Beverly Hills City Council Liaison / Cultural Heritage Commission Committee will conduct a Special Meeting, at the following time and place, and will address the agenda listed below:

CITY HALL
455 North Rexford Drive
4th Floor Conference Room A
Beverly Hills, CA 90210

Thursday, January 30, 2020
11:30 AM

AGENDA

1) Public Comment
   a. Members of the public will be given the opportunity to directly address the Committee on any item listed on the agenda.

2) Advisory Status: The Cultural Heritage Commission recommended creation of a new role for retired Commissioners to serve in an advisory capacity to the CHC and to support the Historic Preservation Program. Liaison input is requested regarding creation of and parameters of such a position.

3) Meeting Frequency: Currently, the Cultural Heritage Commission (CHC) has four regularly scheduled meetings per year (second Wednesday of each quarter), with special meetings scheduled as needed. The CHC recommended adding two more regular meetings per year to the calendar in order to meet the strict time frames in the Historic Preservation Ordinance during the consideration of landmark eligibility for properties. The CHC also recommended minor changes to processing timeframes in order to align processing timeframes with regular meeting intervals.

4) Adjournment

Signed:
Huma Ahmed, City Clerk

Posted: January 28, 2020

A DETAIL LIAISON AGENDA PACKET IS AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW IN THE LIBRARY AND CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

Pursuant to the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Beverly Hills will make reasonable efforts to accommodate persons with disabilities. If you require special assistance, please call (310) 285-1014 (voice) or (310) 285-6881 (TTY). Providing at least forty-eight (48) hours advance notice will help to ensure availability of services. City Hall, including 4th Floor Conference Room A, is wheelchair accessible.
DATE: January 30, 2020

TO: Mayor Mirisch, Councilmember Wunderlich, Chair Furie, and Vice-Chair Collins

FROM: Ryan Gohlich, AICP, Assistant Director / City Planner

SUBJECT: City Council - Cultural Heritage Commission Liaison Committee Meeting:

1. Advisory Status
2. Meeting Frequency

ATTACHMENTS: 1. Resolution No. CHC 74

This memorandum is intended to serve as an overview for discussion topics at the January 30, 2020 City Council - Cultural Heritage Commission Liaison Committee Meeting. The purpose of the meeting is to review the subjects forwarded by the Cultural Heritage Commission (CHC) and to provide staff with further direction.

DISCUSSION

The following topics have been previously discussed by the Cultural Heritage Commission and/or the Liaison Committee, and further input is requested for development of these proposals in advance of being brought forward to the full City Council for review.

Advisory liaison status for former Cultural Heritage Commissioners

The Cultural Heritage Commission first began preliminary discussions regarding creating a role for outgoing Commissioners at its meeting on April 11, 2018. On May 21, 2018, the City Council/Cultural Heritage Commission Liaison Committee continued this discussion and encouraged the Cultural Heritage Commission to pursue this new role for retiring Commissioners in an effort to encourage continued outreach within the Community with regard to historic preservation and cultural heritage issues. On August 9, 2018, the full Commission continued to review the potential program and provided additional input for continued review by the Outreach and Education Subcommittee of the Commission, which met on September 24, 2018, and December 3, 2018. The full Commission again provided additional input on this topic on January 9, 2019. On April 15, 2019 the Commissioners reviewed this topic for the final time during a formal hearing and unanimously determined that any Commissioners wishing to serve in the advisory capacity should be allowed the opportunity with the consent of the full Commission.
This new program would allow Commissioners to serve the community in an advisory capacity for an extended period of time. The Commissioners have indicated that the desired goals of an advisory (non-voting) role would be primarily to help expand public outreach, particularly to encourage property owners to consider designating eligible properties as local landmarks and connecting these individuals with City staff to commence the process. An additional goal for this new role would be to serve as a resource to newer commissioners, as needed.

