

**BEL AIR-BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
Minutes of August 28, 2013 Meeting @ Magnet School**

Approved
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Persons in Attendance: 16

Quorum: 12

2013 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
<b>Bel-Air Crest Master Homeowner Association</b>		
<i>Irene Sandler</i>	X	
<b>Bel Air Ridge HOA</b>		
<i>Andre Stojka</i>	X	
<b>Benedict Canyon Association</b>		
<i>Alan Fine</i>	X	
<i>Don Loze</i>	X	
<i>Nickie Miner</i>	X	
<i>Michael Chasteen (Michael notified office of absence)</i>		X
<b>Casiano Estates Association</b>		
<i>Gary Plotkin</i>	X	
<b>Faith-Based Organizations</b>		
<i>Lonnie Mayfield</i>		X
<b>K-6 Private Schools</b>		
<i>Vicki Kelly</i>	X	
<b>K-5 Public Schools</b>		
<i>None – pending</i>		
<b>7-12 Private Schools</b>		
<i>John Amato</i>	X	
<b>Laurel Canyon Association</b>		
<i>Jamie Hall (is standing in for Cassandra Barrere)</i>	X	
<i>Monica Weil</i>		X
<i>Tony Tucci</i>		X
<b>Members-at-Large</b>		
<i>Larry Leisten</i>	X	
<i>Charles Maginnis</i>	X	
<b>Residents of Beverly Glen</b>		
<i>Ramin Kolahi</i>	X	
<i>Robert A. Ringler</i>	X	
<b>Roscomare Valley Association</b>		
<i>Robin Greenberg</i>	X	
<i>Michael Kemp (ratified tonight to replace Steve Twining)</i>	X	
<b>Save Our Strip: Pending</b>		

<b>Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy</b>		
<i>Travis Longcore</i>	X	

From DONE: **Amber Meshack, Project Director:** **Not present**  
From CD5 Office: **Noah Muhlstein, Planning Deputy:** **Present**  
**Gurmet Khara (replacing Jeffrey Ebenstein): Present**  
From CD4 Office: **Sharon Shapiro, Deputy:** **Not present**

**Official Board Membership Changes:**

- Gary Gole, of Laurel Canyon Assn., has resigned.
- Jamie Hall been designated by LCA as their choice replacement for Gary Gole, and Jamie will be brought to the Board for ratification at our 09/25/13 meeting.
- Steve Twining, of RVA, has resigned. Michael Kemp, of RVA, is officially replacing Steve.
- Carla Cretaro, of K-5 Public Schools, is no longer available. Replacement is being sought.

**CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL** (AGENDA ITEM #1)

- *President Gary Plotkin* called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
- *Robin Greenberg* called the roll. **The required quorum is 12. 15 members were present initially and 16 members were present after Michael Kemp’s ratification.**

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

- ♦ The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS** (AGENDA ITEM #3)

- ♦ **Motion** was made by Larry Leisten to approve the July 24, 2013 minutes with the change that under PLU Report, RE: Charlie’s Pantry matter, where it said that Larry asked if there were “any instruments...” that be changed to Larry asked “what legal or regulatory requirements the City could impose on the developer.” **Motion was seconded by Irene Sandler; 1 abstention (Don) minutes were approved with the change as noted above.**

**APPROVAL OF TONIGHT’S DRAFT AGENDA** (AGENDA ITEM #4)

- ♦ **Motion** to approve tonight’s agenda was made by Larry Leisten; it was seconded by John Amato; and the **agenda was unanimously approved** without any changes or additions.

**PHOTOGRAPHY OF BOARD MEMBERS** (AGENDA ITEM #5)

- Robin organized and performed photography of the group and individuals prior to and during the meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** (AGENDA ITEM #6)

- **Public Official, Daniel Tamm, representing Mayor, Eric Garcetti, on the West side**, introduced himself as being part of a team working on strengthening great neighborhoods. The Board welcomed Mr. Tamm. He was on hand to answer questions.
- Otherwise, there were no public comments.

