

**BEL AIR-BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 27, 2008
Community Magnet School
11301 Bellagio Road
Los Angeles, CA 90049**

Persons in Attendance

Quorum: 12

2008 Stakeholder Groups with Certified Representatives	Present	Absent
<i>Bel-Air Association</i>		
Eric Ridgely	X	
Andrew Schwartz	X	
Michelle Fleenor	X	
<i>Bel-Air Crest Master Homeowner Association</i>		
Irene Sandler	X	
<i>Bel-Air Park HOA</i>		
Gary Plotkin	X	
<i>Benedict Canyon Association</i>		
Joshua Berman	X	
Alan Fine	X	
Don Loze	X	
Nickie Miner		X
<i>Benedict Hills Estates Association</i>		
Ed Brody		X
<i>Beverly Glen Park HOA</i>		
Larry Leisten	X	
<i>Crests Neighborhood Association</i>		
Ron Galperin	X	
<i>Employee Associations</i>		
Marcia Selz	X	
<i>Faith-Based Organizations</i>		
Mike Sipple		X
<i>Glenridge HOA</i>		
John Colton		X
<i>Holmby Hills Homeowners Association</i>		
Avi Rojany		X
<i>7-12 Private Schools</i>		
John Amato		X
<i>7-12 Public Schools</i>		
Pam Marton	X	
<i>K-6 Private Schools</i>		
Vicki Kelly	X	
<i>Laurel Canyon Association</i>		
Monica Weil		X
Cassandra Barrère		X
Gary Gole	X	
Jim Nelson		X
<i>Lookout Mountain Alliance</i>		
Christopher Carradine		X
<i>Members-at-Large</i>		
Carol Sidlow	X	
Charles Maginnis	X	
<i>Moraga-Sepulveda Business Area</i>		
Ron Hudson	X	
<i>Residents of Beverly Glen</i>		
Pam Cooke	X	
Robert Ringler	X	
<i>Roscomare Valley Association</i>		
Robin Greenberg	X	

Steve Twining	X	
Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy		
Carolyn Carradine	X	
Save Our Strip		
Mark Krajewski		X
GG Verone		X

From DONE: Deanna Stevenson

From CD5 Office: Joan Pelico

From the Mayor's Office: Stephen Cheung

Administration (Agenda Item #1)

- President Robert Ringler called the meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. There was a quorum.

Introductions (Agenda Item #2)

- Robert Ringler asked everyone in attendance to introduce themselves and their affiliation.
- Robert announced that the meetings will be audio recorded and that Marcia Selz will be the Parliamentarian for the Council.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (Agenda Item #3)

- Robert Ringler moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Joshua Berman seconded the motion. Carol Sidlow questioned if a motion regarding opposing Councilmember Weiss' amendments to the Baseline Mansionization was voted on at the last meeting. Council discussed there was no such vote. Sidlow commented that a motion would be brought forth to the Council. Steve Twining commented that his name was misspelled. Motion to accept the minutes with corrections passed unanimously by voice vote.

Public Comments (Agenda item #4)

- Donald Loze reported on the annual Benedict Canyon meeting and commented on Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky's concern with increased density, residential areas will be affected. He encouraged Council members to provide a schedule of their annual meetings, so that other BABCNC members can attend. He also commented on his photographic essay of Los Angeles and asked members to invite him to take a picture of their area/special events.
- Katherine Gordon opted to speak during Agenda Item #12.
- Shirley Cohen opted to speak during Agenda Item #12.
- Patricia Bell Hearst opted to speak during Agenda Item #12.
- Robert Ringler announced a public hearing at the West Side Pavilion on February 28 at 7 p.m. and the following month regarding Community Plans.

Guest Speakers (Item #5)

- No speakers.

President's Report (Agenda Item #6)

- Robert Ringler thanked the Council for electing him as President and discussed his vision. He encouraged the Council to become educated on the issues, to make decisions based on facts, to listen and be respectful of other members and guests in order to make the Council's vote count in the community and downtown.
- He thanked Sharon Howard as the previous Administrator for the BABCNC and the entire Council presented Howard with flowers, a gift card and a certificate of appreciation.
- He welcomed David Espinoza as the new Administrator.

