

**BEL AIR-BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
March 26, 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>		
Jeff Kaplan for Eric Ridgely	X	
Ann Beisch for 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>		
Jerry Appel	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: Sonia Kwan

From the Mayor's Office: None

Roll Call (Agenda Item #1)

- President Robert Ringler called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m. He asked for a moment of silence in memory of the Fire Fighter who passed away while responding to a fire and another Fire Fighter who was hospitalized as a result of injuries suffered at the same fire.
- Irene Sandler called for role call. There was a quorum.

Introductions (Agenda Item #2)

- No introductions.

Guest Speaker – City Councilmember Wendy Greuel (Item #3)

- Ron Galperin introduced City Councilmember Wendy Greuel and briefed the Council on her background in the City.
- CM Greuel thanked the Council for inviting her to speak at the meeting. She introduced her Planning Commissioner Dale Thrush.
- As Chairperson of the Transportation Committee, she is looking at long term (5-10 year goals). A strategic Plan is now in the works, with a strategic element in the General Plan. Public input is requested. Thus far, short-term goals include increased number of left hand turn signals, synchronization of lights in city in ATS System and Anti gridlock Restrictions: Parking restrictions will co-ordinate with Mayor's Tiger Teams and increase ticket penalties to \$140.00.
- Public transportation is a commitment for everyone to undertake. There was a 3-5 % change in traffic flow during the Olympics. The Orange line in the Valley is popular, even though people thought it would not work. Use of Fly-ways to the airport is also encouraged.
- Land Use continues to be an important issue and the City Council is working with Gail Goldberg in Planning. Staffs may be combined with Planning Dept and Transportation Dept. In her district, the Scenic Preservation Corridor Plan was created to project the Ridgeline and Prop K dollars were used to buy 225 acres to preserve region as public open space.
- The North Hollywood Redevelopment and Glen Redevelopment projects gained support in the community with efforts by everyone.
- CM Greuel briefed on the Mayor's "12 - 2" proposal. There is concern that the community will be removed from the process; however, the proposal will streamline the approval process.
- The City's Budget deficit is between \$300-\$500 million dollars. The City will look at service cuts, layoffs and revenue generators. She asked for ideas from Neighborhood Councils.
- Pam Cooke stated concerns with properties in the BABCNC's area that are part of the surplus property open space and the Mayor's recent attempt to add extreme carrying and administrative costs to purchase the property. Pam asked the Councilmember for her leadership with this issue on helping to keep those costs down. CM Greuel agreed and briefed on the Surplus Property Policy and the need to have strategic plan.
- Steve Twining asked how to get her colleagues to get "City-Minded". Greuel stated it is hearing from NC's that the City Council should make City-wide decisions and City Council Members should not just focus their efforts at their district level.
- Steve Twining complimented the Councilmember on her efforts for business taxes. He encouraged the City Councilmembers to get involved with SCAG (Southern California Association of Governments) meetings. Greuel agreed and added that the West Side area is a "hub" of traffic concerns with a need to balance areas with jobs and affordable housing.

- Alan Fine asked for the Councilmember's support for a dash bus service in the area. CM Greuel responded that there is a waiting list for the dash buses; however currently they are reviewing all dash routes.
- Jeff Kaplan thanked the Councilmember for her efforts on the signal synchronization. He asked if the issue of Mansionization went too fast too far with not enough thought given to impact on homeowners. He requested that the City Council reconsider and have communities opt in versus opt out. Cm Greuel responded that her district had the first anti-Mansionization ordinance and communities have differing characteristics and needs.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (Agenda Item #4)

- Robert Ringler moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Steve Twining seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Public Comments (Agenda item #5)

- Joan Luchs asked Councilmember Greuel to comment regarding SB 1818. Councilmember Greuel briefed on SB 1818: Adopted 3 years ago. Its intent is to have cities provide for affordable housing and adopt local ordinances to implement the State Bill. She commented on the discussion the City Council and City departments have had for implementing SB 1818. City departments have recommended "on-menu item" and "off-menu items" so that a developer would get incentives for following the rules. There is a movement to repeal SB 1818, but for now, the City must abide by the bill.
- Raymond Yu invited everyone to attend a dinner on Friday for his 27th Birthday. He announced the Jack Smith Memorial walk on Sunday April 6 and the LA River/Bus Tour on April 16. Robert Ringler requested Raymond to provide the information in written form to pass to the Council members.
- Pam Cooke requested Raymond to provide pictures of the event to the Council.

President's Report (Agenda Item #6)

- No Report.

Treasurer's Report (Agenda Item #7)

- ◆ **Motion** to approve the Treasurer's Report. Alan Fine made motion. Joshua Berman seconded. **Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**
- ◆ **Motion** to approve \$5,000 expenditure for the Mulholland/Laurel Canyon Beautification Project – Installation of sprinklers. Alan Fine made motion. Joshua Berman seconded. Discussion was held. Public comment was made by Bob Yothers regarding the project. He asked for the Council's support. He stated the current funding breakdown of \$10,000 from the City in addition to the \$20,000 in-kind donations from community. Ron Galperin asked about signage credit. Bob responded there could be a plaque on ground level with contributor information. John Amato noted that signs are not needed for this donation. Larry Leisten asked if the \$5,000 request completes the project. Bob stated it would. **Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**
- ◆ **Motion** to approve \$5,000 expenditure to Fire Station #237 for kitchen upgrades and \$5,000 for #71 for security gates. Alan Fine made motion. Chuck Maginnis seconded. Discussion was held. Robert Ringler commented that #237 is a hook and ladder Fire Station in the area with no "Adopt" Program and is located at Veteran/Wilshire. He also commented that Fire Station #71 has no security gates, leaving the back area open and unsecured. It is located in Holmby Hills on Sunset. **Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**
- Larry Leisten requested that all motions be placed on the Agenda.
- Pam Marton commented on completing the template for requesting funds from the BABCNC and gave it to the Administration Committee for review.