**PRESIDENT’S REPORT** (AGENDA ITEM #7) – *Gary Plotkin*

- a. **Confirmation of Michael Kemp:** We have an appointment letter from RVA, regarding Michael Kemp.
  - ♦ **Motion was made by Robin Greenberg to confirm Michael Kemp as a new Board member with BABCNC. Irene Sandler seconded, and Michael Kemp was unanimously voted in, with none opposed and none abstaining, as new Board member.**
- b. **Vincent (Vini) Fabrocini was not present** to discuss his possibly representing Commercial Stakeholders,

- c. **Motion of the Pacific Palisades Community RE Draft Murals Ordinance (Council File No. 11-0923)** submitted by the City Attorney on June 17, 2013 (passed 08-08-2013) was presented by Robin Greenberg. The motion reads as follows:

"In regard to Versions A and B of the draft murals ordinance submitted by the Los Angeles City Attorney on 6-17-2013, Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC) takes the following positions:

I. SUPPORT Version B on the Condition that the Seven (7) Revisions Set Forth Below are Incorporated:

1. Murals shall be clearly prohibited in all residential zones on all dwellings, including but not limited to single family homes and apartment buildings, except that in all residential zones murals that are not visible from the public-right-of-way or from neighboring properties shall be permitted.
2. Communities that wish to allow murals in residential zones shall be required to apply for permission to allow murals in such zones, using currently available Planning processes; *or* via a less time-consuming "streamlined" process to be developed and set forth pursuant to the ordinance.
3. Existing murals shall be clearly grandfathered.
4. "Digitally printed images" shall be prohibited and/or not included within the definition of "Original Art Mural." If included, the term "digitally printed images" shall be defined with greater clarity; any definition shall specifically exclude images which extend around corners and cover more than one exterior wall (commonly known as "building wraps") in all residential zones.
5. The "Neighborhood Involvement Requirement" (Sec. 22.119 (b)(3)) shall set forth key administrative rules relative to notice and procedures for holding the required community meeting, including without limitation a requirement that the applicant shall confer in advance with the applicable Neighborhood and/or Community Council to arrange an acceptable time, at a regularly scheduled meeting of such Council, for the required community review and comment on the proposed mural, and that the applicant shall be responsible for required mailing and posting of notice on-site at least 45 days prior to the meeting. "Community Councils" shall be expressly added, along with Neighborhood Councils and Business Improvement Districts, as entities entitled to receive notice.
6. The term "commercial message" shall be defined with greater clarity; specifically, the following language shall replace the definition of "Original Art Mural" (Section I): "A one-of-a-kind, hand-painted, hand-tiled [or digitally printed, *if this language is retained*] image on the exterior wall of a building that does not function as or contain any commercial message and for which nothing of value has been given to the owner or person in control of the building in exchange for permission to use the building for the image or to the artist in exchange for including the image any specific products or goods produced for sale or purchase (commonly known as "product placement"). For definition purposes, a commercial message is any message that advertises a business conducted, services rendered, or goods produced or sold.
7. Specific enforcement procedures and funding sources for enforcement shall be provided.

II. OPPOSE Version A; if Version A is Adopted Instead of Version B, PPCC Urges the Following Nine (9) Revisions:

1. In all residential zones, murals shall be limited to areas that are not visible from the public-right-of-way or neighboring properties.
2. In all residential zones, direct illumination of murals on dwellings shall not be permitted; indirect or incidental illumination of any murals resulting from otherwise permitted landscape lighting shall be allowed.
3. In all residential zones, murals on dwellings shall not exceed 18 feet from grade or one-story from grade in height, whichever is less, regardless of the actual structure height. -
4. A less time-consuming "streamlined" process shall be developed and set forth pursuant to the ordinance, to allow any communities that wish to prohibit murals in residential zones to apply for such prohibition.
5. Existing murals shall be clearly grandfathered.
6. "Digitally printed images" shall be prohibited and/or not included within the definition of "Original Art Mural." If included, the term "digitally printed images" shall be defined with greater clarity; any definition shall specifically exclude images which extend around corners and cover more than one exterior wall (commonly known as "building wraps") in all residential zones.
7. The "Neighborhood Involvement Requirement" (Sec. 22.119(b)(3)) shall set forth key administrative rules relative to notice and procedures for holding the required community meeting, including without limitation a requirement that the applicant shall confer in advance with the applicable Neighborhood and/or Community Council to arrange an acceptable time, at a regularly scheduled meeting of such Council, for the required community review and comment on the proposed mural, and that the applicant shall be responsible for required mailing and posting of notice on-site at least 45 days prior to the meeting. "Community Councils"

shall be expressly added, along with Neighborhood Councils and Business Improvement Districts, as entities entitled to receive notice. Further, in all residential zones: 1) the applicant shall also be required to mail notice of the community meeting to all owners and/or residents of properties located adjacent to and across-the-street from the location of the proposed mural; and 2) these requirements shall not be deemed “procedural only” and no action shall be taken by the City on any permit application pursuant to this section unless and until all requirements of Sec. 22.119(b)(3) are met.

8. The term “commercial message” shall be defined with greater clarity; specifically, the following language shall replace the definition of “Original Art Mural” (Section I): “A one-of-a-kind, hand-painted, hand-tiled [or digitally printed, *if this language is retained*] image on the exterior wall of a building that does not function as or contain any commercial message and for which nothing of value has been given to the owner or person in control of the building in exchange for permission to use the building for the image or to the artist in exchange for including the image any specific products or goods produced for sale or purchase (commonly known as “product placement”). For definition purposes, a commercial message is any message that advertises a business conducted, services rendered, or goods produced or sold.”
9. Specific enforcement procedures and funding sources for enforcement shall be provided.”

- Gary Plotkin noted that the “B” version just passed provisionally at City Council; however, is going back for more details, including but not limited to opt-in or out options, in 30 days; other amendments are being considered by Joint Committee and there should be a report on that in two weeks. (Council took the first step and next month is the second reading.) Pacific Palisades still would like our support. Discussion ensued including the definition of “community” as noted in Version B #5, (pertaining to the Neighborhood Involvement Requirement) to which Chuck noted that “community” in this context was in reference to Community Council. Larry noted that “community” could signify mixed use housing in business locations. It was then recommended to accept the amendment subject to review.

- ◆ **Robin Greenberg moved to support the Motion of the Pacific Palisades Community RE: Draft Murals Ordinance (Council File No. 11-0923). Chuck Maginnis seconded the motion. The Pacific Palisades motion approving Version “B” as set forth by them with 7 revisions was accepted unanimously with the amendment that we agree in spirit but won’t vote for it until we see the actual language, with 15 yeas; no nays and none in opposition.**

- Of note, per a letter prepared by Chris Spitz, as of 08/26/2013, 20 NCs stood in agreement with Pacific Palisades as being opposed to or concerned with the ordinance allowing murals on single-family or residential areas, while 7 councils were either supportive of or had no concern with the ordinance.)

d. **Motion to Reconsider the Transit Motion involving the Sepulveda Pass Transit Corridor** (Exhibit “B”) **Ramin Kolahi presented the BABCNC Proposed Transit Motion** as follows:

- “Whereas, Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Agency (MTA) has approved the Sepulveda Pass Transit Corridor in its 2009 Long Range Transportation Plan (LRTP).
- Whereas, the section of the I-405 that the Sepulveda Pass Transit Corridor is one of the most congested segments in Los Angeles County, affecting the ability of taxpayers to commute to and from work as well as the movement of goods and services for the greater Los Angeles area,
- Whereas, the I-405 Carpool Lane Project is expected to cost taxpayers over \$1.5B with limited ease in traffic congestion,
- Whereas, the Sepulveda Pass Transit Corridor is slated to be the very last project to be completed under the LRTP placing its timeline in late 2030,
- Whereas, the MTA proposes a bus lane for the Sepulveda Pass that will have limited carrying capacity,
- Whereas, the existing traffic on the I-405 already dramatically impacts the communities in the Bel Air Beverly Crest boundary,
- Whereas, the expected traffic growth, inclusive of any easing expected under the I-405 Carpool Lane Project, is expected to dramatically increase the impact to our community through 2030 (the expected completion date).

**The Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council request that the MTA strongly consider the following:**

1. Rather than plan a rapid bus connector in the Sepulveda Pass Corridor, seriously plan a light or heavy rail transit segment in this heavily trafficked segment of Los Angeles County,
2. Prioritize the expenditure plan for the Sepulveda Pass Corridor ahead of other planned projects to help ease the significant health and safety impacts caused by traffic on our residential streets as well as allow San Fernando Valley and West Los Angeles communities to have the infrastructure to attract companies in their

areas who otherwise do not relocate to those areas due to serious concerns of the ability of employees and customers to reach their businesses.

