

**BEL AIR-BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
February 23, 2011
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>		
Dick Porter	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>		
Alan Fine	X	
Don Loze	X	
Nickie Miner	X	
Michael Chasteen	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: Not Present

From CD5 Office: Not Present

From the Mayor's Office: Jennifer Badger

From 42nd Assembly District: Not Present

From Senator Fran Pavley's Office: Not Present

Roll Call (Agenda Item #1)

- President Ringler called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm.
- Irene Sandler called roll. A quorum was present.

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

- ◆ **Motion** to approve the minutes from January 26, 2011. Ron Hudson made motion. Paulette DuBey seconded. Discussion was held. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Public Comments (Agenda Item #3)

Public Speakers were heard under Item #5.

President's Report (Agenda Item #4)

March Ballot Measures

- President Ringler stated information regarding the Measures on the March Ballot had been sent out and encouraged everyone to vote on March 8th.

UCLA Facility Center Expansion

- President Ringler stated the issue should be presented to the Council before a motion is taken and suggested postponing until the item to the March meeting.

Assembly Bill 52

- President Ringler briefed on Assembly Bill 52 which would require that health plans and insurers obtain approval from state regulators before increasing Californians' health insurance rates.
 - ◆ **Motion** to support Assembly Bill 52. Carol Sidlow made motion. Andre Stojka seconded. Discussion was held. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Charity Donation Collection in Memory of Captain Bill Eaton

- President Ringler briefed on the passing of Captain Bill Eaton and asked for donations to contribute to the American Cancer Society in his name. Donations were collected totaling \$252.80.

Moment of Silence for Firefighter Allen, Station 97

- President Ringler stated tonight's meeting is dedicated in memory of Glenn Allen from Station 97. He asked for a moment of silence in Firefighter's memory.

9933-9941 Tower Grove Place Project (Agenda Item #5)

- Bill Christopher presented information on the project at 9933-9941 Tower Grove Place, consisting of 3 legal lots and is requesting an adjustment of lot lines between existing legal/recorded vacant residential lots. The total area is 5 acres at the lower portion of Benedict Canyon. The previous owner constructed several retaining walls without permits, which the City's has requested be removed. The current project would consist of a 42,681 sq. ft. main house, 4,416 sq. ft. quest house, a 27,317 sq. ft. 'Son's Villa', 5,327 sq. ft. staff quarters, 2,716 sq. ft. guard house as well as other structures. A wall along the property, known as the "giraffe wall" was built with a permit, though not completed and the total export would consist of 14,000 cubic yards of material.
- Public Speaker Lisa Specht, from Manatt, Phelps and Phillips, LLP, commented on concerns for the project. She represents Bruce and Marsha Karsh, property owners east of the proposed project, who have filed a lot line adjustment appeal with the City, along with the BCA. A second appeal was filed challenging the permits

for modification for the “giraffe wall”. She asked support the lot-line adjustment appeal filed by the BCA and Karsh’s, support the “giraffe” wall building permit appeals filed by the Karsh’s, and mandate both the LA Department of Building and Safety and Planning Department to stop issuing permits and clearances until a comprehensive EIR is conducted for the entire project

- Public Speaker Martha Karsh commented on her concerns with the impact of the project, the retaining walls and the “by-right” status of the project. She asked that the Council support the requests made her representative, Lisa Specht.
- Public Speaker Victor De la Cruz from Manatt, Phelps and Phillips, LLP, commented on the scale of the project and the impact to the community. He stated an EIR for the scope of the project is warranted and asked the Council to support the appeals filed.
- Public Speaker Michael Eisenberg commented on his concerns of the project as a neighbor of the project. He stated the haul route is another concern along with the scope of the project. He has contacted the City of Los Angeles and City of Beverly Hills regarding his concerns and asked the Council to oppose the project.
- Public Speaker Anthony Jaffe commented on his concerns of the project as a neighbor of the project. He stated he was not aware of the project until recently and is concerned with the scope and impact of the project to the community.
- Michael Chasteen stated the BCA is opposed to the project and filed an appeal to the lot-line adjustment.
 - ◆ **Motion** to support the lot-line adjustment appeal filed by the BCA and Karsh’s, support the “giraffe” wall building permit appeals filed by the Karsh’s, and mandate both the LA Department of Building and Safety and Planning Department to stop issuing permits and clearances until a comprehensive EIR is conducted for the entire project. Michael Chasteen made motion. John Amato seconded. Discuss was held. **Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

Treasurer’s Report (Agenda Item #6)

- Alan Fine passed out the Treasurer’s report and stated there is still a lack of information accessible through the DONE website, which includes the charged amount for the Executive Director’s payroll.
 - ◆ **Motion** to approve the Treasurer’s report. Alan Fine made motion. Motion seconded. Discuss was held. **Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.**

Outreach Committee (Agenda Item #7)

- Robin Greenberg stated the Emergency Placards requested by Casiano Estates HOA, Laurel Canyon Association, Bel-Air Glen, Residents of Beverly Glen, Inc. Holmby Hills HOA, RVA, and BCA were completed and thanked everyone who helped with the project.