Treasurer's Report (Agenda Item #7)

- **Motion** - Alan Fine moved to approve the Treasurer's Report. Larry Leisten seconded. Larry questioned why the telephone bill was high. Alan Fine reported that the bill was for 2 months. Larry asked if other options could be explored for phone service. **Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

- ◆ **Motion** to approve paying the balance of \$2,175 for the new web host and updating web site. Alan Fine made motion. Chuck Maginnis seconded. Discussion was held. Vote: 20 yes, 2 no. **Motion passed.**

- ◆ **Motion** to approve \$5,000 expenditure for the Mulholland/Laurel Canyon Beautification Project – Installation of sprinklers. Alan Fine made motion. Robert Ringler seconded. Carol Sidlow requested clarification of where the project was located and if there were receipts for the sprinklers. Robert Ringler commented the project was visible on all for sides. Alan Fine stated he did have receipts. Gary Gole questioned how the money is allocated. Alan Fine stated the money is approved by DONE and allocates \$25,000 per budget year for projects. Discussion included the following suggestions:
 Members should provide request to the Administrative Committee for funding (up \$5,000) of appropriate projects in their communities;
 Add signage credit for BABCNC;
 Review competitive bidding;
 Create template for requests (Pam Morton will create template);
 Add criteria for projects.
Motion amended with signage recognition for the Council and review to assure competitive bids were made. Vote: 10 yes, 11 no. Motion failed.

- Alan Fine discussed that the outstanding balance of \$2,500 for Fire Station 99 would be resolved in the next few weeks.

Mayor's Office Report (Agenda item #8)

- Stephen Cheung announced that the Budget Survey was a success with over 3,000 responses and the results were posted on the Mayor's website.
- He advised that the Regional Budget Day was scheduled for March 8th and invited Council to take part in the day or e-mail him with any suggestions. He passed out information regarding the Budget Process.
- Ron Galperin thanked Stephen for his work at the meeting on February 23rd.

Council District #5 Report (Agenda item #9)

- Joan Pelico congratulated the new officers on the Council and thanked Steve Twining and Marcia Selz for their dedicated service with the Council.
- She reported on her attendance at the Benedict Canyon Association Annual Meeting and recognized the members expressed at the meeting. She encouraged everyone to call the Council Office, if the City Departments are unresponsive.
- She discussed the Ridgeline Ordinance not moving forward and Councilman Weiss is trying to move the Ordinance through.
- She reported the City is moving forward with the Hillside Mansionization, in correlation with the passing of SB 1818.
- Carol Sidlow asked for an update regarding the Hillside Public Safety motion. Joan Pelico stated she would contact Beverly Kenworthy to give an update to the Council.
- Pam Cooke commented on the urgent need for the City Council to act on the Ridgeline Ordinance to protect the Ridgelines from further development.
- Steve Twining thanked the Councilman for his opposition for 2391, 2395 and 2397 Roscomare Rd., 8720 Wonderland Ave. and 8815 Crescent Drive.
- Gary Gole noted an illegal signage problem on Sepulveda and Moraga. Joan Pelico stated that she would make sure it is reported.

DONE Report (Agenda item #10)

- Deanne Stevenson urged the Council to review the Plan for City Wide System of Neighborhood Councils and the changes on the DONE website.

Office Report (Agenda Item #11)

- David Espinoza briefed the Council on his website training and asked that bio information please be forwarded to Sharon Howard ASAP to get the website updated.

- Pam Cooke asked to have an “Agenda” link on the home page of the website, for easy access to the agenda.

Planning and Land Use Committee (Agenda Item #12)

- Public speaker Katherine Gordon spoke regarding 2040 Diane Way and safety issues and asked Council for support and assistance with this matter.
- Motion made and passed in committee to send letter to Councilman’s Office and City Departments regarding 2040 Diane Way.
 - ◆ **Motion** requesting a meeting with the Councilman’s Office and City Departments to discuss the public safety issues on and near 2040 Diane Way. Carol Sidlow made motion. Vicki Kelly seconded. Discussion was held. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- Motion made and passed in committee to support buried tanks in the Upper Stone Canyon Reservoir.
- Pam Cooke spoke in favor of supporting buried tanks and asked for the Council’s support.
- Public speaker Shirley Cohen spoke in support of the buried tanks in the Upper Stone Canyon Reservoir and commented that all the HOA’s near the area were in support as well.
 - ◆ **Motion** to support buried tanks in the Upper Stone Canyon Reservoir. Carol Sidlow made motion. Vicki Kelly seconded. Discussion was held. Vote: 21 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. **Motion passed.**
- Carol Sidlow advised of 2391, 2395 and 2397 Roscomare Rd, in Roscomare Valley Association (RVA) and demolition of 4 units and building of 10 units in it’s place and asking for a motion for a Geo Soil and Indemnification Report for the properties below the addresses.
 - ◆ **Motion** to support RVA and to request geo technical and soils report and other appropriate documentation regarding this development on Roscomare Road from the Planning Department. Carol Sidlow made motion. Steve Twining seconded. Discussion was held. Vote: 21 yes, 0 no, 1 abstain. **Motion passed.**
 - ◆ **Motion** to hire an independent geologist to review geo-technical and soils report regarding various developments at the discretion of the Planning and Land Use Committee, with the expense not to exceed \$1,000. Carol Sidlow made motion. Steve Twining seconded. Discussion was held. After due consideration, Pam Cooke made a motion to table the said motion until more information was received. Ron Hudson seconded. Vote: 19 yes, 3 no. **Motion tabled.**
- Carol Sidlow announced that the update to the Bel-Air Beverly Crest Community Plan will be moved to the year 2013, according to the Planning Department.
- Carol Sidlow updated on the hearings of 8716 and 8720 Wonderland being denied by Zoning Administrator. Regarding 8815 Crescent, 30 days were given by the Zoning Administer since important public safety issues were raised. However the issues may be denied. She complemented the Zoning Administration for listening to community concerns and thanked Patricia Bell Hearst for representing Lookout Mountain Alliance and Steve Twining for representing the BABCNC at the meetings.
- Don Loze requested that a letter be sent to the Councilman and PLUM for the City to move forward with the Ridgeline Ordinance.
- Public speaker Patricia Bell Hearst spoke regarding the efforts she and Steve Twining made on Crescent Drive. She also encouraged the Council to hire a geologist for land use issues.

