

Cultural Heritage Commission
Official Minutes
Thursday, April 7, 2022
(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 accordance with Government Code Section 54953, subsections (e)(1) and (e)(3), and in light of the State of Emergency proclaimed by the Governor on March 4, 2020 relating to COVID-19 and ongoing concerns that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees and/or that the State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person, the Cultural Heritage Commission's April 7, 2022 meeting was conducted via telephone and/or videoconferencing.

Commission President Barry Milofsky called the regular meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. with Commission Vice President Gail Kennard and Commissioners Richard Barron, and Diane Kanner in attendance.

Also in attendance were Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner, representing the Director of Planning; Lambert Giessinger, Preservation Architect; Melissa Jones, City Planning Associate, and Shannon Ryan, Senior City Planner, representing the Office of Historic Resources; Kimberly Huangfu, Deputy City Attorney; Alice Inawat, Commission Executive Assistant; and Diego Vasquez, Commission Office Staff.

At approximately 10:05 a.m. Commissioner Buelna joined the Zoom webinar/teleconference meeting.

ITEM NO. 1

DETERMINATION TO CONTINUE HOLDING MEETINGS VIA TELECONFERENCE

Motion Required. Pursuant to Government Code Section 54953(e)(1)(B)-(C), and (e)(3)(A) and (e)(3)(B)(i), determination that COVID-19 State of Emergency continues to directly impact the ability of members to meet safely in person and possible Commission action.

Commissioner Kanner moved to adopt the resolution under which the Commission finds that holding meetings in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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

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

Vote: 5 – 0

MOTION PASSED

At approximately 10:22 a.m. Commissioner Buelna left the meeting due to technical difficulties and returned before Item No. 5.

ITEM NO. 2

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSION BUSINESS

Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner, had one item of interest:

- The City Legacy Business Program is a proposed new program that was initiated by council motion, by Council Member Price Jr. It had its first public hearing two weeks ago in the City Council's Economic Development and Jobs Committee. The Office of Historic Resources and LA City Planning is partnering with the Economic and Workforce Development Department (EWDD), which is the lead agency on this proposed program. The program aims to recognize, celebrate, and assist long time businesses in our city that anchor our local communities. This program is modeled after several similar legacy business programs in cities around the country. Legacy businesses help define our identity as a city as well as our individualized communities within the city. When a business that has operated for several decades suddenly closes, it generates a sense of cultural displacement and dislocation within a community. We view this as our broader efforts to preserve the unique cultural heritage of our local communities. Legacy businesses represent an important source of intergenerational wealth. These are small businesses or minority-owned businesses that contribute to the unique distinctiveness and cultural identity of our communities and this is needed more due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Many legacy businesses closed down temporarily or permanently coming out of the pandemic. The proposal sent to City Council by EWDD and Planning suggest a legacy business program that would define a legacy business in Los Angeles as a business that has been in continuous operation for 30 years or more within the same community and meets at least one of two criteria that it either contributes significantly to its community's history or identity, or that it sustains and cultivates distinctive cultural traditions or practices. The Office of Historical Resources would be the lead on creating an application process for businesses to put themselves forward or be nominated a legacy business by the community. Applications would be reviewed once or twice a year with an advisory staff recommendation report by the Cultural Heritage Commission, who would then forward a package of their recommendations to the City Council. Planning and EWDD were very comfortable having the Cultural Heritage Commission serve in this role due to its experience in applying defined criteria related to cultural significance as they do for Historic-Cultural Monuments. The Office of Historic Resources will also work on the marketing and branding of this proposed program. EWDD will be helping the businesses with technical assistance with a suite of services. Some of the delays in getting this program going was due to ensuring that there is funding in place. A grant from the Federal American Recovery Plan Act will enable the launch of this program over the next two years. Also, an initial grant program with EWDD will distribute just under \$4 million to support legacy businesses, with grants up to \$20,000. Council Committee continued the item for 45 days to allow community input and outreach to businesses.
- The City Council approved the HCM designation of the Hollywood Forever Cemetery.
- The PLUM Committee has recommended approval of Oil Can Harry's in Studio City, significant as a gathering place for the LGBTQ community in Studio City and the San Fernando Valley.

