

Sharita Houston

From: Elizabeth Polley <epolley@me.com>
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2022 3:33 AM
To: Sharita Houston
Subject: 1343 N Laurel comment

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Hi,

My name is Elizabeth Polley, a local West Hollywood artist. I live very close to this wonderful space, often taking my dog there to visit and sit on the outside benches. I hope this area can be maintained as I've met many lovely local neighbors in this special setting in the city.

I have always wished the house would be a usable space for the community. As a local artist, I applaud the plan to renovate the first floor to have an art gallery and community space. I'd hope local West Hollywood artists and curators could arrange shows, benefitting and showcasing the artistic local community. I also really am excited about the plan to create artist studios on the property— space for studios is exceedingly expensive in LA. Having the opportunity to work grow a body of work in such a tranquil setting for artists of Weho would benefit the creative community of West Hollywood.

Thank you,
Elizabeth

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Sharita Houston

From: Michael Carter <mikecarter2011@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, July 25, 2022 10:18 AM
To: Sharita Houston
Subject: WeHo HPC 07/25/2022

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Greetings:

Regarding 11.A. and the property at 1343 Laurel:

We are most fortunate to have this property at our disposal. It should be for readers, artists and pollinators alike. Let us allow musicians and a performance space if noise levels will not disturb neighbors. It is beautiful. Thank you. Please leave Fido at home.

Mike Carter
West Hollywood (37 years)

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From: [WeHo Preservation Alliance](#)
To: [Sharita Houston](#)
Cc: [Rebecca Ehemann](#); [Brian League](#); [Doug Vu](#); [City Council Web Email Address](#); [Judson Feder](#); [Susana Miller](#); [Roy Rogers Oldenkamp](#); [Jon Ponder](#)
Subject: HPC Agenda Item 11.A. 1343 Laurel Avenue -- Public Comment, July 25, 2022
Date: Monday, July 25, 2022 12:02:45 PM

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The West Hollywood Preservation Alliance (WHPA) looks forward to the staff briefing and to the Historic Preservation Commission discussion regarding options for adaptive reuse of the historic property at 1343 Laurel Avenue.

Preservation advocates are particularly interested in making sure that the character-defining features of the property - - the features that helped bring about the original local cultural resource designation in 1994 - - are protected and preserved as this community project proceeds.

Thank you for fostering historic preservation in West Hollywood.

--Victor Omelczenko, WHPA Board Member

West Hollywood Preservation Alliance

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L Y N N R U S S E L L
A R T . A N T I Q U E S . D E S I G N

July 25, 2022

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION
CITY OF WEST HOLLYWOOD
8300 SANTA MONICA BLVD.
WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA. 90069

RE: ITEM 11.A 1343 LAUREL AVENUE

Dear Chairman King and Fellow Commissioners,

Living diagonally adjacent to Laurel House, I have maintained an interest in its well being. Not only is it worthy as a Historic Landmark gifted to the city, to be presumably enjoyed by the entire community and beyond, but has also been home to a unique wildlife community including a Great Horned Owl which periodically perches on my 6th story slate rooftop and hoots.

In 2011 at a Public Facilities Commission within whose purview Laurel House resides, I introduced a concept for Laurel House similar to that of Robinson Gardens in Beverly Hills. Virginia Robinson's estate was gifted to the County of LA which continues to operate it and supplies a well qualified Superintendent who has allowed the estate to flourish. Aably augmented by The Friends of Robinson Gardens, a community of knowledgeable volunteers who undertake production of multiple programs and fund raising efforts from events for school children to lectures on Landscape & Decorative Arts, a highly respected Garden Tour & Home Decor Showcase with Shopping Boutique as a major fundraiser all components of a lucrative venture. Docents provide tours, a lovely book was written and it consistently receives local and national attention in the press. Commissioner Richard Maggio was receptive to the idea so a preliminary tour and meeting was arranged with Superintendent Tim Lindsay with unfortunately no follow through from the commission or the city. It was embarrassing as a member and participant in many events.

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ITEM 11.A. PUBLIC COMMENT

L Y N N R U S S E L L
A R T . A N T I Q U E S . D E S I G N

That occurred eleven years ago. Recently I followed up with Staff Member Andrew Campbell who appeared to have rather narrow ideas. This concept could still happen which would provide an expansive Historic Resource open to residents and visitors. The blueprint is free and available with VRG. Many of the healthiest historic venues throughout the country have similar active projects large and small.

Please visit the Virginia Robinson Gardens website and take a look for yourselves. <https://www.robinsongardens.org> Similarly VRG is located in a residential area on Eden Way in Beverly Hills and they have a well defined accessibility and parking program defined on site or shuttle service for large events expertly managed by the Friends of VRG

This is the Commission's opportunity to insure the future health and enjoyment of a historic community gem.

Thanking you for your consideration,

Lynn Russell