



MEETING MINUTES
LOS ANGELES EQUINE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
 Monday September 22, 2025
 6:30 pm
 Pierce College 480 W, Riverside Dr.
 Woodland Hills, CA 91367

Members	Present	Absent
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Stefanie Smith, Chair Department of Recreation and Parks	X	
Mayor's Representative, Scott Perez		X
District 1 Karen Pavliscak	X	
District 2 Rene Karapedian	X	
District 3 Brian Walsh	X	
District 4 T. Hagans	X	
District 5 David Ramey, DVM		X
District 6 Mary Benson	X	
District 7 Geronimo Bugarin	X	
District 8 Todd La Vergne		X
District 9 Vacant		
District 10 Kevin Atkins	X	
District 11 Larry Watts	X	
District 12 Stacia Crane	X	
District 13 Gene Gilbert	X	
District 14 Vacant		
District 15 Sabrina Silver	X	
Dept. of Recreation & Parks Joe Salaices	X	

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At about 6:30 prior to the commencement of the general meeting the Chair introduced the President of Pierce College Aracely Aguiar, who welcomed LAEAC members and the public to Pierce College. There followed an extensive public forum on equestrian issues, including career opportunities. These included personal stories on how they became involved with horses. Eva Lund and Cassie Hurlbut of Special Spirit Equestrian Therapy also gave the history their equine therapy program and spoke of opportunities for others to become involved. Maria Crone of Hanson Dam Horse Park described how her horse career evolved and the skills needed to manage equestrian facilities. There was also extensive interaction between the panel, the public and committee members.

Item 1. Call to Order and Roll Call. Member Benson as Chair called the formal meeting to order at approximately 7:30 and the Secretary called the role of members present as reflected above.

Item 2. Recognition of Guests and Visitors. Other than noted above there were no guests or visitors noted.

Item 3. General Public and Neighborhood Council Comments on items not on the agenda. There were no Neighborhood Council comments.

The Chair recognized several members of the public who commented on non-agendized issues. These comments included a suggestion that a central email address for each LAEAC member be established to facilitate the ability of the public to contact members. Another member of the public expressed concern over the lack of progress with the horse facility at Stoney Point. Joe Salaiques indicated RAP is open to proposals on Stoney Point. He explained that the current caretaker at Stoney Point is there on a month to month basis.

Item 4 Approval of Minutes The draft minutes of the July 28, 2025 meeting were approved.

Item 5 District Updates

District 1 - Have been working for installation of flashing lights at horse street crossings and horse traffic signs at various locations.

District 2 - Introduced Rene Karapedian

District 3- Welcomed the LAEAC to Pierce College. Commented on difficulties experienced in maintaining agricultural science/ equine science programs based in part on the metrics used to evaluate courses. Also there is a need to connect students with the numerous career opportunities in the equestrian field.

District 4- Described tunnel 7 repairs but it's a work in progress.

District 5- No report.

District 6- The Olympic equestrian events have been moved from Sepulveda Basin to Santa Anita race track.

District 7- Discussed Sylmar Rim of the Valley improvements, Hansen Dam and the polo kick-off on December 12, 2025 at the Equidome.

District 8- No report.

District 10- No report.

District 11- No report.

District 12- Looking for equestrian entries for Chatsworth Holiday Parade and Festival on December 14, 2025.

District 13-

District 15- Harbor City NC supports equestrian activities in the district. 200 people turned out to support a Harbor City equestrian park.

Item 6. Discussion and Motion Concerning Pierce College Ad Hoc Committee. The Chair next called for discussion and a possible motion to establish a Pierce College Ad Hoc Committee. Thereafter following discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded, it was

RESOLVED, that a Pierce College Ad Hoc Committee is hereby established.

After further discussion the initial members of the Pierce College Ad Hoc Committee were named: Mary Benson, Chair and Brian Walsh and Rene Karapedian, members.

Item No. 7. Next meeting. November 17, 2025, Friendship Auditorium, 3201 Riverside Drive, Los Angeles, 90027 at 6:30 p.m.

Item No. 8. Adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at about 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Watts,
Secretary