

**BEL AIR-BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 28, 2009
Community Magnet School
11301 Bellagio Road
Los Angeles, CA 90049**

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| Final |
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Persons in Attendance

Quorum: 12

| 2009 Stakeholder Groups with Certified Representatives | Present | Absent |
|--|---------|--------|
| <i>Bel-Air Association</i> | | |
| Eric Ridgely | | X |
| Andrew Schwartz | | X |
| Paulette DuBey | 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> | | |
| Michael Chastain | | 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> | | |
| | | X |
| <i>Glenridge HOA</i> | | |
| | | 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>North Beverly Drive/Franklin Canyon Homeowners Association</i> | | |
| | | X |
| <i>Residents of Beverly Glen</i> | | |
| Pam Cooke | X | |
| Robert A, Ringler | X | |

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| Roscomare Valley Association | | |
| Robin Greenberg | | X |
| Steve Twining | X | |
| Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy | | |
| Carolyn Carradine | | X |
| Save Our Strip | | |
| Mark Krajewski | | |
| GG Verone | X | |

From DONE: Deanna Stevenson

From CD5 Office: None

From the Mayor's Office: Steven Cheung and Jennifer Badger

Roll Call (Agenda Item #1)

- President Robert Ringler called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. He stated that Patricia Bell Hearst would assist in calling roll and taking minutes for the meeting.
- Patricia Bell Hearst called the roll. There was a quorum.

Moment of Silence for Deanna Stevenson's Mother, Dorothy for a speedy recovery (Agenda Item #2)

- President Ringler asked for a moment of silence in support of Deanna Stevenson's mother, Dorothy for a speedy recover.

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

- Alan Fine made motion to approve the minutes. Gary Plotkin seconded. Motion approved unanimously by voice vote

Public Comments (Item #4)

- Raymond Yu provided information to the Council regarding the Chinese New Year Celebration throughout Los Angeles and the New Year being the Year of the Ox.
- Rabbi Shifren briefed the Council on his candidacy for State Senate. He invited everyone to an event 2/8/09 at 2:30 pm at 1520 S. Robertson Blvd.

President's Report (Agenda Item #5)

- President Ringler stated two speakers signed to speak regarding Proposition B and would allow both public speakers to address the Council and answer any questions.
- Public speaker James Unger passed out information to the Council regarding "Yes on B" campaign. He stated he represented a coalition that supports Proposition B and provide their reasons to support the Proposition as follows: Essential to Los Angeles, by making the city the country's center of solar industry; part of a 1.3 gigawatt plan that DWP has to provide solar energy; 400 megawatts solar roof top on public buildings and private and commercial industrial buildings that agree to participate on the program. The program would be owned, installed and operated by DWP and would help eliminate 400 thousand tons of green house gases that would from coal plants if funded to rather than solar. It would also provide bid preferences for manufactures to make the panels.
- Public speaker Jack Humphreville stated he was the Rate Payers Advocate for the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council and opposed Proposition B. He stated that the GWNC supported green energy and solar energy, but does not the Proposition. The reasons for not supporting the Proposition were as follows: Issues related to Charter, clean government, extra significant costs to the rate payers, and not the best way to create jobs. He added that there was no need for a charter amendment, just an ordinance. A charter amendment would eliminate third party contractors, eliminates competing bidding and allows City Council to meddle in affairs of DWP. The project was approved by the City Council 3 weeks after its initial introduction to the Council for four billion dollar gross value for the project. There was little input form DWP and not approved by the Board of Commissioners. He stated that two reports, the PA Consulting Report and IA Survey, reported several concerns with the project.
- Public speaker James Unger addressed the following concerns: 1. Measure would result in a monopoly – not so because other parts of the project will have private bidding and private business owners can have private bidders. DWP costs are low because they own their own facilities. 2. Only unions would benefit – Some unions will benefit and so will the public. 3.

Analysis by consulting firm hired by the City indicated the project would be much more costly than previously thought and extremely risky, resulting in higher DWP rates and taxes – Report was from PA consulting firm which admits they do not have access to future energy crisis that stakeholders need to make relevant decisions. Another independent consulting firm is coming out with a report, the Huron report, which will be more detailed. 4. Measure will hurt the economy by taking money from California taxpayers and sending overseas to manufactures – part of the goal is to attract solar industry to Los Angeles. DWP would do its best to purchase solar panels at the lowest cost and additional will give up to 30% bid preference to manufactures based in Los Angeles. 5. It is not a payoff to the IBW Union.

