

**BEL AIR-BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 22, 2013
Community Magnet School**

**11301 Bellagio Road
Los Angeles, CA 90049**

Persons in Attendance

Quorum: 12

2012 Stakeholder Groups with Certified Representatives	Present	
<i>Bel-Air Association</i>		
None		
<i>Bel-Air Crest Master Homeowner Association</i>		
Irene Sandler	X	
<i>Bel Air Ridge HOA</i>		
Andre Stojka	X	
<i>Bel-Air Glen HOA</i>		
None		
<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>Casiano-Bel Air HOA</i>		
None (<i>WILL BE MERGING WITH CASIANO ESTATES NOTED TODAY</i>)		
<i>Casiano Estates Association</i>		
Gary Plotkin	X	
<i>Crests Neighborhood Association</i>		
None.		X
<i>Employee Associations</i>		
None		X
<i>Faith-Based Organizations</i>		
Lonnie Mayfield		X
<i>Holmby Hills Homeowners Association</i>		
Avi Rojany		X
<i>K-6 Private Schools</i>		
Vicki Kelly		X
<i>K-12 Public Schools</i>		
Carla Cretaro		X
<i>K-12 Private Schools</i>		
John Amato	X	
<i>7-12 Public Schools</i>		
None		
<i>Laurel Canyon Association</i>		
Cassandra Barrere		X
Monica Weil		X
Jamie Hall standing in for Toni Tucci	X	
Gary Gole	X	
<i>Lookout Mountain Alliance</i>		
None		
<i>Members-at-Large</i>		
Larry Leisten	X	
Charles Maginnis	X	
<i>Moraga-Sepulveda Business Area</i>		
None		
<i>North Beverly Drive/Franklin Canyon Homeowners Association</i>		

None		X
Residents of Beverly Glen		
Ramin Kolahi	X	
Robert A. Ringler	X	
Roscomare Valley Association		
Robin Greenberg	X	
Steve Twining	X	
Save Our Strip		
None		
Santa Monica Mountain Conservancy		
None		
TOTAL: 15 present		

From DONE: *Grayce Liu* – Not Present

From CD5 Office: *Jeffrey Ebenstein, Shawn Bayliss*: – Not Present

From CD4 Office: *Sharon Shapiro*: – Not Present

Roll Call (Agenda Item #1)

- President Ringler called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.
- Cathy Palmer was introduced as the new administrative assistant
- Nickie Miner called roll. A quorum of 15 was present.

Pledge of Allegiance (Agenda Item #2)

- ♦ Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Approval of Minutes from Previous Meeting dated January 23, 2013 (Agenda Item #3)

- ♦ **Motion** was made to approve the January 23, 2013 minutes. 11 members approved, **4 abstained; minutes were approved.**

Approval of tonight's draft agenda (Agenda Item #4)

- ♦ Gary Plotkin **motioned** to amend agenda with a 7:45 cutoff to address bylaws due to time. **Motion approved.**

Public Comments (Agenda Item #5)

- Patricia Hearst asked if there was a revised budget and Alan Fine said he would submit one tonight. She complimented Chuck Maginnis for his recent two meetings, and opined that the Planning and Land Use Committee did not have enough members present at their recent meeting to approve adding an item to their agenda.
- Victor Marmon returned tonight, having been here in January when he spoke about 360 N. Stone Canyon and 10550 Bellagio. He stated that the NC took a position against height limit request; ZA denied applicant's request, and applicants will appeal on June 5th. He asked the Board to reiterate the position opposing the request with WLA APC. Steve Twining if the Bel Air Association was taking a position on Land Use issues these days, to which Mr. Marmon replied that the BA Association is not taking a position on Land Use matters.

President's Report (Agenda Item #7)

- **Amber Meshak from DONE**: Not present.
- **Victoria Cross, DWP** (Government and Neighborhood Relations Liaison) **(213) 367-4141**; Fax: (213) 367-1434. [The Metropolitan Water District (MWD) is a local water purveyor and stakeholder of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP). DWP is one of 26 water agencies that MWD serves.] The BDCP, which will be submitted into draft form by October 2013, proposes to restore the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and to deliver water through a very large tunnel or even two tunnels, instead of going through the Delta. This will provide a more reliable supply of water to California. Discussed concerns as to possible consequences of natural disasters including levees coming down, which would allow ocean water to infiltrate potable supplies; noted that the delta has been subsiding over many years, and if it were to fail, it could affect California for up to three years with more seawater intrusion. The plan implemented will affect water bills at a cost of under \$4.00 per month. Estimated cost of BDCP \$17 billion.
- **Andre Stojka reported on the BABCNC Authentication Process**, which will be a yearly process. He stated that 30 Authentication forms were sent to stakeholders listed as BABCNC Board members; 19 completed and returned forms. Eleven stakeholders did not respond. Authentication forms were resent to these 11 to give them every opportunity to participate. They were notified to respond by Friday May 17, 2013 or we would assume they were not interested in continuing their relationship with the BABCNC. As of today we have received seven receipts but not completed returns. Donald Farkas of Casiano Bel Air informed us by letter that they have merged

with Casiano Estates, already represented on the Board. There have been conversations with the Holmby Hills association and Bel Air Glen. We have not received either a receipt or acknowledgment of any kind from Lookout Mountain Alliance represented by Carol Sidlow or the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy represented by Carolyn Carradine though we received a receipt from the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy. How to deal with those who have not responded is an issue for the Board to decide. Discussion was held.