Bylaws/ Rules Committee Report (Agenda Item #13)

- Larry Leisten apologized to the Council for not scheduling a meeting for this month and for not providing the First Phase of By-laws. First Phase will be sent out next month.
- Larry informed the Council of the City Clerk’s denial to administer the BABCNC At-Large Elections in 2008, and outlined the two remaining options open to the Board, Those options were (i) have DONE administer the election in the fall of 2008, or (ii) defer the election until 2010 at which time all elections will be administered by the City Clerk.
- Larry explained, as related to him by Deanna Stevenson, no the City Clerk gave no explanation its denial. Deanne Stevenson corroborated Larry’s communication to the Board.

- Larry noted that the Board was unaware of any individuals interested in the available at-large positions on the Board, and that in light of the options available moved to recommend postponing the election to 2010.
- Pam Cooke asked if there could be letter sent to the City Clerk to ask for a reason. Leisten endorsed Pam's position and stated that such position was his true position, that the Board should not readily accept the Clerk's denial, particularly without explanation.
- Larry withdrew his motion, and moved that the President of the Board write a letter to the City Clerk requesting an explanation of its denial to the Board's request to have the Clerk administer its election in June.

Outreach Committee (Agenda Item #14)

- Ron Galperin reported on BABCNC website.
- He thanked those who participated in the Budget Survey and reported that he will represent Westside in a budget meeting with the Mayor. Suggestions can be e-mailed to him.
- He commented on the outstanding balance of \$2,500 for Fire Station 99 and working with DONE to resolve the balance.
- He will send notice of the next Outreach Committee meeting and he informed a volunteer is still needed to chair the committee.
- He announced May 3rd and 4th would be Big Sunday and asked for proposals for projects in their BABCNC neighborhoods.
- Robert Ringler requested members to suggest an individual to chair the Outreach Committee.

Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness (Agenda Item #15)

- Senior Lead Officer Ralph Sanchez for the Hollywood Division thanked the Council for the assistance of purchasing the US Night Vision L3 Thermal-Eye, which is a lighting system for the patrol car. Sanchez passed out literature on the system and commented that an elderly man with Alzheimer's was found after police had used the system. It also helped in burglary case.
- Officer Sanchez briefed the Council on the burglaries by "Trick" and advised everyone to be aware of people that come to your homes. He also commented to lock doors and set alarms.
- Sanchez advised residents not to leave valuable inside vehicles to reduce theft of valuables inside vehicles.
- Officer Sanchez asked that we work as a community to share information with Police Departments.
- Gary Gole questioned if other donations were needed for equipment. Officer Sanchez stated that there was a need for a license plate reader. Alan Fine commented that one was purchased.
- Robert Ringler presented Sgt. Chris Ragsdale with a certificate of appreciation from the entire Council.
- Sgt. Chris Ragsdale passed out two maps that gave weekly reporting of crimes in the area. Ragsdale reported that there is still a decrease of crime this year over last year.
- Gary Plotkin questioned if there had been any hate crimes in the area. Ragsdale confirmed that there had not been any to date.
- Joshua Berman announced a meeting in March would be scheduled for the Committee.
- He encouraged everyone's participation in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training Program beginning March 3rd.

Traffic Committee (Agenda Item #16)

- The next meeting will be on Tuesday, March 11, 2008.

Public Schools Update (Item #17)

- Pam Morton commented on waiting to see what the State's budget deficit will do to the schools.

Writer's Strike Information (Agenda Item #18)

- Marcia Selz announced that the Writer's Strike had ended.
- Selz commented that the SAG contract was expiring in June, but negotiations were beginning in March.

New Business (Item #19)

- There was no new business.

The meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Sandler
Recording Secretary