



Mayor's Cabinet Meeting

MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Monday, May 10, 2021
5:00 PM

Pursuant to Executive Order N-25-20 members of the Beverly Hills City Council and staff may participate in this meeting via teleconference/video conference. In the interest of maintaining appropriate social distancing, members of the public can participate by listening to the meeting at: <https://beverlyhills-org.zoom.us/my/cabinet> Passcode: 90210 or by phone at 1-866-899-4679, Access Code: 757-376-845 and offer comment through email at: mayorandcitycouncil@beverlyhills.org

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

Date / Time: May 10, 2021 / 5:02 PM

1. Welcome

- Mayor Bob Wunderlich called the meeting to order.

2. Public Comment

- None

3. Report from Commission Chairperson

- Architectural Commission – James Matson
 - Four projects were reviewed at the last Commission meeting:
 - Two façade remodel projects on Rodeo Drive for Brioni and Giorgio Armani.
 - Façade remodel project on N. Canon Dr. for Anne Sisteron.
 - Multi-family updated renovation on N. Palm Dr.
 - Connect Beverly Hills updates and progress are going well.
- Arts and Culture Commission – Michael Smooke and Deborah Frank
 - The Ai Weiwei sculpture and Nechita artwork installations are both now completed; the Arts and Culture Commission is hopeful for in-person dedications later this summer for both art pieces when public gatherings may resume.
 - The Commission will host a photography competition and on-line exhibition as a low-cost community event towards the end of the year to help celebrate the holidays and the arts and culture in Beverly Hills as part of the Celebrate and Embrace Culture initiative.
 - The 9242 Beverly Blvd. building is undergoing a renovation project that will require removal of the archway and artwork of a ceiling mural. As part of the Fine Art Obligation for this property, the new owners are proposing artwork to be installed of a prominent mobile called

Whistleblower by artist Pae White; the Commission will be recommending City Council approve this replacement.

- Council has approved Patrick Rees, owner of The Big New to proceed with the metal re-fabrication of *Hymn of Life*.
 - Discussion of partnership between Wallis Annenberg Center for Performing Arts and New York-based non-profit Sing for Hope to host “*Sing for Hope Pianos*”, a public art project involving placing artist-designed pianos around the City for everyone to enjoy.
 - Continuing to offer virtual arts and culture workshops with information listed on City website;
 - BH Spring Art Show will take place Sat/Sun, May 15 & 16, featuring 250 artists online and master class workshops at Greystone Mansion and Gardens.
 - Greystone Theatre virtual event series featuring performances continue to be available for viewing online.
 - City staff continue to work on a variety of virtual programming for the public to enjoy including videos and broadcasts on BHTV and the City's YouTube channels.
- Charitable Solicitations Commission – Steven Smith
 - Commission held a special meeting with Human Services staff and Ad Hoc Commissioners to vote on recommendations for recipients of Community Assistance grants. Grants were awarded to 22 charitable organizations out of 31 applicants.
 - Reviewed first draft of 2020 Annual Report to Council liaisons which will be updated and sent off.
 - Cultural Heritage Commission – Jill Tavelman Collins
 - Final six *Golden Shield* nominations were approved at last Commission meeting. At next meeting, staff will bring forward a final mock-up of the bronze castings of the designees and resolutions which will include final location for placement of plaques to be brought forward to City Council in June. .
 - Design Review Commission – Sandy Pressman
 - A design review permit was approved for a two-story single-family residence at 605 N. Rexford Dr.
 - Health & Safety Commission – Cathy Baker
 - BHUSD reported students have returned to school.
 - BHPD reported unanimous positive feedback on private security partnership with the City of Beverly Hills.
 - BHFD reported the ‘Just in Case’ program is progressing and have started meetings.
 - Commissioner Erica Felsenthal led the Commission in a moment of mindfulness.
 - The Health and Safety Recognition Award was presented to representatives from UCLA Health and Cedars-Sinai to recognize and acknowledge the commitment of the many thousands of employees and volunteers that have kept us safe or healed us during this difficult time.