Mayor's Office Report (Agenda item #8)

- Ron Galperin reported on Mayor's Budget Meeting. The Budget will be out on April 20.
- Ron stated that the People's Poll responses indicated priority order of Transportation, Infrastructure/streets, and Public Safety.
- Some shortfall recommendations: Bus Tax, Property Tax for Business: Document Transfer Tax.

Council District #5 Report (Agenda item #9)

- Sonia Kwan reported that Beverly Kenworthy is working on the Ridgeline Ordinance and wants to insert it into BABCNC Community Plan. There is also a desire to include Mansionization regulations as part of the Ridgeline Ordinance.
- Robert Ringle asked if the strategy was to tie the Anti-Mansionization ordinances into the community plan. Sonia replied the ordinance is specific to the community and not citywide.
- Chuck Maginnis asked if there would be an option for communities to "opt-in" rather than "opt-out" for the ordinance. Sonia replied she did not have an answer at this time.
- Sonia had no information regarding the "12-2" Plan, but noted concerns from the Councilman about too much leniency for developers.
- Sonia reported that the timing of lights at Mulholland/Franklin/Coldwater intersection was corrected since the sensors were mistakenly dug up by a driveway project.

DONE Report (Agenda item #10)

- Deanne Stevenson reported that DONE is working on first regional Congress of Neighborhoods on May 17 for southern area NCs.

Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness (Agenda Item #11)

- Joshua Berman reported on the January 20th committee meeting. Three priority areas were discussed: Crime, Fire Safety and Emergency Preparedness.
- He addressed three priorities: Community involvement, Communications (i.e. CERT Program , Ham Radio Operators Program) and an Evacuation Plan.
- Crime: burglaries of homes and cars are a major issue for hillside areas. He stated the goal of creating a Turnkey Neighborhood Watch Program.
- Steve Twining commented that he and Robin Greenberg were participating in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) Training Program.

City Wide Alliance Update (Agenda Item #12)

- Alan Fine welcomed Jerry Appel, the new representative from Glenridge Association.
- Alan briefed on the City Wide Alliance of Neighborhood Council's meeting. One of the guest speakers was David Nahai, General Manager of DWP, who discussed raising rates. The rate increase vote was postponed City Council. .

Office Report (Agenda Item #13)

- No report.

Planning and Land Use Committee (Agenda Item #14)

- Steve Twining, Acting Chairman presented report. Since there was no quorum, no action was taken during committee meeting.
- Steve announced that DWP agreed to bury the tanks at the Upper Stone Canyon Reservoir. He thanked Pam Cooke for her diligent hard work and her efforts on the issue.
- Steve commented on a possible request to support a motion for a park surrounding the Reservoir.

Bylaws/ Rules Committee Report (Agenda Item #15)

- Larry Leisten reported on the progress made at the March 25 committee meeting. He thanked Gary Plotkin for volunteering to be on the committee.

- Larry commented that the purpose of the letter to the City Clerk is to receive explanation to Board request to have City Clerk hold At-Large Board Election in June of 2008. Board will need to decide at a later meeting whether to hold at-large election in fall of 2008 under existing DONE supervision or defer the election until 2010.
- He commented that Phase 1 draft revisions of the Bylaws would soon be e-mailed to the Council. He requested that sufficient time be allotted during upcoming Board meetings for the Council to discuss the proposed revisions.
- Decision made to bring items to floor for discussion. In 6 months, we should have a full set of by-laws.
- Robert Ringler asked Agenda Setting Committee to hear from By-laws.

Outreach Committee (Agenda Item #16)

- Ron Galperin reminded the Council of May 3-4 as Big Sunday and the need for projects. He commented that he would like the BABCNC to participate in breakfast for participants that morning.
- Ron announced May 10 as Fire Service Day (10am- 4 pm) and asked for volunteers. He asked Chuck Maginnis to explain the plans for this year. BABCNC will provide hot dogs and hamburgers at station #71 at Sunset and Beverly Glen and #97 Laurel Canyon and Mulholland.
- Robert Ringler requested David Espinoza to be the "point person" for volunteer coordination and reminded the Council of the need for a volunteer to chair the Outreach Committee.

Traffic Committee (Agenda Item #17)

- The next meeting will be on Tuesday, April 8, 2008.

Public Schools Update (Item #18)

- Pam Morton commented on the State's budget deficit of \$460 million. There will be school closures, program and teacher cuts, as well as increases of class size.

New Business/General Announcements (Item #19)

- SB 1165 Education Workshop, Saturday, March 29 2-4 pm, Audubon Center at Debs Park, 4700 N. Griffin Ave.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Sandler
Recording Secretary