

## **Hollenbeck Park Advisory Board Minutes of Meeting:**

Tuesday, July 9, 2024 at 6pm

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

### **PAB Members Present: Hollenbeck Classroom**

Carlos Montes, Stephanie Vendig, Susana Betancourt, Don Baisa, and Vilma Castro, Community representatives, Johnnie Altamirano, LAPD SLO, and Roberto Rubalcaba, CalTrans, Manuel Escamilla, CD 14 Field Deputy, Andre Branch & Peter Bautista, Supervisors, Maintenance, Alfredo Rodriguez, Mayor's Office, Representative, Armando Martinez, staff. Quorum reached with five members.

### **Board member Absent and 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 March 12, were reviewed and approved by board. Vote: 5 yes, no: 0,

**Community Reports:** \*Various Organizations. Updated the PAB members and community with community organizations who help the local community of unhoused and people looking for mental health assistance.

\*Senior Lead Officer Johnny Altamirano, of LAPD gave an update on crime and issues in the Boyle Heights community. He reported removing the unhoused from areas where they hang out is not easy. Also, recommended using 311 to get services for the unhoused community.

- CD 14 Representative, Manuel A. Escamilla, gave an update on Councilman Kevin de Leon's activities in Boyle Heights. Also a review of new programs and community celebrations and events in CD 14. Like the fireworks celebration. The new funding of the 120 trees planted, the new sidewalks and the new sign and lamp posts.

\*Pedro Bautista & Andre Branch, Supervisors, RAP Maintenance, Shared various projects moving forward at Hollenbeck Park, such as the daily maintenance, clean-

up of restrooms and taking out the trash three times per day. Updated the community on the trimming, landscape and other improvements in the cleaning and up keep of the buildings at Hollenbeck Park. Also the fixing of the three fountainhead pumps which controls fountains.

- Alfredo Rodriguez, Mayor's Office Representative, Shared that they are available to assist in supporting the park's needs and wants to work with our PAB group to build strong alliances with the Mayor's office.
- Roberto Rubalcaba, CAL Trans, Shared that he is working on relocating unhoused people from the Caltrans area about twice a week. Will be working on the Dog Park update on the letter from the Right of way division. He will be sending us a copy of the letter.

### **Matters Under Board Consideration:**

1. First Item: Susana Betancourt as chair of the Clean-up committee requested, Saturday, April 26, 2025 for Earth Day. The board agreed to the date. Vote: 5 yes, no: 0
2. Second Item: The Board voted on continuing the partnership plans with Roosevelt High School and the CD 14 Field Office on the high schools involvement. Stephanie Vendig proposed inviting the Biology teachers from Roosevelt High School to start the project of a Biology lab at Hollenbeck Park. Meeting with the staff and PAB volunteers and walking around the Lake to identify objectives and methods for carrying out the project. Vote: 5 yes, no: 0
3. Third Item: Based on Don Baisa's observations, a motion was made to develop strategies to address the crumbling infrastructure and ways to improve the park. Some examples are eroding retainer walls on the south side of the park, the crumbling bridge due to being locked up and the need for new modern drinking fountains. Vote: 5 yes, no: 0

### **Informational Reports:**

1. 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 Fall programs and success on our Summer classes.

**Next Meeting:** to be Tuesday, October 15, 2024 at 6pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm.