

**BEL AIR-BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF MEETING**  
**April 24, 2013**  
**Community Magnet School**

11301 Bellagio Road  
Los Angeles, CA 90049

Approved
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**Persons in Attendance: 15**

**Quorum: 12**

2012 Stakeholder Groups with Certified Representatives	Present	
<b><i>Bel-Air Association</i></b>		
None		
<b><i>Bel-Air Crest Master Homeowner Association</i></b>		
Irene Sandler	X	
<b><i>Bel Air Ridge HOA</i></b>		
Andre Stojka	X	
<b><i>Bel-Air Glen HOA</i></b>		
None		
<b><i>Benedict Canyon Association</i></b>		
Alan Fine	X	
Don Loze	X	
Nickie Miner	X	
Michael Chasteen		X
<b><i>Benedict Hills Estates Association</i></b>		
Ed Brody		
<b><i>Bel-Air Glen HOA</i></b>		
Larry Leisten	X	
<b><i>Casiano-Bel Air HOA</i></b>		
None		
<b><i>Casiano Estates Association</i></b>		
Gary Plotkin		X
<b><i>Crests Neighborhood Association</i></b>		
Ron Galperin		X
<b><i>Employee Associations</i></b>		
Marcia Selz		X
<b><i>Faith-Based Organizations</i></b>		
Lonnie Mayfield		X
<b><i>Holmby Hills Homeowners Association</i></b>		
Avi Rojany		
<b><i>K-6 Private Schools</i></b>		
Vicki Kelly		X
<b><i>K-12 Public Schools</i></b>		
Carla Cretaro		
<b><i>K-12 Private Schools</i></b>		
John Amato	X	
<b><i>7-12 Public Schools</i></b>		
Pam Marton		
<b><i>Laurel Canyon Association</i></b>		
Cassandra Barrere (Robert Ringler has a letter from Cassandra)		X
Monica Weil	X	
Jamie Hall	X	
Tony Tucci	X	
Gary Gole		X
<b><i>Lookout Mountain Alliance</i></b>		
None		
<b><i>Members-at-Large</i></b>		
Carol Sidlow		X

Charles Maginnis	X	
<b>Moraga-Sepulveda Business Area</b>		
None		
<b>North Beverly Drive/Franklin Canyon Homeowners Association</b>		
None		
<b>Residents of Beverly Glen</b>		
Ramin Kolahi	X	
Robert A. Ringler	X	
<b>Roscomare Valley Association</b>		
Robin Greenberg	X	
Steve Twining	X	
<b>Save Our Strip</b>		
G.G.Verone		
<b>Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy</b>		
None		
<b>TOTAL: 15 present</b>		

From D.O.N.E.: *Amber Meshack* Present

From CD5 Office, Land Use Deputy, *Noah Muhlstein* Present

#### **MEETING CALLED TO ORDER** (AGENDA ITEM #1)

- *President Ringler* called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. *Robert Ringler* and *Nickie Miner* thanked *Robin Greenberg* for taking written minutes tonight.
- *Secretary Nickie Miner* called the roll. The required quorum is 12 and 15 members were present.

#### **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE** (AGENDA ITEM #2)

- ♦ Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES** (AGENDA ITEM #3)

- Deferred by *Robert Ringler*.

#### **APPROVAL OF DRAFT AGENDA** (AGENDA ITEM #4)

- ♦ **Motion, to accept the draft agenda as written** was made by *Alan Fine*, seconded by *Nickie Miner*, and **passed with one exception** from *Steve Twining* as there was no mention of WRAC. *Robert* noted it was most important that NC continue “to get our procedural things in order so we can be an effective advisory board to the City.”

