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CULVER CITY GENERAL PLAN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
CULVER CITY GENERAL PLAN  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
CULVER CITY, CALIFORNIA

September 4, 2019  
6:30 P.M.

**Call To Order & Roll Call**

The regular meeting of the Culver City General Plan Advisory Committee was called to order at 7:10 P.M. at the Wende Museum.

Mayor Meghan Sahli-Wells delivered the welcoming remarks; expressed excitement about launching the Committee and the project; explained how important the document is in setting the future for the city; discussed the value of community engagement in the project; thanked the project lead consultants, Raimi + Associates; expressed her confidence that the consultants will effectively lead the community through the process; and thanked staff and the event host, the Wende Museum.

Ashley Hefner, Advance Planning Manager and Secretary of the Committee, welcomed everyone to the Committee's first meeting; introduced the Community Development Department Director, Sol Blumenfeld and the Advance Planning Division team; and thanked the food caterer, Akasha, and the event host, the Wende Museum.

Members Present: Cicely Bingener, Member  
Patricia Bijvoet, Member  
Diana Hernandez, Member  
Scott Malsin, Member  
Ken Mand, Member  
Yasmine Imani McMorris, Member  
Jeanne Min, Member  
Paavo Monkkonen, Member  
Dr. Peter Capone-Newton, Member  
Kristen Torres Pawling, Member  
Freddy Puza, Member  
Denice Renteria, Member

Reverend Doctor Frances Wattman Rosenau, Member  
Sierra Smith, Member  
Laura Stuart, Member  
Claudia Vizcarra, Member  
Jamie Wallace, Member  
Noah Zatz, Member

Members Absent: Manjit Asrani, Member  
Wally Marks, Member  
Andrew Weissman, Member

Staff Present: Ashley Hefner, Advance Planning Manager  
Lauren Marsiglia, Associate Planner  
Tracy Bromwich, Planning Technician II

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#### **Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda**

No speakers came forward and no cards were received. Secretary Hefner explained the purpose of the public comment period requirement and how public comments will be taken throughout the General Plan Update (GPU) process.

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#### **Order of the Agenda**

No changes were made. Secretary Hefner explained the purpose of this agenda item.

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#### **Consent Calendar Items**

None. Secretary Hefner explained what this agenda item covers, and that staff will explain this item more at the next meeting.

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#### **Action Items**

Item A-1

**Administration of the Oath of Office to the Appointed  
Committee Members**

Secretary Hefner administered the Oath of Office in unison to all the appointed Members present. The audience applauded the Members after they stated their Oath of Office, and staff collected a signed copy of the Oaths from each Member.

Item A-2

**General Plan Advisory Committee First Meeting and Open  
House**

Matt Raimi, Founder and Principal of Raimi + Associates and the project manager for the GPU project, introduced himself and his team. Raimi asked each Committee Member to state whether they live in the city, what they like most about the city, and what issues they want to address through the GPU, and a discussion ensued. Most of the Members live in Culver City, and some grew up in the city. Some of the characteristics about the city that the Members like include the city's: parks; public spaces; small businesses; street trees; local arts; social services; public school system; economic, social, and racial diversity; walkable neighborhoods; unique neighborhood identities; overall unique identity; friendly, welcoming residents; small-town feel despite being in a large metropolitan area; public safety services; and Fiesta la Ballona's ability to bring people together. Some of the goals the Members have include ensuring the General Plan: is equitable and that all interests are well-represented; increases the amount of diverse housing; enables more people to live in the city; increases opportunities for homeownership; addresses mobility issues; addresses community injustices; improves health equity; addresses climate change; helps the city retain its unique identity; increases retail downtown; increases the city's walkability, livability, sustainability, and affordability; helps the city remain inclusive and diverse; ensures public safety and policing efforts consider equity issues; addresses the jobs/housing imbalance; enables Culver City to consider its role in the metro region; and ensures the city's infrastructure can support future growth.

Secretary Hefner discussed the Committee rules and regulations, and the Committee organization and meeting structures. Secretary Hefner stated that the Committee needed to pass two motions to agendize the selection of regular meeting dates and selection of the Chair and Vice-Chair on the next agenda.

MOVED BY MEMBER STUART, SECONDED BY MEMBER FRANCES WATTMAN ROSENAU AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT SELECTING A REGULAR MEETING DATE BE AGENDIZED FOR THE NEXT MEETING (ABSENT ASRANI, MARKS, WEISSMAN).

MOVED BY MEMBER TORRES PAWLING, SECONDED BY VIZCARRA AND UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED, THAT SELECTING A CHAIR AND VICE-CHAIR BE AGENDIZED FOR THE NEXT MEETING (ABSENT ASRANI, MARKS, WEISSMAN).

Secretary Hefner explained the Committee Members' roles and responsibilities.

Raimi explained the community feedback process and the Committee's decision making-role and ground rules.

Discussion ensued between Committee Members and staff regarding voting, Committee responsibilities, how many people are required to be on the Committee, how to replace Committee Members, and the Committee Bylaws.

Secretary Hefner informed the Members that they should share their opinions and perspectives at Committee meetings and not worry about Council Member's opinions, as Council Member will have their turn to weigh in when the Committee makes recommendations for City Council's consideration.

Matt Raimi explained what a general plan is, how it works, what it includes; steps in the general plan process, including community engagement; the policy framework; the review and implementation period; and that the project team includes several subconsultant firms in addition to Raimi + Associates. Raimi informed the Committee Members to bring their binders to every meeting, that the PowerPoint presentation from this meeting will be posted on the website, and that staff will send out the stakeholders list.

Discussion ensued between Committee Members and staff regarding overcoming language barriers during the community engagement process, the Committee voting process, the Chair and Vice-Chair nomination process, whether the Chair and Vice-Chair could rotate, the Committee meeting rules of order, the Committee meeting agendas, and scheduling Committee meetings.

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**Public Comment for Items On the Agenda**

Mark Lipman expressed excitement about the Committee; and discussed: the green new deal, opportunities to change the City's development review process, opportunities to publicly-own land, opportunities for companies to contribute to the community, parking regulations, and a public bike program.

Judith Martin-Straw publishes culvercitycrossroads.com and offered the site as a platform for community engagement and transparency. Martin-Straw invited letters to the editor and expressed excitement about the GPU.

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**Public Comment for Items NOT On the Agenda**

Secretary Hefner invited public comment.

No speakers came forward and no cards were received.

Discussion ensued between Committee Members and staff regarding the Committee's relationship with the Planning Commission, City Council, and other city boards and commissions.

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**Receipt of Correspondence**

Secretary Hefner indicated that no correspondence had been received.

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**Items from General Plan Advisory Committee Members/Staff**

Secretary Hefner stated that staff will send out electronic agenda packets for future meetings and Members are welcome to print them or read them on their personal computers.

Secretary Hefner announced the next speaker series event on Wednesday, September 11, 2019.

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### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, at 8:31 P.M., the General Plan Advisory Committee adjourned its meeting to date in October that was to be determined.

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Ashley Hefner  
SECRETARY of the Culver City General Plan Advisory  
Committee  
Culver City, California

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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*[First and Last Name]*  
CHAIR of the Culver City General Plan Advisory Committee  
Culver City, California

I declare under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of California that, on the date below written, these minutes were filed in the Office of the City Clerk, Culver

City, California and constitute the Official Minutes of  
said meeting.

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Jeremy Green  
CITY CLERK

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Date