- **Larry Leisten presented proposed by-laws changes for approval (Agenda Item 14# moved up due to time needed).**
- Larry Leisten read multiple Articles in the By-Laws of the BABCNC detailing language changes. Following extensive discussion among members, Larry provided summaries of these changes. Discussion was held.
 - ♦ Ramin Kolahi **motioned** for approval of by-laws as presented in May 19, 2013 revisions from Bylaws Committee **10.** with following revisions:
 - 7.4.1 – Board Action – Change “...eighteen (18) Members must be present.” to “...seven (7) Members shall be in the affirmative.”
 - 10.8 – Delete “..hillside and...”
 - Add Paragraph 14.4:
Removal of Board Members
The Council shall consult with the Office of the City Attorney throughout and Board removal process. Board members may be removed in the following ways:
 - a. Petition by Stakeholders
A Board member may be removed from office by the submission of a written petition to the Secretary, which includes: i) the identity of the Board member to be removed, ii) a description, in detail, the reason for removal, and iii) the valid signatures of greater than ten percent (10%) of the Board.
 - 1. Upon receipt of a written petition for removal, the Secretary shall cause the matter to be placed on the agenda for a vote of the Board at the next regular Council meeting.
 - 2. Removal of the identified Board member requires a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the attending Board members.
The Board member who is the subject of the removal action shall have the right to deliver to Board members a written statement about the matter and/or speak at the Board meeting prior to the vote, but shall not be counted as part of the quorum, nor allowed to vote on the matter. If the vote for removal is affirmative, the position shall be deemed vacant and filled via the Council’s vacancy clause.
- ♦ Motion was seconded by John Amato. Discussion held. Call for question. **12 Yeas. 1 Nay. 0 Abstentions. Motion passed.**
- ♦ Larry Leisten **moved** to make the following addition to the bylaws: “That committee membership shall be open to all stakeholders whether or not they are Board members, but any such membership must be approved by the Board. **10 Yeas. 1 Nay. 3 Abstentions. Motion passed.**
- ♦ A **motion** was made by Larry Leisten to amend the bylaws, which were just approved, by adding the following provision: In compliance with City’s Ethic Laws, Board members who have been notified in writing and have not completed their ethics exam after three months from written notification can be removed, cannot hold committee office, and will lose their voting privileges. **13 Yeas. Motion passed by consensus.**
- ♦ Gary Plotkin **motioned** that Larry Leisten, Chair of the By-laws Committee, be authorized and directed to transfer the approved Board by-laws, passed this date, to the Empowerment template, with no factual changes, and shall be authorized to submit the Empower Template form, which will be created, to Empowerment, without the need to obtain further approval by the Board. Motion was seconded by Chuck Maginnis. Discussion held. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Please note: A copy of the approved bylaws and the template are attached as Exhibit A and Exhibit B and incorporated herein by reference.

- **Election of Secretary and Treasurer by Board Members:**
 - ♦ **Motion** was made by Robert Ringler to approve **Robin Greenberg** as new **Secretary for BABCNC**. Larry Leisten seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**
 - ♦ **Motion** was made by Robert to approve **Alan Fine** as **Treasurer for BABCNC**. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- **Election of President and Vice President: Deferred to June 26th**

Treasurer's Report (Agenda Item #8)

- Alan Fine presented the Monthly Treasurer's report for the period ending April 30, 2013 to the Board. He noted that we have until June 15th to use funds on Visa card as needed, Robert Ringler is handling office expenditures for office equipment, and Andre for no-smoking signs. Gary Plotkin noted that he had reached out to the Fire Station for their wish list but he has not received a response from the Captain in Charge. Alan said we can present that to them next year. Steve Twining suggested having a crossing guard at the Roscomare School. Robert noted that it was a legitimate request as previously requested but the timing is not good and to try again next time.
 - ♦ **Motion** was made to accept the Treasurer's Report, seconded by Gary Plotkin; **14 in favor. Motion carried.**
- Alan Fine discussed need for a revised budget for last year which approved \$7,500 for community improvement projects including Laurel Canyon's \$6,000.
 - ♦ Gary Plotkin made a **motion** to approve amended Budget for 2012-2013 Discussion was held. Ramin Kolahi Seconded. **13 Yeas. 1 Nay. 1 Abstention. Motion passed.**
- Alan Fine discussed the coming years' budget to include \$20,000 for secretarial assistance.
 - ♦ Gary Plotkin made the **motion** to approve the estimated Budget for 2013-2014. Larry Leisten seconded the motion. **14 Yeas. 0 Nays. 1 Abstention. Motion passed.**
- Chuck Maginnis advised the Board that Empowerment has not paid telephone bills due the carrier for more than a year, and therefore there were substantial late charges, some of which he was able to have Verizon delete. Other charges and payments are pending.
- Gary Plotkin put, as a matter of record, that the May Board minutes must be completed, in the next several days, as Empowerment must have these minutes along with the revised bylaws by June 1, 2013. Robert suggested that Ramin Kolahi's recommendations for additional bylaw changes be given to Larry.
- Gary Plotkin requested that when somebody speaks at a Board Meeting they first identify themselves, otherwise, our assistant will not be able to figure out who did what.

Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee (Agenda Item #9)

Chuck Maginnis, Chair, gave report on the May 15th Emergency Preparedness Meeting. [Senior Lead Officer 8A29 Chris Ragsdale - Not present & Senior Lead Officer Ralph Sanchez - Not present]

- Chuck Maginnis reported that he has prepared detailed minutes for the last three months as a foundation for communication with regards to supplies, communications, etc. He noted that representation has been great of the five different communities; however, had no representation from two, the RVA and Laurel Canyon, and noted that it would be great to have representation. At committee meetings they have been discussing a lot of ideas that other HOAs might like if they want to refer back to the minutes. He touched upon the sprinkler systems that could be operated remotely, and the emergency notification system that was approved and implemented, with a \$50 investment already paid forward, as authorized. Chuck is preparing to test the notification system, and is working on a disclaimer for same.
- **The next EP meeting will be Wednesday June 5th at Bel Air Crest at 10:00 a.m.** Chuck encourages everyone to please come, **open invitation. Need to RSVP.**
- Larry Leisten added that he had recently heard regarding telecommunication in emergencies, that carriers advise text messaging during a disaster rather than tying up phone lines.
- Chuck thanked Patricia for her kind words and for her participation at the last few meetings. He also thanked Robert for appointing him to this position three years ago.
- Gary Plotkin suggested outreach to other group who are working on emergency preparedness such as MECCA (an affiliation of the educational and religious entities on the Mullholland corridor).
- Chuck is scheduled to speak at **Brentwood Association's** meeting on **June 11 regarding the BABCNC Safety committee and Emergency Preparedness**. Chuck noted that doing a good job for emergency preparedness gets HOAs together in our groups to fill chairs plus, in the big picture, increases communication between NC's.
- Revised Motions A and B on purchase of Satellite Phone for BABCNC HOA's: Not discussed.

Land Use Committee (Agenda Item #10)

- Report of May 14, 2013 meeting was given by Ramin Kolahi.
- Michael Chasteen. Ramin Kolahi and Don Loze attended meeting. Robert Ringler and Nickie Miner attended. Ramin noted that the Committee would be assigning Case Officers to work as Liaisons on projects between the PLU Committee, stakeholders and stakeholder groups and applicants. Steve Twining inquired about the Chalon and Bellagio projects and Ramin said he spoke with attorney representing neighbor about reiterating prior Board position to APC. Nickie was nominated as a member, to be brought to the Board for a vote.
 - ♦ Ramin Kolahi made the **Motion** to nominate Nickie Miner as a member of the BABCNC PLU Committee. Motion was seconded by Larry Leisten; **12 in favor; 2 opposed. The motion passed.**
- **Noted: There is now a permanent date and time for the PLU Committee meetings: 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:30pm, @ the Les and Dorothy River Community Center, 10409 Scenario Lane 90077**

Outreach Committee Report (Agenda Item #11)

- Robin prepared outreach information on the tables before start of the meeting.
- Robert noted that Fire Station 99 had the Open House on May 11th
- Additionally, there is an upcoming Open House fund raiser breakfast Sunday June 2nd at 8:00 a.m. for the kids, for everybody, Beverly Glen and Sunset, with the firemen making the pancakes, Station 71 Pancake Breakfast.

Council District 5 Report (Agenda Item #12)

No report given.

Council District 4 Report (Agenda Item #13)

No report given.

Bylaws & Rules Committee Report – Larry Leisten (Agenda Item #14)

Discussed above, under President's Report

Traffic Committee Report and Police Advisory Board Report (Agenda Item #15)

- Next LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee is going to be Wednesday June 12th, 8:30 in the morning, at the West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue
- LA Community Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) tour of the LAPD Bomb Squad, Tuesday, May 28th (meet at WLA Station at 12:30 p.m. RSVP required.)

Private and Public Schools Report (Agenda Item #16)

No report given.

New Business/General Announcements (Agenda Item #17)

No report given.

- **Reminder to everyone: Open House Fund Raiser Pancake Breakfast on Sunday June 2nd at 8:00 a.m.** for the kids, for everybody, at Station 71, at Beverly Glen and Sunset, with the firemen making the pancakes,

Motion to Adjourn Meeting (Agenda Item #18)

- ♦ **Motion** made to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Greenberg,
Secretary