#### **PUBLIC COMMENTS** (AGENDA ITEM #5)

- **Brenna Norton** [www.foodandwaterwatch.org](http://www.foodandwaterwatch.org) 323-843-8446, represents this consumer nonprofit and inquired as to placing an item on next month's agenda RE: “a massive 20-50 billion dollar project that Governor Brown announced, the “**Bay Delta Conservation Plan**”; a statewide project; a “**bad project**,” defeated in 1982 in a historic referendum, back with a slightly different design, with two 35-mile tunnels, exporting more water from the “San Francisco Bay Delta.” LA will get water it doesn't need and “**LA ratepayers will pay an exorbitant amount for this project. There's no democratic vote...no insight into it at all.**” They're asking the LA City Council to not fund this project as it will hurt local water efforts. She'll email the letter, motion & independent economic analysis to the Board. The analysis says the **project will cost LA ratepayers 1 to 7.5 billion dollars. Motion is that LA City Council call DWP to reject this project and not spend any money on it as it is unnecessary and harmful.** *Steve Twining* will contact DWP. If it's not on next month, it will be on the following month's agenda.
- **Patricia Hearst**, resident of CD11 in the audience, asked whether the budget will be revised before May 15<sup>th</sup>, to which *Alan Fine* replied, no, the office administration issue is up in the air because of problems with Apple One and we are awaiting a new budget. *Robert Ringler* noted that the Board will discuss this tonight.
- **Chelsea McFarland** [info@honeylove.org](mailto:info@honeylove.org) 424-625-8BEE is with nonprofit, “Honeylove,” an urban beekeeper's organization. She stated that they have gained support of 12 neighborhood councils in LA “to officially legalize urban beekeeping” and have support of the County. *Ramin Kolahi* pointed out that there are land use issues associated with this. Chelsea will send their motion to be on the table next month.

#### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT** (AGENDA ITEM #6) *ROBERT RINGLER*

**Noah Muhlstein - (818) 971-3088 - [noah.muhlstein@lacity.org](mailto:noah.muhlstein@lacity.org)** *Robert* introduced Noah as the new inductee working for *Paul Koretz* as a Field Deputy, and welcomed him to attend on a regular basis along with Jeff.

**Amber Meshack from D.O.N.E. 213-978-1749 [amber.meshack@lacity.org](mailto:amber.meshack@lacity.org)** *Robert Ringler* introduced Amber gratefully, noting that she is someone who is probably responsible for our beginning as a neighborhood council.

- Amber had recently sent us a memo and spoke this evening on its contents with updates as follows:
  - 1) **Deadlines: May 15<sup>th</sup> for funding requests** for current fiscal year that ends on June 30<sup>th</sup> **June 1<sup>st</sup> to submit bylaw amendments.**
  - 2) **Treasurer's training Monday April 29<sup>th</sup>** at City Hall Downtown, 6:00 pm – not just for Alan Fine, but for all Board members, as we are all responsible for funding and to have a backup treasurer as needed. The Training Manual is on the website: [empowerla.org](http://empowerla.org)
  - 3) **Board Development Series:** Saturday there will be training in “**Council File Management System**” -- how to track legislative issues in the City of LA, subscribe to issues, committees, track particular file numbers, etc. As a Council, we can assign different individuals to track different issues or have someone responsible for funneling the information to the whole Board. **The filing of community impact statements needs to be done by a Board member. We can have up to 5 Board members doing it.**
  - 4) The Mayor's office has proposed that *Amber's* position be eliminated. She encouraged the Board that if we want staff to come, help, support us and attend our meetings, to come to City Council and say so.
  - 5) The \$37,000 has been maintained and the **budget for the new fiscal year won't be due until July.**
  - 6) *Amber* sent a memo that outlined a **plan of action** for us to look at and decide as a Board on a work plan.
  - 7) **RE: Board surveys.** Amber saw commonalities; e.g., we're here because we're committed to the community, to improve the quality of life and serve, and she saw some challenges. She recommended steps to take (e.g., asking *Amber* to work with our Executive Committee or creating an Ad-Hoc Board-Development Committee.) One question on the survey was: How much time do we think we currently spend dealing with internal Board issues vs. do we think should be spent? Organizational experts say around 30-40% of a Board's time needs to be spent on Board issues to be an effective vehicle and a voice for this area on local and citywide issues. She noted there's work to be done on conflict resolution and some other issues.
  - 8) *Amber* noted we need to ask: **What kind of Department we want to see & what kind of staff support do we think is necessary? There'll be fewer people to assist from the Department.**
  - 9) Asked how the Board can use 30-40% of our time on Board issues, *Amber* replied this does not include time spent at meetings; 30-40% is only a guideline that includes (a) **practical structural elements** (e.g., setting up internal administrative systems to improving the training and skill sets of people on the Board, recruiting future Board members and alternates, making sure the Board capacity is what it needs to be towards finances, communication/committee systems, etc.) and (b) **interpersonal** (e.g., having a process for resolving conflicts, reaching consensus, etc.)
  - 10) She doesn't know when the next **orientation meeting** for new NC members will be, but there are quarterly trainings with new topics. Next will be Planning and Land Use. *Amber* concluded investing in some of these activities can save time in the end. Training videos are available on the website.