- Heard an informational update on the current tobacco hardship exemption and appeal case; staff shared statistics related to complaints, investigations and information on multiple tobacco ordinances in Beverly Hills.
- Received COVID-19 public health updates including vaccine distribution and resources including a partnership between Beverly Hills, LA Co. Dept. of Public Health and Fulgent Genetics for a COVID clinic at Roxbury Park to be held May 10–14.
- Participated in a pro-health intermission during the Commission meeting called the 'Seventh Inning Stretch' to focus participants on need to stay active during long meetings with stretch relief.
- Presentation on mental health and wellness on addictive disorders and on strengthening resiliency, which is a 2021 H&S Commission priority topic.
- Transportation staff updated the Commission on Connect Beverly Hills 'Meet Me at Wilshire/La Cienega' on how to review and provide comments to contribute to the creation of a welcoming streetscape for Metro Purple Line subway patrons.
- Human Relations Commission – Ori Blumenfeld
 - Ad Hoc representatives from each Commission will present jointly approved program funding recommendations to our City Council liaisons; once approved by liaisons, staff will present recommendations to City Council in June.
 - Proposals for two inter-Commission projects are in discussion:
 - 'Sing for Hope' in partnership with the Wallis Annenberg for the Performing Arts, the New York-based non-profit Sing for Hope, and the Arts and Culture Commission which outlined this proposed project in their earlier report.
 - 'Visions of the Future' in partnership with the Next Beverly Hills Committee.
- Planning Commission – Peter Ostroff
 - Special meeting to be held to discuss the Garden House Project at 8600 Wilshire, including relaxing parking requirements.
 - Special meeting held to discuss if the development agreement for the *One Beverly Hills* project is consistent with the City's General Plan.
- Public Works Commission – Chuck Alpert
 - The Commission is working on an ordinance regarding plastic cutlery; would require food establishments to provide plastic cutlery only upon request. Virtual meetings will be held to discuss the proposal on May 18 and June 9 or visit: www.beverlyhills.org/cutlery for more information.
 - Provided comments on FY 21/22 priorities.
 - Reviewed progress on the upgrades to the water treatment plant and the progress on the ground water wells.

- Recreation & Parks Commission – Susan Mishler
 - Preschool and Adventure Camp program updates on number of children allowed in pods; children were able to be taken off of program waiting lists.
 - Summer Camps will be held both indoors and outdoors at Horace Mann, Roxbury Park and La Cienega Community Center.
 - Catskill Theatre Camp will be offered at Greystone Mansion; grounds of Greystone are now open to the public again.
 - Basketball courts at Roxbury Park recently reopened.
 - Update on current Recreation and Parks programming
 - Update on library reopening programming.
- Rent Stabilization Commission – Lou Milkowski
 - No meeting due to lack of quorum.
- Traffic & Parking Commission – Nooshin Meshkaty
 - Presentation was given by Metro regarding the two subway stations coming to the City, specifically on the First/Last Mile Plan - the first mile people will get to the subway, and the last mile people will get to their destination; plans were discussed for improvement for walking, biking and other means of transportation to assist Metro riders.
 - Connect Beverly Hills Streetscape Plan was presented to all Commissions for their review.
 - The Connect Beverly Hills public survey that ran April 14 through May 10 is now complete and they will begin reviewing results.
 - Reviewed draft Streetscape Plans and design standards for Wilshire/La Cienega; final draft will be presented to the Commission on July 1 and presented to City Council later in July.
 - Neighborhood Slow Streets Program has begun on S. Camden; three additional streets will soon join the campaign: 300 block of S. Almont, 400 block of S. Spaulding, and the 300 block of N. Oakhurst; seven additional applications for the Neighborhood Slow Streets Program will be reviewed at the next Commission meeting.
 - The Bike Share Program that began in 2016 is ending soon; the future of the program will be discussed at the next Commission meeting.

4. Mayor's Report

- The Mayor highlighted the following items:
 - Pandemic updates include:
 - LA County is now in the yellow tier.
 - Roxbury vaccine clinic accepting walk-ins.
 - Continuing health and safety precautions.
 - The budget cycle is currently underway with City Council; Beverly Hills has fared better than most other cities during the pandemic due to prior prudent financial management. Operating budget discussion will begin soon; loss of revenue is less than anticipated. General fund revenue is down 14%.

- There will be an update discussion of a mixed-use overlay zone at the next City Council meeting; an update of the Economic Sustainability Plan will also be presented.
- There will be a mobile Tour d'Elegance Program on Father's Day driving through the City of Beverly Hills.

ADJOURNMENT

Date / Time:

May 10, 2021 / 6:00 PM