



**CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS**  
Telephonic / Video Conference Meeting  
455 North Rexford Drive  
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

**HEALTH AND SAFETY COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING**

**MINUTES**

Monday, November 22, 2021  
4:00 p.m.

**OPEN MEETING**

Date/Time: November 22, 2021 / 4:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**ROLL CALL**

Commissioners Present: Commissioners Rosenthal, Felsenthal, and Hilborne, Vice Chair Chang, and Chair Baker

Commissioners Absent: None

Staff Present: Fire Chief Gregory Barton, Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Matsch, Battalion Chief Timothy Hayes, Juan Morales, Elmer Andujar, Michael Hensley, Craig Crowder, Cindy Owens, Gabrielle Ressa, Meena Janmohamed, Debby Figoni, Gabriel Mier, Sheldon Zell, Karen Gutierrez

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

None.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

By order of the Chair, the agenda was approved as presented.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

- 1. Resolution of the Health and Safety Commission of the City of Beverly Hills continuing to authorize public meetings to be held via teleconferencing pursuant to government code section 54953(e) and making findings and determinations regarding the same**

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Felsenthal, SECONDED by Commissioner Hilborne to adopt the resolution as presented (5-0).

**2. Consideration of minutes from the Health and Safety Commission regular meeting on October 25, 2021.**

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Hilborne, SECONDED by Vice Chair Chang to approve the minutes as presented (5-0).

**REPORTS FROM PRIORITY AGENCIES**

- Beverly Hills Unified School District (BHUSD) – No report.
- Beverly Hills Police Department – No report.
- Beverly Hills Fire Department – C-Shift Platoon Battalion Scott Stephens updated the Commission on incidents and responses metrics. Chief Stephens addressed two major incidents and reported no strike team assignment. The Commission expressed their support to retiring Police Chief Dominick Rivetti for his dedication to the City of Beverly Hills.

**CONTINUED BUSINESS**

**3. Moment of Mindfulness**

Commissioner Erica Felsenthal, PhD, led the Commission in a "Moment of Mindfulness" which teaches mental health, resiliency, and mindfulness techniques. The Commission participated in an exercise titled Sponge Breath, a powerful breath work tool to promote healing and relaxation, for this month's topic of mindfulness and alternative health.

**4. Health and Safety Employee Excellence Award**

This item recognizes employees who have gone beyond their daily responsibilities to contribute to the City's health and safety efforts. This month the Health and Safety Commission honored the Public Works Department, Facilities and Maintenance Supervisors Juan Morales, Elmer Andujar and their team.

**5. Smoking and Tobacco Informational Update**

Management Analyst Gabrielle Ressa, and Policy and Management Analyst Cynthia Owens provided an informational update to the Commission. Updates included a tobacco hardship exemption application and smoking in multifamily residential dwellings. Residents are encouraged to contact Code Compliance by calling 310-285-1119 to report any non-exempt location for violations of the City's Ordinance.

**6. COVID-19 Update**

Meena Janmohamed, Emergency Management Manager, updated the Commission on a variety of COVID-19 metrics including vaccination and masking data and information. She shared safety tips to consider during the holiday season and spoke on the Current Health Order and the City's continued response to the pandemic. Staff addressed Commission inquiries.

Resources provided during this presentation:

- For the latest updates on COVID-19, visit [www.beverlyhills.org/novelcoronavirus](http://www.beverlyhills.org/novelcoronavirus)
- For vaccine information, visit [www.beverlyhills.org/covidvaccine](http://www.beverlyhills.org/covidvaccine)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **7. The Seventh Inning Stretch**

This item is a pro-health intermission dedicated to the need to stay active. Certified Personal Trainer Remy Kam led the Commission in a “Seventh Inning Stretch”. She provided a short demonstrational video, which addressed the positive aspects of stretch relief, injury prevention, blood circulation and mind rejuvenation.

Resources provided during this presentation:

- Visit [www.vuoriclothing.com](http://www.vuoriclothing.com) and [www.barrys.com](http://www.barrys.com) for more information.

### **8. Drought Update**

The Commission heard a drought update provided by Water Conservation Administrator Debby Fioni. She shared water conservation tips about ways to water, finding and avoiding leaks, as well as caring for your lawn and watering trees.

Resources provided during this presentation:

- For more information, visit [www.bhsaves.org](http://www.bhsaves.org) and [www.socalwatersmart.com](http://www.socalwatersmart.com).

### **9. Ayurvedic Health**

The Health and Safety Commission heard a presentation on natural alternative health by Drs. Seeta and Nisha Narsai. The Commission participated in a meditation exercise and ayurvedic self-massage.

For more information visit [www.NishaNarsai.com](http://www.NishaNarsai.com), [www.DrSeeta.com](http://www.DrSeeta.com) and [www.HealNaturalPlan.com](http://www.HealNaturalPlan.com).

### **10. Noise Pollution**

No presentation provided.

### **11. Risk Management and Ergonomics**

No presentation provided.

### **12. Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Program Demonstration**

CERT Coordinator Gabriel Mier shared a demonstrational video highlighting various aspects to the CERT program. Gabriel also spoke on the JUST IN CASE, BH program. The Commission encouraged the public to look into these programs to better protect themselves and the community.

For more information, visit <http://www.beverlyhills.org/departments/firedepartment/cert/web.jsp> and <https://www.beverlyhills.org/departments/firedepartment/justincasebh/>.

### **13. Community Risk Reduction Division on All About a Fire Extinguisher**

Fire Inspector Sheldon Zell provided a presentation to the Commission. Topics included fire extinguisher components and classification of fires. He highlighted the P.A.S.S. method of utilizing a fire extinguisher, which noted to pull the pin, aim at base of fire, squeeze the handle and sweep side to side.

To contact the Community Risk Reduction Division, call (310) 281-2703. More information on community education and awareness can be found at <http://www.beverlyhills.org/departments/firedepartment/communityriskreduction/firesafetueducation/communityeducationawareness/web.jsp>.

### **14. 2022 Health and Safety Commission Meeting Dates**

Motion: MOVED by Commissioner Hilborne, SECONDED by Commissioner Felsenthal to approve the 2022 Health and Safety Commission meeting dates as presented (5-0).

### **15. 2022 Health and Safety Recognition Schedule**

Motion: MOVED by Vice Chair Chang, SECONDED by Commissioner Felsenthal to approve the 2022 Health and Safety Recognition schedule as presented (5-0).

## **PROJECT UPDATES**

None.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE COMMISSION**

- Chair's Report
  - Mayor's Cabinet Meeting Highlights – October 11, 2021
    - Chair Cathy Baker attended the October 11, 2021 Mayor's Cabinet Meeting. Highlights were included in the packet for Commissioners to read.
- Commissioner Items – Commissioner Felsenthal expressed interest on initiating a formal recommendation to the City Council to adopt additional COVID-19 safety measures. Commissioner Hilborne and Chair Baker echoed the opinion.

## **COMMUNICATIONS FROM STAFF**

- Director's Report
  - Deputy Fire Chief Joseph Matsch announced his retirement from the City of Beverly Hills Fire Department beginning on December 21, 2021.
- Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Newsletters – the latest CERT newsletters were included in the packet for Commissioners to read.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Date / Time: November 22, 2021 / 6:14 p.m.

PASSED AND APPROVED THIS 20<sup>th</sup> DAY OF DECEMBER, 2021

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Cathy Baker, Chair