#### **Andre Stojka reported on the BABCNC Authentication Process.**

- *Andre* provided copies of a **confidential roster** with contact info of organizations belonging to the NC, including presidents and representatives, and a **list of those interested in being on the NC**, per submissions received. *Robert* stated, in talking to *Gary Plotkin* (who is not present to explain tonight and who worked hard on this with *Andre*), his understanding of motion is that this list is still alive up until May 15<sup>th</sup>; the Board established a deadline that after May 15<sup>th</sup> these are the bona fide Council members that our quorum will be based on. Latecomers have to re-apply; we need a cut off date and can't go on with a floating membership. Discussion ensued about the June 2<sup>nd</sup> deadline by Empowerment. *Robert* asked *Amber* if seats would be converted to at-large and do we have flexibility with the deadline to reconstitute our Neighborhood Council, so we can give proper notification to our prior Board members. *Amber* noted our current quorum in our bylaws of 18 was suspended and we were allowed to operate with 12 “*which should have been taken to the Board Neighborhood Commissioners,*” and if we don't turn it in on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, “*the hammer will not come down but it puts us on the path where the Department can get more involved and bring us to the Board Neighborhood Commissioners and let them make them make decisions about our Board structure.*” Discussion ensued about operating under a quorum of 12. *Robert* supported *Larry Leisten's* point that we need due process with proper notification and a deadline. *Robert* discussed our effort to bring people back, and while these letters are going out, we will be contacting those we can; we want to represent as many people and associations as we can and are actively reaching out. Some HOAs who have left are entertaining returning as they've looked at our process, (e.g., the time taken working on the standing rules and new bylaws among others by Board members including but not limited to *Larry Leisten* and *Gary Plotkin*). *Chuck Maginnis* asked that the entire Board be copied on who is sent the letters and *Amber* recommended the letter be sent to everybody. *Ramin* recommended posting it on the website. *Don Loze* suggested registered mail and receipt.
- ♦ *Ramin Kolahi* motioned that **Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council immediately send out letters by registered mail, with return receipt requested, to all stakeholder groups in the bylaws, to respond back to the neighborhood council by May 22<sup>nd</sup>, the date of the next meeting, of their continued interest in being a stakeholder in the BABCNC, or the Board will take appropriate action at its next regular meeting in June.** *Don Loze* clarified **not the stakeholders, it's being a member of the Board.** *Robert Ringler* fully agreed and

stated we will work out the language, defined by our bylaws. **Ramin** confirmed that we change “stakeholder” to “Board member” and the motion passed.

**Larry Leisten presented the Standing Rules section on Planning & Land Use Committee and By-law changes for approval**

- **Larry Leisten** read aloud changes for Board approval from **paragraph 18: Interrelationship Between Committees and Office a. Land Use Committee** (a copy has been sent by emails and is on the website attached to the 04/24/13 Agenda). **President Ringler** recommended that we suspend this so everyone has a chance to read and digest it, so **Gary** could be here, as he is the Chair of the Committee who worked on it with **Don Loze** and others. **Robert** will send it out again and asked **Larry** to put down what he wants it to be, without red lines.
- **Amber** interjected that that when you are working on Standing Rules and Bylaws, the Removal Clause actually needs to be in the Bylaws not in the Standing Rules.
  - ♦ **Motion to amend Standing Rules, Paragraph 18, tabled at this time.**

**Ramin Kolahi presented Planning and Land Use Committee (PLU) procedural & organizational issues**

- **E-mail Issues:**
  - **“Board@babcnc .org” does not work;** it has been shut down due to abuse of that email address.
  - The 450 emails that go out to all of our stakeholders, are managed under Mail Chimp, because we don’t have Heather. So, if you want something sent out, it has to be cleared. He can’t send everything out through Mail Chimp, because it goes to 450 people.
  - If you’re not getting emails, we’re not sending them to you because we don’t have your email address to forward to. So, please email him with your email address to [rkolahi@babcnc.org](mailto:rkolahi@babcnc.org).
- **Ramin presented a list of issues with regard to the PLU for advice and discussion.** He has been on the PLU Committee for 8 or 9 months, and does not think the committee is doing its utmost, e.g., addressing Zoning & Land Use issues in our hillside communities. He brought up the following:
  - **We’re not meeting.** We’re meeting about 40% of the time, and that doesn’t serve anybody.
  - **Inconsistent location:** We need a regular place so stakeholder groups know where LU meetings are.
  - **Minutes:** There’s only one set of minutes posted on the website. We haven’t approved minutes or agendas.
  - **Agendas** are long and at a LU meeting a couple of meetings ago, it was very unclear what the updates were.
  - **There’s no process of assigning case officers.** The committee has to work for everybody.
  - **It’s unclear whether applicant or stakeholder groups have been invited to LU meetings** regarding projects in their area.
  - **Past projects** for Board members who requested to put items on Land Use agendas has been at times difficult; it seems somewhat arbitrary, but Ramin understands this is at the Chair’s discretion.
  - **Procedures** seem a little random, e.g., cases not assigned, little notification to the applicants, such as a hearing today or tomorrow that Land Use has never heard that must have been through CNC.

A long discussion ensued on the importance of the Land Use Committee. Ramin brought up the need for more people on the Committee, his recommendation to import the LU Agenda back into the Board Agenda. He asked the Board to ask the Land Use Chair to explain why the above things are happening and to have an immediate plan of action to address them. Ramin noted the LU Committee is addressing certain projects but is still not doing its fundamental task of representing the entire boundary in our Council, a lot of projects fall through the cracks.

**President Ringler** used his privilege to make a motion to appoint **Ramin Kolahi** to take over the Land Use Committee as Interim Chair, stating we have some talented people on the Land Use Committee, and would like to be able to keep them, under the leadership of Ramin.

- **Larry Leisten** pointed out the bylaws provide a procedure: We have the power to nominate **Ramin** but he can only become a Chair of a Committee, even interim, upon a majority vote of the Board. **Robert** noted appointing somebody new does not remove anybody; they stay on the Committee. **Larry** continued that the power to appoint is the power to remove and the Board determines if it wants a new Chair. **Motion seconded.**
- **Steve Twining** noted that the current PLU Chair should have been consulted. **Larry** noted the Current PLU Chair had an opportunity to attend and hasn’t attended a lot of meetings. **There was a call for the question.** **Don Loze** noted that the PLU Chair should have an opportunity to be present. **Robert** noted it’s up to the Board, but feels the best thing for the Board is new leadership for the PLU Committee. **Larry** stated anyone can nominate another individual to be Chair of Land Use. **Robert** will take out “interim” as it’s between **Ramin** and the Committee how long he serves; the Committee should decide how they want their committee run and it’s up to the Board to make sure we have leadership that can move our NC forward.
- ♦ **Robert restated the motion, appointing Ramin to be the Chair of the Planning and Land Use Committee. 15 were present, 1 abstention, 3 opposed and 11 in favor. The motion carried.**

