

Cultural Heritage Commission
Official Minutes
Thursday, April 15, 2021
(VIA TELECONFERENCE)

MINUTES OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION HEREIN ARE REPORTED IN ACTION FORMAT. THE ENTIRE DISCUSSION RELATED TO EACH ITEM IS ACCESSIBLE IN AUDIO FORMAT ONLINE AT planning.lacity.org. TO LISTEN TO THE AUDIO FILE: SELECT “ABOUT”, “COMMISSIONS, BOARDS & HEARINGS”, FILTER BY “CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION”, LOCATE THE COMMISSION MEETING DATE AND SELECT THE “AUDIO” BUTTON.

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID19, the Cultural Heritage Commission meeting was conducted telephonically.

Commission President Richard Barron called the regular meeting to order at 11:05 a.m. with Commission Vice President Gail Kennard and Commissioners Pilar Buelna, Diane Kanner, and Barry Milofsky in attendance.

Also in attendance were Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner, representing the Director of Planning; Lambert Giessinger, Preservation Architect; Shannon Ryan, Senior City Planner; Melissa Jones, City Planning Associate representing the Office of Historic Resources; Lucy Atwood, Deputy City Attorney; James K. Williams, Commission Executive Assistant II; and Diego Vasquez, Commission Office Staff

ITEM NO. 1

DIRECTOR’S REPORT AND COMMISSION BUSINESS

Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner reported the following:

- This morning, Mayor Garcetti introduced the final Civic Memory Working Group report led by Christopher Hawthorne, Chief Design Officer. The group, which included Commissioner Gail Kennard, was tasked with producing a series of recommendations to help Los Angeles engage more honestly and productively with certain aspects of the City’s past that have been varied or whitewashed. There will be a special presentation on the Civic Memory Working Group’s recommendations at our next meeting on May 6, 2021;
- The Getty Conservation Institute announced last week (in partnership with LA City Planning) the new Los Angeles African American Historic Places project. The Project will work with local communities and cultural institutions to recognize and celebrate African American experiences in Los Angeles;
- In response to the Commission’s request, an informational presentation on the Hollywood Community Plan Update is tentatively scheduled for our next meeting on May 6, 2021;
- The Historic Cultural Monument nomination for the International Institute of Los Angeles was scheduled to be heard on April 6, 2021 by the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (PLUM) but the meeting was canceled due to technical issues. The proposed ordinance regarding Planning and Development fees, which included fees on historic resource-related matters, was also postponed to a future meeting. This week City Council approved the Historic-Cultural Monument nomination for the Avenel Cooperative Housing Project; and
- Senator James Mills, recently passed away at the age of 93. He is recognized for the law that bears his name, the Mills Act, which is one of the most significant historic preservation incentive programs in California.

Old Business

- Review and Advisory Concurrence of Proposed Historic-Cultural Monument Plaque Artwork. Plaque Artwork for Wallace Beery's Hollywood Hideaway, HCM #1172 was approved on consent.

New Business

- Advance Calendar
- Commission Announcements/Requests – Commissioner Kennard noted the passing of Senator Mills, as well as the passing of Julia Bogany, a Tongva Tribal Elder and an educator of Tongva history, and Jerome Robinson who was a student in the Master of Heritage Conservation program USC and led tours for the LA Conservancy. Commissioner Barron recognized Jessa Ross for her service to the Commission and to the City. Commissioner Milofsky clarified the intent of the Fairfax Theater Historic-Cultural Monument nomination subcommittee report; the subcommittee found that there is substantial evidence to support the Owner and the Applicant presenting their cases before the full Commission to determine if there is substantial new information to warrant placing the new nomination on a future agenda for consideration.

ITEM NO. 2

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

There were no presentations.

ITEM NO. 3

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

Several speakers addressed the Commission.

ITEM NO. 4

MONUMENT: EGYPTIAN THEATER AND FORECORT STOREFRONTS, HCM #584

Plan Area: Hollywood

Council District: 13 – O'Farrell

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 6706-6710 West Hollywood Boulevard;
1650-1654 North McCadden Place

Informational Presentation on the Proposed Structural Upgrade Project; the Commission did not take any actions on this item.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Genoveva Carmona, Tony Hambarchian, and Shannon Murphy, Netflix; Ross Brennan, Studio

440 Architecture and Acoustics; Peyton Hall, Historic Resources Group; and David Cocke, Structural Focus, representing the Owner Netflix Inc. c/o Lease Administration.

ITEM NO. 5

PROPOSED MONUMENT: MARCH AVENUE PALM TREES

CHC-2021-2244-HCM

CEQA: ENV-2021-2245-CE

Council District: 12 – Lee

Plan Area: Canoga Park- Winnetka-Woodland Hills-West Hills

PROPERTY ADDRESS: Public ROW in median and along east side of North March Avenue between West Ingomar and West Justice Streets

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jessa Ross, Office of Historic Resources, representing the applicant, City of Los Angeles

Commissioner Kennard put forth the actions below and moved to include the March Avenue Palm Trees in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

1. Determine that the proposed designation is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 and Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 of the State CEQA Guidelines;
2. Determine whether the property conforms with the definition of a Monument pursuant to LAAC Section 22.171.7; and
3. Recommend that the City Council consider and declare the subject property a Historic-Cultural Monument.
4. Adopt the staff report findings as the findings of the Commission.

