, and lastly, the new beautification planter and new Hollenbeck welcome sign.

Meeting adjourned at 7: 35pm

Next Meeting: to be **Tuesday, June 10, 2024 at 6pm.**