**Larry Leisten introduced a Motion To Amend The Bylaws Of The Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Article 6 Membership (The Ethics Requirement)**

- ♦ **Larry Leisten put forth that this is a motion to amend our present Article 6, specifically Article 6.3, regarding membership and ethics, and the article into the record as follows:**

Larry noted that there are a few changes to the document that went out (attached to the Agenda for this meeting of 04/24/2013 on the website) and noted the changes below as follows:

WHEREAS, Article 6.3 of the BABCNC Bylaws provides in pertinent part that “[t]he BABCNC shall be subject to all sections of the City of Los Angeles Governmental Ethics Ordinance that apply to the BABCNC (L.A. Municipal Code Section 49.5.1 et seq. and Federal and State of California ethics standards);”

WHEREAS, in January 2006, the State of California adopted Assembly Bill 1234, commonly known as the “Ethics Training Law,” and as a result, elected, selected, and appointed Neighborhood Council board members are required to take the Ethics and Open Government training every two years (the “Ethics Training Requirement”); and

WHEREAS, a recent review of Members’ compliance with the Ethics Training Requirement Indicates several Board Members have failed to maintain their Ethics Training Requirement, long past the two year maintenance requirement period even after repeated reminders and requests;

WHEREAS, the BABCNC wishes to institute a basis for enforcement of the Ethics Training Requirement upon its Members;

NOW THEREFORE, it is resolved to amend Article 6.3 of the Bylaws in its entirety and shall read as follows:

**6.3 Ethics**

The BABCNC shall be subject to all sections of the City of Los Angeles Governmental Ethics Ordinance that apply to the BABCNC (L.A. Municipal Code Section 49.5.1 et seq. and Federal and State of California ethics standards)

**6.3.1 Removal:**

*“This is pretty much the first sentence that’s already in the existing section.” LL)*

Any Board Member who has failed to complete the Ethics Requirement within a reasonable time as set forth in the Standing Rules shall be immediately removed from the Board. Such removed Board Member may re-establish Membership on the Board upon presentment of evidence of meeting completion of the Ethic Training Requirement.

**6.3.2 Conflicts of Interest:**

*“This is the second sentence that’s in the existing section.” Larry did not read this but the following is copied from that provided in the agenda as follows:*

Board Members will recuse themselves from matters in which they have an actual, potential conflict of interest. It will be the responsibility of each Board Member to identify such conflicts, and to discuss the issue with the City Attorney to identify all potential conflicts before taking any action on such matter.

- Larry Leisten stated the above **is the motion**. Some of this language is from LA Empowerment’s website. He stated we’re going to leave it to the Standing Rules, and he will introduce that motion next. If somebody has been out of compliance for an unreasonable time, then they are removed; they can come back when they present evidence that they have completed their ethics training.”
- **The above motion was seconded and the motion carried.**

**Larry Leisten introduced a Motion To Amend the Standing Rules, paragraph 23: Failure to Maintain Ethics Requirement**

- **Larry noted that this motion is to amend the Standing Rules**, addressing the question the average person would have reading his bylaws. In the bylaws, he purposely did not define the time and is putting it in the Standing Rules, because we need to understand and appreciate that once we get the bylaws submitted to Empowerment, and they approve it, we can’t continually change our bylaws. He noted that we have a lot more flexibility with Standing Rules. Empowerment informs us that we’ve have to change our bylaws now, because we will not be able to change them in 2014. So this is an **amendment to the Standing Rules, paragraph 23:**

- ♦ **Motion was made by Larry Leisten to Amend the Standing Rules of the BABCNC, Paragraph 23, Failure to Maintain Ethics Requirement.** Larry read the motion aloud into the record.