Land Use Committee (Agenda Item #8)

- Carol Sidlow reported on a concern by Dennis Wilder regarding 11101-11201 Chalon. The committee voted to send a letter to Building and Safety regarding the concerns.
- Carol Sidlow stated the representatives for 9116 W Cordell and 9671 Antelope Drive will be invited to the next meeting to present on the two projects.
- Carol Sidlow stated the project at 10550 Bellagio Rd was addressed as New Business, though no action was taken. The committee will agendize the project for the next meeting if a position is needed.
- Carol Sidlow briefed on the Development Reform Forum at the Felicia Mahood Community Center and a report by the consultants should be released soon.
- Carol Sidlow stated the Baseline Hillside Ordinance, which the City Attorney’s Office completed its draft, will soon be heard by the City Council.

42nd Assembly District Report (Agenda Item #9)

- Field Representative Ellen Isaacs passed out a news release from the Assemblyman’s office and reported on the press conference regarding recent health insurance rate increases and a proposed bill to require health plans and insurers to receive approval from the state for rate increases. The Assemblyman worked on introducing Assembly Bill 52 and stated a motion from the Council approving the proposed Bill would be beneficial.
- Field Rep. Ellen Isaacs announced a hearing on 1/31 at the Board of Supervisors hearing room to evaluate the effectiveness of the responses to the foreclosure crisis in California.

Senator Fran Pavley’s Office Report (Agenda Item #10)

No report was given.

Council District 5 Report (Agenda Item #11)

No report was given.

Mayor's Office Report (Agenda Item #12)

No report was given.

Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness (Agenda Item #13)

- Senior Lead Officer Chris Ragsdale reported on a recent robbery/stabbing in the Glen area where the victim knew the two suspects. Both suspects were identified and arrested for the incident.
- He reported on burglaries that target the elderly homeowners by going to the homes and posing as a worker of a utility company. The suspect distracts the homeowners, while another suspect enters the home to burglarize the property. He stated the homeowner is not obligated to allow anyone on the property unless the homeowner is aware of a situation.
- He advised of individuals posing as donation collectors for particular charities and stated that the proper donations should be made through the organization rather than door-to-door solicitation. If anyone has any further questions or concerns, please email him at 26690@lapd.lacity.org.

Bylaws & Rules Committee Report (Agenda Item #14)

- Larry Leisten updated the City's request for the bylaws to comply with a Table of Contents template. He stated he will work on necessary revisions to current bylaws' Table of Content and present them to the Council for a vote in March. If there are questions or concerns, a committee meeting prior to the March Board meeting can be held to address those issues.
- Larry Leisten reminded everyone who has not completed the mandatory Ethics Training, since it is required every two years.

West Los Angeles Regional Alliance of Councils (Agenda Item #15)

- Steve Twining reported on a presentation at the WRAC meeting regarding the LAX Expansion Project and will present more information at the new meeting.

LA Budget Report (Agenda Item #16)

- President Ringler stated Jennifer Badger from the Mayor's Office left material to be passed out regarding the Mayor's Budget Survey.
- Ron Galperin briefed on the budget and the online survey and discussed the importance of submitting comments. The deadline to complete the survey is February 27th and the Regional Budget Day is scheduled on March 12th at City Hall.
- Ron Galperin announced the March 29th WRAC Meeting with the Mayor as guest speaker at the Felicia Mahood Community Center, 7pm.
- Ron Galperin briefed on the Commission on Revenue Efficiency (CORE), and invited everyone to visit www.core.lacity.org for more information.

I-405 Community Advisory Board (Agenda Item #17)

- Irene Sandler passed out information on next CAC meeting, February 24th at 6pm at the Westwood Recreational Center regarding the I-405 Project and the Mulholland Bridge. She asked for everyone to review the information regarding the project, specifically the plans for the Mulholland Bridge, and to contact her with any questions.

Community Reports (Agenda Item #18)

No report was given.

Office Report (Agenda Item #20)

No report was given.

Traffic Committee (Agenda Item #21)

- The Traffic Committee Meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 9, at 8:30 am, West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue.

Public Schools Update (Item #22)

No report was given.

New Business/General Announcements (Item #23)

- Employee Organization Representative Marcia Selz distributed information on how unions can help benefit communities and help them prosper.

- Nickie Miner announced a Town Hall Meeting with Councilman Koretz at John Thomas Dye School on February 24th at 7pm.
- Carol Sidlow announced a Candlelight Service for Firefighter Glenn Allen on February 25th at Firestation 78 at 6:30pm.

Motion to Adjourn Meeting (Item #24)

Motion to adjourn the meeting in memory of Firefighter Glenn Allen. Motion made. Motion seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Irene Sandler
Recording Secretary