Although BABCNC understands MTA's goal to expand the transit network and connect more of the County together, this critical link of the I-405 has not only been pushed down in priority but any expenditures will have minimal to no impact on easing current or curbing future traffic.

BABCNC also requests MTA to send representatives to attend our Board meetings to answer questions why this corridor has been assigned such a low priority as well as a transit system that will likely have minimal impact on traffic (Rapid Transit)."

**In Summary**, *Ramin* noted that the Sepulveda Pass Transit Corridor (SPTC) is the last priority of LRTP (with a 2030 anticipated completion date); that we in the Bel Air Beverly Crest area are all affected by traffic and resultant health concerns. He described LRTP's efforts as a waste of money, including instituting a bus transit lane, despite buses not having the carrying capacity to alleviate the corridor, and spending \$1.5B for a carpool lane, which will have no impact on traffic. *Ramin* will ask CD11 Councilman *Bonin*, to bring the SPTC higher up on the list of priorities. *Larry Leisten* asked if this shouldn't also be done by WRAC to gain greater support.

- ◆ **The above "BABCNC Proposed Transit Motion was made by *Ramin Kolahi*. *Larry Leisten* called for the question. Motion seconded, by board member not known; there was 1 opposed (*Irene Sandler*) and no abstentions. The motion passed.**
- e. **Reinstatement of the Ad hoc I-405 Traffic Committee & to approve *Irene Sandler* as its Chair.**
- ◆ ***Robin Greenberg* motioned to re-instate the Ad hoc I-405 Traffic Committee & to approve *Irene Sandler* as its Chair. *Larry Leisten* seconded the motion. *Irene* asked change name of committee to the "I-405 Sepulveda Widening Improvement Project." 3 abstentions (*Robert, Jamie & Nickie*), 0 opposed. Motion passed.**
- f. Reminder was made by Cathy for those who hadn't yet done so, to send their NC Registration forms to DONE and cc to Cathy so she could complete and submit the official roster with the Funding Package. (*Draft roster was also circulated for verification.*)
- g. Board members interested in having updated business cards were notified to contact Cathy.
- h. *Andre Stojka* gave an update on **Fire Safety Signs**, recommending that after hearing from *Skip Haynes* of Laurel Canyon Association at our last meeting, that we look at their signs and defer further work on signs until checking costs from LCA. This will be continued to the September meeting.
- i. **Confirm *Don Loze* as Chair for Board Retreat Ad Hoc Committee**
- ◆ ***Robert Ringler* motioned to confirm *Don Loze* as Chair of the Board Retreat Ad-hoc Committee. *Larry Leisten* seconded the motion. There were no objections and no abstentions, and *Don Loze* was unanimously voted in as Chair for the Board Retreat Ad-Hoc Committee.**
- j. *Gary Plotkin* brought up discussion on **sites for monthly Board & Committee meetings**. Gary recommended American Jewish University (AJU); *John Amato* will look into Harvard Westlake; *Jamie Hall* suggested the Eugene and Michael Rosenfeld Auditorium in Franklin Canyon, which *Nickie* felt was not well set up for this. *Robin* would check on Roscomare. *Jamie* would check out the Mulholland Tennis Club. Otherwise, Tree People, Bel Air Crest and Bel Air Ridge were not currently options.
- k. Discussion on the **9 Proposed Motions by the NC Plan Review Committee** before the before the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (see Exhibit "C"): Discussion was deferred due to time constraints.
- l. *Andre Stojka* presented "**Operation NC Blitz**" RE: prioritizing small asphalt repairs within NC boundaries. Robin printed out forms from the City to be filled out. *Andre* noted that there will be one truck with two to three workers for one day, and that 8 could be done in a day. Send forms to Andre [voxpopl@gmail.com](mailto:voxpopl@gmail.com) so they can be prioritized and submitted. *Larry* mentioned larger corners with major potholes. The **My LA City 311 app**, which involves taking a picture that is automatically sent in, was mentioned. *Chuck* noted that he had researched pothole repairs and that the Bel Air Association has an adopt-a-pothole plan.
- m. *Irene Sandler* was to give report on status of digital signs/outdoor advertising & adoption of a letter RE: **Digital Billboards in Los Angeles** that was already sent to the City of L.A. by *Barbara Broide*, President of Westwood South of Santa Monica Blvd. HOA (See Exhibit "D" in the agenda packet). However, this

topic was deferred due to time constraints. **(Note, a new separate motion on billboards from WRAC was voted on below.)**