MOTION TO AMEND STANDING RULES OF THE BEL AIR –BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PARAGRAPH 23 – FAILURE TO MAINTAIN ETHICS REQUIREMENT

WHEREAS, Article 6.3 of the BABCNC Bylaws provides in pertinent part “[t]he BABCNC shall be subject to all sections of the City of Los Angeles Governmental Ethics Ordinance that apply to the BABCNC (L.A. Municipal Code Section 49.5.1 et seq. and Federal and State of California ethics standards);”

WHEREAS, in January 2006, the State of California adopted Assembly Bill 1234, commonly known as the “Ethics Training Law,” and as a result, elected, selected, and appointed Neighborhood

Council board members are required to take the Ethics and Open Government training every two years

(the "Ethics Requirement");

WHEREAS, a recent review of Members' compliance with the Ethics Requirement indicates several Board Members have failed to maintain their Ethics Requirement, long past the two year maintenance requirement, even after repeated reminders and requests;

WHEREAS, the BABCNC wishes to institute a basis for enforcement of the Ethics Training Requirement upon its Members;

WHEREAS, the Board has recently adopted an amendment to Article 6 of the Bylaws, which provides the power to remove a Board Member for failing to comply with the Ethics Requirement within a reasonable time;

NOW THEREFORE, it is resolved to amend the Standing Rules by adding Paragraph 23 - Failure to Maintain Ethics Requirement, which shall read as follows:

(a) At each Regular Meeting, the President (or other Officer presiding over Meeting) shall announce the names of each Board Member and non-Board Member Stakeholder serving on a Committee, whose Ethics Requirement:

- (i) is scheduled to expire within the next thirty (30) to ninety (90) days;
- (ii) is scheduled to expire within the next 30 days;
- (iii) has expired;
- (iv) has recently been completed following probation; and
- (v) is more than ninety (90) days out of compliance and is thereby removed from the Board and/or a Committee.

(b) The President shall advise those Board Members and non-Board Member Stakeholders whose Ethics Requirement is expiring within the next thirty (30) day that if the Ethics Requirement is not completed by the next Regular Meeting, they will be placed upon a thirty (30) day probation, after which they will no longer be permitted to vote on matters that come before the Board or a Committee of which they may be a member.

(c) Any Board Member who has failed to complete the Ethics Requirement within a period of ninety (90) days following expiration of the previous Ethics Requirement training shall be immediately removed from the Board. Such removed Board Member may re-establish Membership on the Board upon presentation of evidence of completion of the Ethic Training Requirement.

**The motion, as read by Larry above, was seconded and passed 100%.**

- *Larry Leisten stated that he wanted to present the motion on Conflict of Interest; however, due to time constraints, it was decided to put this on hold, as budgeting issues needed to be addressed at this time.*

**Nickie Miner introduced a Motion To Amend By-laws Article 8.1 Officers: To remove the last sentence on term limits on Officers.**

- ♦ **Nickie Miner made a motion to amend By-laws Article 8.1 Officers: To remove the last sentence on term limits on Officers.** Nickie explained that in certain situations, when we can't replace, the current officer can continue to serve until such time as we're organized enough to replace. **Chuck Maginnis seconded the motion.** Discussion ensued. *Larry* let the Board know that he went to Empowerment's template to make sure we're not going against their template and found that they're silent on this matter. **7 years. 3 Nays. The motion carried.**

**Robert Ringler's Update on transcribing minutes and office staff**

- *Robert Ringler* has been in contact with Lloyd's Staffing Services, sent them digital tapes for January, February and March to get them transcribed, to get them posted and our previous motions. He also forwarded the job description for Heather to find a permanent staff person.

**Andre Stojka on Fire Safety:**

- See funding request below.

**Motion to re-evaluate and reassign posting locations - Robert Ringler**

- Not discussed.

**Election of Officers by Board Members:**

- *Deferred to May 22nd*

**TREASURER'S REPORT (AGENDA ITEM #7)**

- *Alan Fine* has given no Treasurer's report because we ended last year with \$25,000, and nothing has gone on since the last meeting, He expressed appreciation of Amber, what she's done, having many other neighborhood



councils, and having spent so much time on this one. "She has always come up promptly with guidance and has been a great help to us."

