

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

Final

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 Ridge HOA</i>		
Andre Stojka	X	
<i>Benedict Canyon Association</i>		
Michael Chasteen	X	
Alan Fine	X	
Don Loze	X	
Nickie Miner	X	
<i>Benedict Hills Estates Association</i>		
Ed Brody		X
<i>Bel-Air Glen HOA</i>		
Larry Leisten	X	
<i>Casiano-Bel Air HOA</i>		
Donald Farkas	X	
<i>Casiano Estates HOA</i>		
Gary Plotkin	X	
<i>Crests Neighborhood Association</i>		
Ron Galperin	X	
<i>Employee Associations</i>		
Marcia Selz		X
<i>Faith-Based Organizations</i>		
Lonnie Mayfield		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>		

Ramin Kolahi	X	
Robert A, Ringler	X	
Roscomare Valley Association		
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: Jeff Ebenstein, Shawn Bayliss

From the Mayor's Office: Not Present

From 42nd Assembly District: Haeyoung Kim, Ellen Isaacs

Roll Call (Agenda Item #1)

- President Ringler called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.
- Secretary Sandler called role. A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting (Agenda Item #2)

- ◆ **Motion** to approve the minutes from September 23, 2009. Larry Leisten made motion. Andre Stojka seconded. **Motion approved by unanimous voice vote.**

Public Comments (Item #3)

- Public Speaker Robert Davenport commented on two areas, Westwood and Veterans, which are forming to create their own Neighborhood Council. He stated the Veterans' group is having difficulty being placed on the agenda for the Board of Neighborhood Councils Commission (BONC) and asked for the Council's assistance with this matter. He has spoken on the Public Agenda portion at the BONC meetings, but must be on the agenda for a vote of approval for the Veterans' area.
- Alan Fine stated Neighborhood Councils do not have the ability to have items placed on the BONC meeting agendas and suggested contacting Deanna Stevenson with DONE. Robert Davenport stated he has contacted DONE and BONC with no success.
- President Ringler stated the Westwood group and others have approached him with similar requests. He suggested getting a consensus and support of the community for DONE to consider such a request.
- Public Speaker Martha Witenberg asked if the Council would be holding a meeting regarding the Upper Stone Canyon Reservoir Project, as mentioned at the last Council meeting. President Ringler stated the item would be discussed under "President's Report".
- Ron Hudson speaking under the Public Comments section of the agenda commented on the BABCNC's Planning and Land Use (PLU) Committee and a letter received by the Bel-Air Association from the Landry Architect Group has requested his comments be withdrawn.

Guest Speaker – Assembly Member Mike Feuer (Agenda Item #4)

- Assembly Member Mike Feuer thanked the Council for inviting him to speak to the Council and presented information on what he is working on at the State Assembly.
- He stated the Speaker of the Assembly and President of the Senate have a goal to reconstruct governance. Many of the reforms require Constitutional changes, which would be voted on by the public. The Speaker of the Assembly has asked him to Chair the State of Government Committee.
- He stated that the reform of State Government is needed. He cited the budget structure in the State, which places a minority of the most extreme elements of the Legislature in control of the budget. This is because a two-thirds majority vote is required to ratify the budget. He commented that many representatives make demands for their own districts in exchange for their votes for the budget.
- He stated that the water issue is a major concern for California and Los Angeles and there is the need for a water bond to build dams. He stated Los Angeles uses the same amount of water now as it was using in 1987 when there were a million fewer residents. He is proposing a water bill to require a 20% decrease in water use in cities throughout California.

- He stated that in his three- year tenure, he has written laws which enabled Measure R to be on last year's ballot and authorized the State to identify the most serious and dangerous chemicals, find substitutes and get those products that contain those dangerous chemicals off the market.
- He commented on the 200,000 people that were arrested in the State for DUI, with 45,000 of those having prior convictions. He wrote a law that requires convicted DUI offenders to have an ignition-locking device installed in their vehicles. New Mexico has a similar law and saw a 60% decrease in repeat DUI offenders.
- He commented on his authorship of a bill for a pilot project for the right to council in certain civil cases.

President's Report (Agenda Item #5)

