OFFICIAL
MINUTES
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION
CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION
THURSDAY, JULY 16, 2009, 1:00 P.M.

200 North Spring Street
Room 1010, City Hall
Los Angeles, CA 90012

MINUTES OF CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS COMMISSION MEETINGS HEREIN ARE REPORTED IN **ACTION FORMAT**. COMPLETE DETAILS, **INCLUDING THE DISCUSSION,** RELATING TO EACH ITEM ARE CONTAINED IN THE HEARING RECORDING FOR THIS MEETING. COPIES OF COMPACT DISC RECORDINGS ARE AVAILABLE BY CONTACTING CENTRAL PUBLICATIONS, AT (213) 978-1255 AND ARE ALSO ACCESSIBLE THROUGH THE WORLD WIDE WEB AT **http://www.planning.lacity.org.**

The meeting was called to order by Cultural Heritage Commission President Richard Barron at 1:19 p.m.

Present:

CULTURAL HERITAGE MEMBERS
Richard Barron, President
Roella H. Louie, Vice President
Glen C. Dake, Commissioner
Mia M. Lehrer, Commissioner
Oz Scott, Commissioner

CULTURAL AFFAIRS MEMBERS
York Chang, Vice President
Celeste Alleyne, Commissioner
Richard J. Montoya, Commissioner
Lee Ramer, Commissioner
Josephine Ramirez, Commissioner
Gayle Garner Roski, Commissioner

Absent: None

Adolfo V. Nodal, President

1. TOWERS OF SIMON RODIA (WATTS TOWERS), HCM 15, 10618-26 GRAHAM STREET AND 1711-65 E. 107TH STREET, CD 15, UPDATE PRESENTATION BY THE DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS ON THE ONGOING PRESERVATION EFFORTS AT THE TOWERS.

   Ken Berstein, Manager of the Office of Historic Resources, opened the meeting by welcoming all present to the joint meeting of Cultural Heritage and Cultural Affairs Commissions.

All Commissioners present introduced themselves.

Olga Garay, General Manager of Cultural Affairs, provided a power point presentation of the Watts Towers highlighting the status and history of the tower.

Lenghty discussions ensued regarding the restorations of the tower. There were a total of six speakers from the public who were concern about safety issues.

The Chair closed the public hearing.

Cultural Heritage Commissioners asked to participate in Department of Cultural Affairs' (DCA) discussions with outside cultural organizations interested in assisting with the Towers, and Olga Garay agreed to include the commissioners if those institutions agreed, and at an appropriate time.

The two Commissions adopted a motion to instruct their staffs to prepare a joint letter on their behalf to the Mayor's Office, asking for the Mayor's assistance in developing an outside "Friends of Watts Towers" organization to focus specifically on fundraising for the Towers

The Cultural Heritage Commission asked for a quarterly report from DCA on Watts Towers conservation activities, as well as on other DCA sites (such as Barndsdall Park/Hollyhock House) that have Historic-Cultural Monument status.

There being no further business to come before the two Commissions, the meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Richard Barron, President
Cultural Heritage Commission

Fely C. Pingol, Commission Executive Assistant
Cultural Heritage Commission

Adopted: 08/20/09