On April 15, 2019, the Cultural Heritage Commission adopted Resolution No. CHC 74 (Attachment 1), recommending the following parameters:

- Establishment of a new Preservation Liaison to the Cultural Heritage Commission program
- Title for selected members: “Preservation Liaison”
- Duty is to liaise with public at large, City staff, and sitting Cultural Heritage Commissioners regarding public outreach for historic preservation and designation matters.
- Non-voting role, liaison only
- Open to any retired Cultural Heritage Commissioner expressing interest to the Chair
- Not open to current Legislative Advocates
- Business cards may possibly be issued (item for discussion by Liaison Committee)

At this time, the Liaison Committee is requested to discuss the creation of such an advisory capacity, to review the parameters recommended by the CHC, and provide feedback to City staff, particularly regarding the issuance of a business card and City email address or whether staff’s contact information should be provided.

**Consideration for increasing the frequency of hearing dates for the Cultural Heritage Commission**

The City Council adopted a Historic Preservation Ordinance in 2012 and a revised Historic Preservation Ordinance on July 21, 2015, and the hearing schedule for the Commission was prescribed for at least four meetings each year. In 2018, the Commission met six times with two special meetings, plus one liaison meeting and three subcommittee meetings. In 2019, the Commission met four times with two special meetings (due to hearing scheduling changes rather than extra meetings) and four subcommittee meetings. Overall, in the past two years the Commission has held nine hearings to date and the average time spent for each hearing has been approximately two and a half hours. Currently, staff can schedule additional special meetings, as the necessity arises, to ensure all projects are presented to the Commission in a timely manner, and in conjunction with timeframes for the designation of historic resources set forth in the Municipal Code.

The Cultural Heritage Commission discussed this matter at greater length at its hearing on October 2, 2019 and determined that in order to meet the exacting timeframes required for the designation of eligible historic properties, that two additional meeting dates should be set each year. As proposed by the Commission, the total number of meeting dates would be formally set at six meetings per year, to occur every other month, with the ability for City Staff to continue to set special meetings, as required. In addition, the Commission recommended making minor changes to the code-required processing timelines in order to align with the changes in meeting frequency, if approved.

At this time, feedback is requested from the Liaison Committee regarding increasing the frequency of Cultural Heritage Commission regular meetings and making corresponding changes to processing timelines.
RECOMMENDATION

Staff requests that the Liaison Committee discuss the aforementioned proposals and provide direction to staff.
RESOLUTION NO. CHC 74

A RESOLUTION OF THE CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION OF THE CITY OF BEVERLY HILLS RECOMMENDING THAT THE CITY COUNCIL CREATE AN ADVISORY MEMBER STATUS FOR FORMER CULTURAL HERITAGE COMMISSION COMMISSIONERS

Section 1. The Historic Preservation Ordinance (Beverly Hills Municipal Code, Title 10, Chapter 3, Article 32 - Historic Preservation) is intended to provide the ability to protect the character of the city, promote greater awareness and understanding of the city’s history, and educate the public about Beverly Hills’ cultural, social, and architectural history through the preservation and maintenance of the city’s historic properties.

Section 2. Pursuant to the Historic Preservation Ordinance, the Cultural Heritage Commission is authorized to inspect, investigate, and recommend for designation by the City Council landmarks and historic districts, make preliminary or supplemental determinations or conclusions in order to implement the Historic Preservation Ordinance as well as to review survey information and maintain the local inventory. The Cultural Heritage Commission is also authorized to participate in, promote, and conduct public information, education, and interpretive programs pertaining to historic properties, and provide public participation in all aspects of the city’s historic preservation program.

Section 3. The inaugural five-member Cultural Heritage Commission was appointed by the City Council in 2012 to act and advise upon matters related to cultural resources and historic preservation throughout the City of Beverly Hills. In the first seven years of the Cultural Heritage Commission, members have garnered extensive knowledge and expertise in these subject areas as well as with numerous historically eligible properties across the City. At its
meeting on April 11, 2018, the Cultural Heritage Commission began discussions on how best to capture the Commissioners’ expertise and carry it forward to serve the purpose of the Ordinance and preservation of Beverly Hills after their official terms were completed.

Section 4.  On May 21, 2018, the Cultural Heritage Commission – City Council Liaison Committee reviewed, provided direction, and general support of the idea of creating a role for former Commissioners to remain in service to the City in a specific function and subject area and directed staff to return it to the Cultural Heritage Commission for further development.