- Alan reported the big problem with the telephone company; that DONE took over payment of our telephone bills, one about \$150 a month and the other one about \$40 a month. Alan was notified only of the \$44, the small one, the fax machine line, and kept asking, who is paying the main bill? Heather called and we had to pay \$800 to get the phone line restored. DONE said from now on they won't pay the bills, we should put them on the Visa card. AT&T said they'd put it on the card, that we owed \$3,000, that two years of bills have not been paid by DONE. Alan recognized that DONE is short staffed, and understands that.
- At the end of the last fiscal year, about \$2,600 reverted to the general fund, that should have been encumbered and carried forward to this year to take care of the phone bills. He can place approximately \$2,500 on the Visa card, so he told the phone company to put that amount on the card and the rest can be automatically deducted from future bills. He thinks we have a limit on the VISA card quarterly, half the quarterly allotment, about \$4,000.
- The big question is to how we're going to spend the \$25,000 before the end of the year.

#### **Funding Requests:**

##### **Funding request from Laurel Canyon, with motion in the letter dated April 18, 2013:**

Per your communication to BABCNC Board members, on behalf of the Laurel Canyon Community, Wonderland Avenue School and Council District 4, this communication will serve as Laurel Canyon Association's formal request to BABCNC for funds to initiate a Pilot Program to be coordinated between the LC Community, Wonderland Avenue School and CD4. At a meeting held on April 9, 2013 by the above mentioned entities, it was decided that we must find a way to mitigate ongoing traffic congestion and student safety issues converging at the corner of Wonderland Avenue and Laurel Pass. The problems have appreciably worsened and action must be taken. The consensus of opinion centered around the establishment of a pilot program which would facilitate hiring a crossing guard and/or traffic enforcement for 5 days a week/2 hours per day to insure traffic flow and student safety every morning during rush hour and school drop off times. As we are at the end of the fiscal year budget, it was acknowledged there are no funds available in any of our budgets to pay for this much needed service, all of our funds are accounted for. It is clear that it will take time to fund raise, apply for extra financial support or solicit donations while our need is immediate.

Therefore, by mutual consent, we are petitioning the BABCNC to fund the Pilot Program at the cost of \$6,000 for 12 months while we structure an ongoing funding plan for this much needed neighborhood relief. This service would benefit the entire community by alleviating congestion and safety concerns at a critical hot spot in a heavily used thoroughfare. Further, we expect the program will be successful and serve as a template to help other beleaguered communities experiencing similar problems. Thank you for considering our request.

Cassandra Barrere, President Laurel Canyon Association Web Site: [www.LaurelCanyon.org](http://www.LaurelCanyon.org)

*Tony Tucci* representing the Laurel Canyon Association presented the case to fund this public safety issue in Laurel Canyon, at Wonderland School, where there is bypass traffic at Laurel Pass and Wonderland. A good amount of discussion ensued surrounding the safety issues for children going to Wonderland School. Tony requested funding to continue the pilot program for a traffic control officer with white gloves for one hour, 7:30 to 8:30, M-F, at a cost of about \$50.00 a day, \$6,000 to extend the program through the school year.

*Steve Twining* noted Roscomare Road and *Ramin Kolahi* noted that the Glen face the same issue as Laurel Canyon. *Robert Ringler* acknowledged their concerns and noted that there is a great difference between these locations and Wonderland; however, recommended that they address their concerns at another time.

- ♦ **Funding request by *Tony Tucci* for Laurel Canyon Association's Pilot Program with the Department of Transportation of \$6,000 for the next year. The motion was seconded. 13 Yeas. 0 Nays. 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.**

**Funding request from *Chuck Maginnis*, Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee Chair** for self-administration emergency notification for BABCNC members to allow messages to be tested, at a one-time charge of \$50 which if successful and easy to administer would provide a clear path for the NC and HOAs interested in covering our community for emergency notification, inexpensively, without a monthly fee.