Old Business

- There was no old business.

New Business

- This year marks the 60th anniversary of the Cultural Heritage Ordinance and Cultural Heritage Commission in the City of Los Angeles. Commissioner Kanner and Commissioner Kennard were appointed to the subcommittee to help plan the celebration.
- Advance Calendar – There were no changes to the Advance Calendar.
- Commission Announcements/Requests – There was one announcement from the Commissioners.
 - Commissioner Kanner provided information from Barnsdall Art Park. There is an art class on April 30, 2022 at 10 a.m. as part of a project with an Ukrainian organization to explain Ukrainian culture through Petrykivka painting. There's a \$20 donation requested from participants and that donation will go to a non-profit organization called Razom.
- Commissioner Kanner moved to approve the Meeting Minutes of February 3, 2022. Commission Vice President Kennard seconded the motion and the vote proceeded as follows:

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

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 3

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

There were no speakers who addressed the Commission during Neighborhood Council presentations.

ITEM NO. 4

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no speakers who addressed the Commission during the general public comment period.

ITEM NO. 5

APPOINTMENT OF MAX SANCHEZ AS THE AT-LARGE MEMBER TO THE HARVARD HEIGHTS-WESTERN HEIGHTS HISTORIC PRESERVATION OVERLAY ZONE BOARD FOR A FOUR-YEAR TERM FROM APRIL 7, 2022 TO APRIL 7, 2026.

IN ATTENDANCE: Max Sanchez

Commissioner Kanner moved to appoint Max Sanchez as the Member-At-Large to the Harvard Heights-Western Heights Historic Preservation Overlay Zone Board for a four-year term ending April 7, 2026.

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

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

Vote: 5 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 6

PROPOSED MONUMENT: PHILIP AHN / KURT COBAIN RESIDENCE

[CHC-2021-9228-HCM](#)

CEQA: ENV-2021-9229-CE
Plan Area: Hollywood

Council District: 4 – Raman

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 6877 – 6881 West Alta Loma Terrace

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jenna Snow, Preparer; Rosalind Sagara, Los Angeles Conservancy, Applicant; Arthur Fielder and N'zinga Fielder, Owner; Benjamin Reznik and Daniel Freedman, Jeffer Mangels Butler & Mitchell LLP, and Margarita Jerabek-Bray, Environmental Science Associates, representing the Owner; and Mashaël Majid on behalf of Council District 4, representing Councilmember Nithya Raman.

Commissioner Kanner put forth the actions below and moved to **not** include the Philip Ahn/Kurt Cobain Residence in the list of Historic-Cultural Monuments.

1. Determine that this property does not conform with the definition of a Monument pursuant to Section 22.171.7 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code; and
2. Not adopt the Findings of the staff report 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

At approximately 11:19 a.m. Commission President Milofsky recessed the meeting. The meeting re-convened at 11:26 a.m. with Commissioners Barron, Buelna, Kanner, and Kennard in attendance.

ITEM NO. 7

PROPOSED MONUMENT: PACIFIC DINING CAR

[CHC-2021-9217-HCM](#)

CEQA: ENV-2021-9218-CE
Plan Area: Westlake

Council District: 1 – Cedillo

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1300 – 1314 West 6th Street

IN ATTENDANCE:

Andrew Goodrich, Architectural Resources Group, Preparer; Douglas Wance, Buchalter, Applicant; Alex DeGood, Cox Castle Nicholson, and Robert Chattel, Chattel, Inc., representing the Owner.

Commissioner Milofsky put forth the actions below and moved to include the Pacific Dining Car 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 Findings of the staff report as amended by the Commission.

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

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

Vote: 5 – 0

MOTION PASSED

There being no further business to come before the Cultural Heritage Commission, the meeting adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Barry Milofsky (Electronic Signature)

Barry A. Milofsky, President
Cultural Heritage Commission

Alice Inawat

Alice Inawat, Commission Executive Assistant
Cultural Heritage Commission

ADOPTED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
SEP 15 2022
CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION OFFICE