- Gary Plotkin asked if Proposition B only related to public buildings. James Unger stated the program is to install the solar panels on public buildings and private buildings will have the option to participate in the program.
- Steve Twining asked what percentage of total electrical output would be represented by the program. James Unger stated once the program is done it would be 20% of total energy in Los Angeles.
- Don Loze asked for clarification on the statement that organized labor would result in cheaper cost of energy. James Unger stated union work crews would install the solar panels, but DWP owning the panels would be cost efficient.
- Nickie Miner stated there should be more of an incentive that manufactures will be in Los Angeles.
- Larry Leisten asked if DWP is acting as the general contractor and why are there no 3rd party contractors. James Unger stated DWP will own, install and operate the panels, but can choose how to use that business.
- Carol Sidlow asked for clarification on the time frame of the program's benefits to the taxpayers. James Unger stated the panels last for twenty five years. In the immediate short term, this is a large up front investment. However, if DWP is providing more power, there is a capital investment in building more coal power plants. This would be cheaper than the solar infrastructure, but over time there will be a cost benefit.
- Public speaker Jack Humphreville stated DWP has low rates because it is a tax exempt organization uses more coal, deferred maintenance and have not funded retirement and post medical plans. The concern is DWP being the general manager and contractor when they do not have the capabilities.
 - ◆ **Motion** to support solar power. Chuck Maginnis made motion. John Amato seconded. **Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**
 - ◆ **Motion** to oppose Proposition B on the basis that the City Council hurried their support for the Proposition and did not seek input from the Neighborhood Councils. Chuck Maginnis made motion. Motion seconded. Discussion was held. **11 Yeas; 2 Nays; 1 Abstain. Motion passed.**
- President Ringler announced the appointment of Gary Plotkin as Parliamentarian.
- President Ringler stated that the Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee needed a chair and asked if anyone was interested in being appointed.
- Chuck Maginnis offered his services as Chair of the committee. President Ringler appointed Chuck Maginnis Chair of the Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee

Treasurer's Report (Agenda Item #6)

- Alan Fine updated on the Mulholland/Laurel Canyon Land Acquisition and submitting the request as part of the Neighborhood Purpose Grant.
- He briefed the Council on a request by Larry Leisten for a tree trimming project in the Beverly Glen Park HOA.
- Larry Leisten addressed the Council on the request and stated the trees are not being maintained by the City and asked for the Council's support of the request.
- Alan Fine stated the project benefits a small area and the HOA should provide some funding for the project and not be entirely supported by the Council.
 - ◆ **Motion** to approve up to \$2,000 to the Beverly Glen Park HOA's Tree Trimming Project. Alan Fine made motion. Motion seconded. **7 Yeas; 4 Nays, 2 Abstain. Motion passed.**

- ◆ **Motion** to approve the Treasurer's Report. Alan Fine made motion. Motion seconded.
Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Bylaws/ Rules Committee Report (Agenda Item #7)

- Larry Leisten briefed on the Bylaws Committee meeting held on January 26th and thanked Deanna and everyone for attending.
- He stated a meeting was scheduled for February 18th and a motion to approve the revisions may be slated for the March agenda.

Planning and Land Use Committee (Agenda Item #8)

- Carol Sidlow briefed on the speaker at the Committee meeting for a project on Tortuoso Way and will work with the BAA and neighbors on the development of the project.
- She stated that the committee made motions to submit letters to the ZA in opposition to a project at 2234 Stanley Hills and a project at 112 N. Beverly Glen.
- Gary Plotkin announced a meeting on 2/2/09 at 9 am regarding the haul route for the project at the Skirball Cultural Center.

Mayor's Office Report (Agenda item #9)

- Stephen Cheung introduced Jennifer Badger as a new West Side representative for the Mayor.
- Jennifer Badger passed out her contact information and reminded everyone to fill out the Mayors Budget Survey.
- She invited the Council members to a Housing Forum on 2/4/09 that will focus on five year plan for housing in Los Angeles, at 6 pm at the West LA Municipal Building.
- Mark Krajewski asked if the Forum would address the criteria used for affordable housing. Steven Cheung stated the Housing plan does address the criteria or vouchers used, rather affordable housing development.

Council District #5 Report (Agenda item #10)

- No Report.

DONE Report (Agenda item #11)

- Deanna Stevenson reported on her attendance at the Bylaws meeting Monday night and the progress that was made on the revisions.

Citywide Alliance (Agenda Item #12)

- Alan Fine updated on a January meeting and the Billboard issue that was discussed.
- He stated the City Attorney's Office is in support of Alliance's concerns and the Billboard Company is suing the city.

Westside Regional Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (Agenda Item #13)

- No report.

Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness (Agenda Item #14)

- Officer Ragsdale passed out information on Crimes reported in the area and reported that one of the "Hillside" burglars was apprehended.
- Gary Plotkin asked if anyone was home and why a home was target in a Cassiano crime event. Sgt. Ragsdale stated no one was home and they have not found out why the home was a target
- Pam Marton asked who could be contacted for illegal parking of construction vehicles. Sgt. Ragsdale stated to contact parking enforcement.

Office Report (Agenda Item #15)

- No report.

Outreach Committee (Agenda Item #16)

- Chuck Maginnis announced a Westwood Alliance meeting regarding Proposition B on 2/7/09 at the Webster Elementary School.

Traffic Committee (Agenda Item #17)

- President Ringler announced the LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 10, 8:15 a.m., West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue..

Public Schools Update (Item #18)

- No Report.

New Business/General Announcements (Item #19)

- John Amato asked that the PLU Committee meeting begin earlier or the General Meeting begin on time if there is a quorum present.
- President Ringler stated that once a quorum is present, the meeting would commence.
- President Ringler stated he would like to close the meeting in memory of Pam Cooke's father in law, Gene Gach. Mr. Gach lived 95 ½ years with 40 years as a Bel Air resident.

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Espinoza
Executive Director