- President Ringler stated the meeting would be dedicated in the memory of Jamen Amato. He stated the Jamen is the son of Council Member John Amato, who represents the Council's 7-12 Private Schools.
- Steve Twining concurred the meeting would be dedicated in the memory of Jamen Amato and stated some Council Members asked that a tree be planted in his memory. He commented on a collection being taken up as well.
- President Ringler stated he received a check from the Bel Air Association with regards to planting a tree. He suggested visiting the website www.treepeople.com for information.
- Steve Twining commented on the possibility of a tree being planted at the Harvard Westlake School.
- Alan Fine suggested the Council Members work together to purchase a Grove of Trees via the website.
- Gary Plotkin suggested that Steve Twining work on the proposal for what will be donated in memory of Jamen Amato and report back to the Council at the next meeting. Steve Twining stated he would get more information and report back to the Council.
- President Ringler stated the family has asked for contributions to be made to the Think Cure Foundation (www.thinkcure.org).
- President Ringler commented on the Advisory Committee Board for the Sepulveda Pass Project and Irene Sandler's membership on the Board.
- Irene Sandler stated Metro is funding the I-405 Project and sponsoring the design and construction. She passed out information regarding the project.
- Ellen Isaacs stated CalTrans conducted the preliminary engineering and design of the project and have overall approval over those aspects. Metro is the design build project manager and the contractor is Kiewit.
- Irene Sandler stated the final EIR is completed and a creation of an Advisory Committee Board with community members to review the aesthetic of the proposed sound and retaining walls, landscaping and finished bridge walls. The Sunset, Skirball and Mulholland bridges will be replaced, though the Mulholland bridge design is still undergoing.
- She stated the Advisory Committee Board is reviewing the information and will provide input on the design. There is a meeting on November 4 and she asked for input from everyone in the community.
- Ron Galperin thanked the Advisory Committee and stated UCLA is looking for \$500,000 in funding for a study authorized by an Assembly Bill to research CalTrans properties and potential for renewable energy projects. He suggested contacting UCLA for information regarding the study.
- Irene Sandler stated UCLA is part of the Committee, but have not responded to requests for participation.
- Don Loze commented on LADWP's recent water restrictions and the efforts being made regarding the hillsides concerns with those restrictions.
- He stated the high fire area was proposed to have a 3rd day of water, but has not been on LADWP's Board agenda for a vote. The Sherman Oaks NC has created a committee to become an oversight of LADWP.
 - ◆ **Motion** to join with the Sherman Oaks NC and any other Neighborhood Councils interested in creating a rate payer oversight committee of LADWP. Don Loze made motion. Andre Stojka seconded. Discussion was held. 18 Yeas, 0 Nay, 2 Abstention
Motion approved.

- President Ringler reminded all Council Members of the Ethics Training that is needed every two years and asked those that have not taken the training to complete it ASAP.
- President Ringler asked what role the Council should take in a proposed meeting regarding the Upper Stone Canyon Reservoir Project. He suggested co-sponsoring a forum at a donated location and asked if there were suggestions.
- Larry Leisten commented on the need to set a date for the meeting and agendize the issue before the Council at a future meeting with the different groups presenting and the Council voting on the issue. He commented his concerns with the need for the Council to review the facts and understand the issue.
- President Ringler stated a special meeting of the NC could be set for the issue or co-sponsoring a forum. Once that is done the NC could invite the individual groups to present their information and the Council could vote on the issue.
- Steve Twining stated a meeting may be premature since LADWP is still researching alternatives for the project.
- Public Speaker Martha Witenberg commented that since the draft EIR for the buried tanks option has been temporally suspended the need for discuss is now.
- Public Speaker Helene Smookler stated LADWP is supportive of meeting soon and in the past, has held workshops on a Saturday with a Q&A. She suggested waiting till the beginning of the year since the holidays are near.
- President Ringler stated there is a consensus of holding a public meeting and asked that a motion be agendized at the next meeting to set a meeting date.

Treasurer's Report (Agenda Item #6)

- The Treasurer's report and proposed budget was passed out to all Board Members.
- Alan Fine stated the revised budget needed the Council's approval. DONE has frozen the rollover funds until NCs submit an approve budget.
- He stated the outreach budget was increased to \$10,000 and stated the importance of outreach. He stated the Outreach Committee is in need for support and encouraged members to contribute their ideas towards outreach.
- He commented on expenditures for community projects being reviewed in the latter part for the fiscal year.
 - ◆ **Motion** to approve the Revised 2009-2010 Budget. Alan Fine made motion. Larry Leisten seconded. Discussion was held. 17 Yeas, 0 Nay, 3 Abstentions. **Motion passed.**
- Paulette DuBey stated the Fire Station 71 security gate was passed by City Council and construction will begin on Monday.
- President Ringler thanked Paulette DuBey and Alan Fine for their assistance with the project.

Land Use Committee (Agenda Item #7)

No report was given.

Bylaws & Rules Committee Report (Agenda Item #8)

- Mirna Delgado, from the City Clerk's Office, briefed the Council on the 2010 Election Procedures and passed out guidelines for the elections. She stated the Election Procedure Endorsement Form needed to be approved by the Board.
- She stated the BABCNC has 2 seats for At-Large Members that will be a part of next year's election. She stated the community center at the Bel Air Ridge HOA will be the polling site. There will be vote by mail to only those disabled individuals.

Mayor's Office Report (Agenda item #9)

No report.

Council District 5 Report (Agenda item #10)

No

DONE Report (Agenda item #11)

No report.

42nd Assembly District Report (Agenda Item 12)

No report.

Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness (Agenda Item #13)

- Senior Lead Officer Chris Ragsdale passed out information for the West LA area from 9/27 – 10/24.

Office Report (Agenda Item #14)

No report was given.

Outreach Committee (Agenda Item #15)

No report was given.

Traffic Committee (Agenda Item #16)

- President Ringler announced the LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee will be Tuesday, November 10, 8:30 a.m., West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue.

Public Schools Update (Item #17)

No report was given.

New Business/General Announcements (Item #18)

None

Motion to Adjourn Meeting (Item #19)

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion made. Motion seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Sandler
Recording Secretary