



HDCA Meeting Notes
June 10, 2020
Zoom / Virtual Meeting

Attendees:

David Brewer
Deborah Brosseau
Pamela Clay Magathan
Brett Cohen (LAPD)
Brandi D'Amore (HUNC)
Debra DeCordova
Stephen DeCordova
Linda Deutsch
Judy Dowden
Jodi Ehrlich

Anne Fitzgibbon
Rachel Fox (CD4)
Scott Grodner
Jan Hohenstein
Tifanie Joudeh
Alexa Iles Skarpelos
Pamela Kalmus
Mary Ledding
John Manino

Tom Meredith
Lisa Meredith
Merle Singer
Nathan Singer
Dia Schuldenfrei
Ray Schuldenfrei
George Skarpelos
Anji Williams
Kelly Ziegler

I. Welcomes & Introductions

Alexa Iles Skarpelos HDCA President
Email: alex@hollywoodell.com

This is the first time HDCA has held a neighborhood “meeting” since March 11, 2020. We reviewed some Zoom basics before moving on to announcements. Jan Hohenstein has been appointed HDCA Secretary!

II. LAPD

Civil Unrest

Since May 27th the entire LAPD across Los Angeles has been in a “full deployment” mode. Every officer in the department has been on a 12 hour on, 12 hour off shift rotation without a break. This has meant that all officers, including Senior Lead Officers have been deployed as needed to address the protests, demonstrations and civil unrest all over Los Angeles. Our SLO, Heather Mata has been away from our area most of the past two weeks and her availability to address Dell-specific issues was impacted by this.

The Hollywood Division Commander anticipates that the “full deployment” will be lifted by LAPD by the end of this week and that they will be able to resume normal operations after that.

Party Houses

LAPD Hollywood is expecting the continued closure of Hollywood clubs and bars to be a contributing factor on the uptick in party house problems and that this will continue through the end of this year. They will be assigning a dedicated patrol (or possibly two) to deal with party house problems.

SUN June 7, 2020

This past Sunday, a demonstration organized by Black Lives Matter LA drew the largest crowd of ANY of the Los Angeles area demonstrations over the past couple of weeks. An estimated 50,000+ people crowded the streets of Hollywood. The event was lauded for being 100% peaceful, according to the Hollywood Division Captain, there were no issues, fights, looting incidents or other threats to public safety, and no arrests were made.

SUN June 14, 2020

ALL Black Lives Matter LA (<https://www.ablm.la/>) is planning a demonstration this coming Sunday, June 14th starting at I am at Hollywood And Highland. They will march to West Hollywood, culminating at Santa Monica Blvd. and San Vicente. Large crowds are expected to participate and traffic in the area will be impacted.

Keeping the Conversation Going

Our community is predominantly white and privileged. How can we be a part of steps forward from the BLM protests and the issues raised these past couple of weeks?

Share first-hand accounts of experiences with LAPD during the protests, and get them on the record.

Read and discuss the book “How To Be An Anti-Racist” by Ibram X. Kendi (Anji William’s suggestion)
Participate in an Implicit Bias study (Deborah Brosseau’s suggestion)
<https://implicit.harvard.edu/implicit/takeatest.html>

III. COVID-19 Update

LA County Health Department Numbers

- Total number of cases in LA County to date (as of 6/9/20) is 67,064
- Total number of deaths in LA County to date is 2,768

COVID-19 Testing. The City of LA is offering FREE testing to Los Angeles residents by appointment. You can book your appointment online: <https://lacovidprod.service-now.com/rrs>

Updates to the COVID-19 Restrictions

Many businesses such as restaurants and retail stores are resuming with new protocols regarding physical distancing. Even if they are allowed to start up again, it’s up to individual businesses to determine the timing and extent that they are comfortable opening up to the public.

For up-to-date info about what is and isn’t allowed: <https://covid19.lacounty.gov/recovery/>

Mental Health Impact

Several people remarked on the toll that the pandemic and the isolation from quarantine has had on mental health. Mary Ledding shared information about an upcoming FREE “Social Isolation Impact Summit” organized by the Motion Picture & Television Fund: <https://mptf.com/>

IV. Fire Season

Recent Brushfire near Hollywood Bowl

The brushfire that occurred early Tuesday morning (June 9) near the Hollywood Bowl was truly a wake-up call that we are in fire season.

- Reported at approximately 6:16 am
- Took 2 hours and 13 minutes to knock it down and burned about 2.5 acres
- 129 LAFD personnel, including 3 LAFD helicopters and ground crews battled the blaze
- No injuries, no structure damage
- Cause of the fire is still under investigation

Brush Clearance Reminder

The brush clearance deadline this year was extended due to the COVID-19 pandemic to June 1, 2020. If you haven't already cleared your property, please do so ASAP for all our safety. If you see a property that hasn't been cleared, please report it: Online: LAFDbrush@lacity.org or via phone: (800) 994-4444 Monday – Friday, 7am – 3pm

Fireworks

During the meeting a large fireworks explosion occurred (witnessed by several neighbors) originating from 6425 Weidlake Drive. Several people on the Zoom meeting remarked on it.

Fireworks are illegal in the City of Los Angeles, and extremely dangerous in a high fire zone like the Hollywood Dell. Because of the extreme danger, **if you witness illegal fireworks being set off in the Dell, it is a 9-1-1 call** (LAPD Captain confirmed this).

V. Hollywood Center Development

Thank you to all the team of volunteers who worked on the public comment letter from HDCA to the City Planning Dept. for the proposed Hollywood Center Development Draft Environmental Impact Report. It was a huge effort and especially challenging to do without meeting, and during all of the unrest that was happening in the week leading up to the deadline. Special recognition was given to Mary Ledding, who spearheaded the strategy.

VI. Neighborhood Watch

A few years ago we started a Hollywood Dell Neighborhood Watch. We currently have about 50% of the "blocks" or street segments represented by a watch captain. These are people who volunteered to be the communication hub for their street. The first thing we had them do was build a contact list for their immediate neighbors so that we had a way to reach out to people during an emergency, and so we knew who might need assistance or a check-in during a major event. When the quarantine began, we asked the watch captains to reach out to their people and check on them.

Jan Hohenstein (who is the watch captain for Rinconia Drive between Quebec and Deep Dell) suggested we publish the map showing where we still need a captain.