Commissioner Kanner seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Kennard
Seconded: Kanner
Ayes: Barron, Buelna, Milofsky

Vote: 5 – 0

MOTION PASSED

Commissioner Barron recessed the meeting for a lunch break at 12:37 p.m. The Commission reconvened at 1:16 p.m. with Commissioners Barron, Buelna, Kanner, Kennard, and Milofsky in attendance.

ITEM NO. 6

PROPOSED MONUMENT: MAGNOLIA BOULEVARD OAK TREES

CHC-2020-7441-HCM

CEQA: ENV-2020-7442-CE

Plan Area: North Hollywood-Valley Village

Council District: 2 – Krekorian

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 11755-11805 West Magnolia Boulevard (Public ROW along north side of West Magnolia Boulevard between North Colfax Avenue and North Morella Avenue)

IN ATTENDANCE:

Charles Fisher, Preparer; and Karo Torossian, Chief of Staff representing Council District 2

Commissioner Kanner put forth the actions below and moved to include the Magnolia Boulevard Oak Trees in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

1. Determine that the proposed designation is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 and Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 of the State CEQA Guidelines;
2. Determine whether the property conforms with the definition of a Monument pursuant to LAAC Section 22.171.7;
3. Recommend that the City Council consider and declare the subject property a Historic-Cultural Monument; and
4. Adopt the staff report findings as the findings of the Commission.

Commissioner Kennard seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Kanner
Seconded: Kennard
Ayes: Barron, Buelna, Milofsky

Vote: 5 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 7

PROPOSED MONUMENT: GRANADA THEATER

CHC-2021-408-HCM

CEQA: ENV-2021-409-CE

Plan Area: Wilmington-Harbor City

Council District: 15 – Buscaino

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 628-634 North Avalon Boulevard

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jessa Ross, Office of Historic Resources, representing the applicant, the City of Los Angeles; and Aksel Palacios, Planning Deputy representing Council District 15

Commissioner Kanner put forth the actions below and moved to include the Granada Theater in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

1. Determine that the proposed designation is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 and Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 of the State CEQA Guidelines;
2. Determine whether the property conforms with the definition of a Monument pursuant to LAAC Section 22.171.7;
3. Recommend that the City Council consider and declare the subject property a Historic-Cultural Monument; and
4. Adopt the staff report findings as the findings of the Commission.

Commissioner Buelna seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Kanner
Seconded: Buelna
Ayes: Barron, Kennard, Milofsky

Vote: 5 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 8

PROPOSED MONUMENT: WEDDINGTON GOLF AND TENNIS CLUB

[CHC-2020-7764-HCM](#)

CEQA: ENV-2020-7765-CE

Council District: 2 – Krekorian

Plan Area: Sherman Oaks-Studio City-Toluca Lake-Cahuenga Pass

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 4047-4155 North Whitsett Avenue;
12506-12630 West Valley Spring Lane

IN ATTENDANCE:

Teri Austin, Applicant; Jenna Snow, Representing the Applicant; Edgar Khalatian, Mayer Brown LLP; Matt Becker, Weddington family member; and Christine Lazzaretto, Historic Resources Group representing the owner

Commissioner Milofsky put forth the actions below and moved to include the Weddington Golf and Tennis Club in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

1. Determine that the proposed designation is categorically exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article 19, Section 15308, Class 8 and Article 19, Section 15331, Class 31 of the State CEQA Guidelines;
2. Determine whether the property conforms with the definition of a Monument pursuant to LAAC Section 22.171.7; and
3. Recommend that the City Council consider and declare the subject property a Historic-Cultural Monument; and
4. Adopt the staff report findings as amended by the Commission.

Commissioner Barron seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Milofsky
Seconded: Barron
Ayes: Buelna, Kanner
Absent: Kennard

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

Commissioner Milofsky requested that the item be reopened to clarify the amended name of the monument and include technical changes.

Commissioner Milofsky put forth the actions below and moved to include the “Studio City Golf and Tennis Club” in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments and adopt the staff report findings as amended.

Commissioner Barron seconded the motion and the amending vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Milofsky
Seconded: Barron
Ayes: Buelna
Nays: Kanner
Absent: Kennard

Vote: 3 – 1

MOTION PASSED

Commissioner Kennard recused herself from Item No. 9, the Watts Happening Cultural Center. She left the meeting during Item No. 8 (at 3:46 p.m.) and did not return.

Commissioner Barron recessed the meeting for a break at 4:14 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 4:20 p.m. with Commissioners Barron, Buelna, Kanner, and Milofsky in attendance.

ITEM NO. 9

PROPOSED MONUMENT: WATTS HAPPENING CULTURAL CENTER

CHC-2021-2238-HCM

CEQA: ENV-2021-2239-CE

Plan Area: Southeast Los Angeles

Council District: 15 – Buscaino

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1827 East 103rd Street

IN ATTENDANCE:

Rita Cofield, Friends at Mafundi, Preparer; and Aksel Palacios, Planning Deputy representing Council District 15

Commissioner Buelna moved to take the proposed designation of the Watts Happening Cultural Center under consideration; and adopt the staff report findings.

Commissioner Milofsky seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Buelna
Seconded: Milofsky
Ayes: Barron, Kanner
Recused: Kennard

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

There being no further business to come before the Cultural Heritage Commission, the meeting adjourned at 5:17 p.m.

Richard Barron (Electronic Signature)

Richard Barron, President
Cultural Heritage Commission

Alice Inawat (Electronic Signature
on behalf of)

James K. Williams, Commission Executive Assistant II
Cultural Heritage Commission

ADOPTED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

OCT 07 2021

**CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION OFFICE**