

Cultural Heritage Commission
Official Minutes
Thursday, December 1, 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 December 1, 2022 meeting was conducted via telephone and/or videoconferencing.

Commission President Barry Milofsky called the regular meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. with Commission Vice President Gail Kennard, and Commissioners Richard Barron, Pilar Buelna, and Diane Kanner in attendance.

Also in attendance were Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner, representing the Director of Planning; Shannon Ryan, Senior City Planner; Lambert Giessinger, Senior Architect; Melissa Jones, City Planning Associate; Max Loder, Planning Assistant; Lucy Atwood, Deputy City Attorney; Alice Inawat, Commission Executive Assistant; and Diego Vazquez, Commission Office Staff.

ITEM NO. 1

DIRECTOR'S REPORT AND COMMISSION BUSINESS

Ken Bernstein, Principal City Planner, had several items of interest:

- City Council approved a revised version of a large mixed-use project at 3900 Figueroa Street near USC and the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum. Originally called the Fig Project, it would have demolished five existing multi-family structures and relocated three additional existing multi-family structures, seven of which are designated contributors to the Flower Drive Historic District, determined eligible for listing in the California Register of Historical Resources. Following the City Council's approval of the project, a lawsuit was filed by the West Adams Heritage Association (WAHA) that challenged the Project's certified environmental clearance and approved entitlements. As part of a settlement agreement, the Applicant has agreed to preserve three of the contributing multi-family structures on-site. This settlement is in addition to the Applicant's existing obligation to relocate three other contributing multi-family structures to an off-site location.
- The Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee had on its agenda a motion introduced by outgoing City Councilmember Mitch O'Farrell, to initiate Historic-Cultural Monument designation of a two-story 1928 Spanish Colonial Revival building located at 6480 Santa Monica Boulevard. The committee continued this item to a future date to be determined.

Old Business

- Commissioner Barron and Commissioner Kanner had a tour of 215 South Wilton Avenue. The Commissioners met with the architect, contractor, and owner on Tuesday, November 29, 2022. Previously, three to four months ago at their first meeting, Commissioner Barron, Lambert Giessinger, and Melissa Jones met with them where the owner had done a series of massive demolitions which ripped out a large amount of historic fabric. Currently, not much progress has been made due to permit issues. The ground floor was still down to the studs. One of the things being done is laying rebar for the reconstruction of the front historic retaining wall that had been removed, and there was a lot of discussion about that process. The owner will do the rough work on it, such as the pouring of concrete and the building of the concrete block. The general contractor will do the finish work, including applying the texture and score lines. It was an overall positive meeting and the next visit is tentatively scheduled for mid-January, before they start the restoration of the plaster work on the interior.

New Business

- There was no new business.
- Advance Calendar – Commissioner Buelna reported that she may miss the December 15th meeting.
- Commission Announcements/Requests – There were no announcements from the Commissioners.

ITEM NO. 2

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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

ITEM NO. 3

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

There were several speakers who addressed the Commission during the general public comment period.

ITEM NO. 4

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION – BOYLE HEIGHTS COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE

PRESENTERS:

Craig Weber, Principal City Planner, Matt Gamboa, City Planning Associate, Priya Mehendale, Senior City Planner, and Kiran Rishi, City Planner, representing City Planning.

ITEM NO. 5

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION – OVERVIEW OF PUBLIC FEEDBACK ON PROGRAM ASSESSMENT RECOMMENDATIONS AND STATUS UPDATE ON IMPLEMENTATION OF POLICY CHANGES AND ORDINANCE AMENDMENTS FOR THE MILLS ACT HISTORICAL PROPERTY CONTRACT PROGRAM

PRESENTERS:

Lambert Giessinger, Senior Architect and Melissa Jones, City Planning Associate

At approximately 11:49 a.m. Commissioner Buelna left the zoom webinar/teleconference meeting.

ITEM NO. 6

PROPOSED MONUMENT: WHITSETT GARDEN APARTMENTS

[CHC-2022-4983-HCM](#)

CEQA: ENV-2022-4984-CE

Council District: 2 – Krekorian

Plan Area: North Hollywood – Valley Village

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 5505 – 5527 North Whitsett Avenue;
12511 – 12515 West Albers Street

Commission Vice President Kennard moved to continue the matter to a date certain of January 5, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Barron and the vote proceeded as follows:

Moved: Kennard
Second: Barron
Aye: Kanner, Milofsky
Absent: Buelna

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

ITEM NO. 7

PROPOSED MONUMENT: JAY RISK STANDARD OIL CO. SERVICE STATION

[CHC-2022-6496-HCM](#)

CEQA: ENV-2022-6497-CE

Council District: 14 – de León

Plan Area: Northeast Los Angeles

PROPERTY ADDRESS: 1659 West Colorado Boulevard

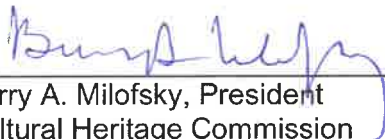
Commission Vice President Kennard moved to continue the matter to a date certain of February 16, 2023. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Kanner and the vote proceeded as follows:

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

Vote: 4 – 0

MOTION PASSED

There being no further business to come before the Cultural Heritage Commission, the meeting adjourned at 11:51 a.m.


Barry A. Milofsky, President
Cultural Heritage Commission


Alice Inawat, Commission Executive Assistant
Cultural Heritage Commission

ADOPTED
CITY OF LOS ANGELES

AUG 17 2023

**CITY PLANNING DEPARTMENT
COMMISSION OFFICE**