- ♦ **Funding request for \$50 for testing self-administration emergency notification system, from the Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee seconded by Larry, motion passed.**

**Funding request from *Chuck Maginnis*, Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee Chair** for purchase of used (\$250.00 each) satellite phones, in case of emergency and cell phones and landlines don't work, etc., for each HOA interested in paying a monthly fees of \$25.00 or \$40.00 a month, \$300 a year, for 100 minutes per year. *Alan* suggested we vote now, we first try a limit of four on a trial basis, so in the future homeowners may agree to buy. *Larry* asked if the motion is to agree to possibly purchase up to 4, 5 or 6 phones, but the Council doesn't purchase that phone until that association signs a contract with the provider; to which *Chuck* replied, no, until they commit in writing to us, that they will go ahead and pay the \$300 a year for service.

- ♦ **Funding request for \$1,800 plus tax from the Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee for purchase of satellite phones: 9 Yeas. 3 Nay. Motion carries.**

**Funding request for fire prevention signs for \$3,000: Motion on Fire Safety by Andre Stojka**

I propose we place on the agenda the following proposal:

Because of the high fire danger in the Santa Monica Mountains areas of the BABCNC,  
And because the roads and streets of our communities are used by substantial numbers of commuter automobiles with smokers, bringing considerable fire risk to the BABCNC area,  
And because the City of Los Angeles has not placed sufficient numbers of No Smoking signs to visually warn commuters of the fire risk,  
The Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council hereby authorizes expenditure from its funds of not more than \$3,000.00 to be paid to a sign fabrication company to design and create 50 copies of a sign, (with ground stakes) reading substantially: NO SMOKING; HIGH FIRE DANGER; REPORT SMOKERS (213-000-0000); FINES UP TO \$541.00 At the bottom would be a City of Los Angeles seal and the copy: A service of the Bel Air, Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council. Signs will be given to members of each community for placement within the community on commuter streets.

*Larry Leisten* acknowledged that this is a really good idea, but also would like to see signs with notices that deals with brush clearance to gardeners working with equipment like, don't do this on a windy day. *Robert* noted this is a separate issue. *Larry* did not want the signs limited to no smoking. *Don Loze* noted there's a similar sign on Laurel Canyon and thinks the fine subject of State and City laws should be there. His recollection is that there's a thousand dollar fine. *Andre* has communicated with fire chiefs to refine language and to find out what it's going to be. Alan called for the question. Robert stated that the signs language can be worked on.

- ♦ **Funding request for fire prevention signs for \$3,000 passed.**
- ♦ **Alan moved that we pay \$500 for the annual Congress of Neighborhood Councils. Motion carries unanimously.**
- ♦ **Funding request by *Robert Ringler* for new updated office equipment including computer, digital recorder, among others, up to \$3,000, as everything is outdated and to get the office running efficiently. *Larry* seconded the motion. Motion passed.**

**PUBLIC SAFETY/DISASTER PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE – CHUCK MAGINNIS (AGENDA ITEM #8)**

- Agendized items deferred; funding for safety issues discussed above.

**OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT (AGENDA ITEM #9)**

- Robin prepared outreach information on the tables before start of the meeting.

**COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 REPORT (AGENDA ITEM #10)**

No report given.

**COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 REPORT (AGENDA ITEM #11)**

No report given.

**BYLAWS & RULES COMMITTEE REPORT – LARRY LEISTEN (AGENDA ITEM #12)**

Discussed above, under President's Report

- ♦ ***Larry Leisten* asked that the BABCNC let the record show that the motion to amend the Standing Rules, paragraph 22 (b), Conflicts of Interest, is continued until the next meeting.**

**TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT AND POLICE ADVISORY BOARD REPORT (AGENDA ITEM #13)**

- *Next LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee is going to be Wednesday May 8th - 8:30 a.m. at the West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue*

**PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS REPORT (AGENDA ITEM #14)**

No report given.

**NEW BUSINESS/GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS (AGENDA ITEM #15)**

No report given.

**MOTION TO ADJOURN MEETING (AGENDA ITEM #16)**

- ♦ **Motion made to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.**



Respectfully submitted,

Nickie Miner