Section 5.  At its public meeting on August 9, 2018, the Cultural Heritage Commission continued to develop ideas on the proposed role for former Commissioners and referred the issue to the Education and Outreach Standing Subcommittee.

Section 6. The Education and Outreach Standing Subcommittee convened on September 24, 2018, and December 3, 2018 to further develop the parameters of such a role.

Section 7. On January 9, 2019, the matter returned before the Cultural Heritage Commission for further discussion. The Commission provided feedback to staff and requested that a program proposal be drafted and presented at the Commission’s next quarterly meeting.

Section 8. At its meeting on April 15, 2019, the Cultural Heritage Commission considered a proposal to create an advisory Cultural Heritage Commission status and voted to recommend that the City Council create a new program with the ability to appoint former Cultural Heritage Commissioners as advisory, non-voting agents to the Cultural Heritage Commission.
Section 9. The parameters for the new Preservation Liaison to the Cultural Heritage Commission program are as follows:

**Title.** The selected members shall be given the title “Preservation Liaison.”

**Official Designation.** Any retired Cultural Heritage Commissioner may express his or her desire to serve as a Preservation Liaison to the sitting Chair of the Cultural Heritage Commission. Business cards may be issued to a Preservation Liaison during his or her term of service, as permitted by City of Beverly Hills administrative guidelines and regulations. No Legislative Advocate as defined in Beverly Hills Municipal Code Article 1, Chapter 9, Title 1, shall be permitted to serve as a Preservation Liaison during such time that he or she has an active Legislative Advocate registration form on file with the City of Beverly Hills.

**Official Role.** A Preservation Liaison shall serve as a non-voting liaison to the Cultural Heritage Commission. The purpose of a Preservation Liaison is to participate in public outreach and education activities regarding historic preservation and cultural heritage matters in Beverly Hills and to serve as a resource to newer commissioners if needed.

**Duties.** A Preservation Liaison’s role is to liaise with the public at large, City staff, and sitting Cultural Heritage Commissioners with regard to public outreach for historic preservation and historic designation matters.

Section 10. The City’s General Plan Historic Preservation Element includes policies related to preserving resources that represent the City’s history and culture or contribute to the City’s special character and unique identity. Goal HP2 encourages the City to acknowledge
and actively promote the City’s wealth of historic resources through a variety of activities geared towards residents, visitors, and the public at large. The Preservation Liaison’s role allows former Commissioners to engage with residents, visitors, and the public and to directly promote the City’s historic resources at an individual level.

Section 11. Pursuant to the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the City evaluated the action of establishing an advisory liaison role. Adoption of a resolution creating the advisory liaison role has been found to be exempt from CEQA because said adoption does not qualify as a “project” under Section 15378 of the Guidelines, as adoption of an advisory liaison position has no potential for impacts on the environment and is considered to be an organizational or administrative activity.

Section 12. The Cultural Heritage Commission hereby recommends that the City Council create a new, limited role for former Cultural Heritage Commissioners entitled Preservation Liaison, and delegate to the Cultural Heritage Commission the authority and responsibility to appoint retired Cultural Heritage Commissioners to serve as Preservation Liaisons.
Section 13. The Secretary shall certify to the adoption of the Resolution and shall cause the Resolution and certification to be entered in the Book of Resolutions of the Cultural Heritage Commission of the City.

Adopted: April 15, 2019

Attest:

Mark Odell
Secretary of the Cultural Heritage Commission

Approved as to Form:

David M. Snow
Assistant City Attorney

Approved As To Content:

Mark Odell, Urban Designer
Community Development Department
I, KAREN MYRON, Recording Secretary of the Cultural Heritage Commission of the City of Beverly Hills, California, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of Resolution No. CHC 74 duly passed, approved and adopted by the Cultural Heritage Commission of said City at a meeting of said Commission on April 15, 2019, and thereafter duly signed by the Secretary of the Cultural Heritage Commission, as indicated; and that the Cultural Heritage Commission of the City consists of five (5) members and said Resolution was passed by the following vote of said Commission, to wit:

AYES: Commissioners Corman, Collins, Furie, Vice Chair Pynoos, Chair Waldow.

NOES: None.

ABSTAIN: None.

ABSENT: None.