- n. Update on **BSL LED Conversion Program** - (*Travis Longcore, Ph.D.*) (motion) Deferred due to time.
- o. **Don Loze** noted there is no motion on **IBEW-DWP**. He related that the NCs are not party to negotiations but can consider making a motion on whatever the settlement has been (Exhibit "E"). Don noted that this is complex issue, and that there is an issue that follows it which could be addressed separately.
- ◆ **Don Loze** motioned to support the Mayor in his negotiations, in whatever he elects to do with regard to the IBEW-DWP issue. **Larry Leisten** seconded. **0 opposed, and 3 abstentions. The motion passed.**
- p. **Motion for Robin Greenberg as BABCNC representative to WRAC.**
- ◆ **Larry Leisten** motioned to elect **Robin Greenberg** as BABCNC representative to **WRAC**. **Nickie Miner** seconded the motion, and all were in agreement. **The motion passed with none opposed.**
- q. **Ramin Kolahi** motioned that webmaster, **Aaron DeVandry**, supervise **Mail Chimp** mailings. *Ramin* has been doing this; for \$20 per email, pending approval from Outreach, *Aaron* could do it more effectively. *Gary* cautioned taking care on expenses; recommended a dollar limit monthly if we do this. *Ramin* will discuss with *Aaron*. The motion was tabled until September, after getting report back.

#### **ADDITIONAL ITEMS:**

- r. **Nickie Miner** was asked to be an alternate to go to **WRAC** meetings. **Nickie** accepted.
- s. **Gary Plotkin** appointed **John Amato** as our new parliamentarian. **Robert** so moved; **Larry Leisten** seconded. **The vote was unanimous that John Amato is our new parliamentarian!**

#### **TREASURER'S REPORT** – Alan Fine

- Alan gave an update.
- ◆ *Larry Leisten* moved to approve the treasurer's report; *Robert Ringler* seconded; the motion passed unanimously.
- ◆ *Vicki Kelly* made the motion for *Robert Ringler* to be 2<sup>nd</sup> signatory; *John Amato* seconded the motion. *Alan* noted that Funding requires 2 signatures: from treasurer and a second signatory. *Robert* took the full funding course and is the only choice presently; however, this can be changed later. *Vickie* called for the question. There were 2 abstentions (*Irene & Don*) and none opposed. The motion passed.
- ◆ *Larry Leisten* moved to approve the Funding Package consisting of the Strategic Plan, Outreach Survey & Board Roster for DONE. *Ramin Kolahi* seconded. All 15 were in favor and the motion passed.
- *Irene Sandler* asked who is responsible for expenditures, to which *Gary* replied, the entire Board. *Robert* noted that starting in 09/2013, purchases will be by line item. Petty cash is under *Gary's* responsibility.

#### **PLANNING AND LAND USE COMMITTEE (PLU)** – *Ramin Kolahi*

- *Ramin* reported on the August 13<sup>th</sup> meeting. No motions or applications were heard at the meeting but there was discussion of potentially looking into a more active role in the merger process between Planning and Building & Safety.
- *Jamie Hall* spoke on the new notification process that the PLU Committee has instituted. He has meeting set up for the project he was assigned to on Stanley Hills, which will take place September 7<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am. Also, *Jamie* has been assigned the Laurel Canyon Slope Remediation Project. There was a community meeting last night, which was very spirited and well attended. The City will remove 50,000 cubic yards of earth. There will be 75 to 100 trucks leaving the site every day. Residents are concerned about traffic impacts. Haul route hearing will take place and public will be given opportunity to comment.
- *Nickie Miner* noted that if she does not attend the PLU meetings it is because she is not getting emails.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY/DISASTER PREPAREDNESS COMMITTEE – Chuck Maginnis (10 minutes)**

- **Senior Lead Officer 8A29 - Chris Ragsdale, WLA Community Police Station** reported that the BABC area is doing well, with little to no crime, a 14% crime reduction in the year to date, which is all good news.
- **Chuck Maginnis gave report on the August 20<sup>th</sup> PS/DP Committee Meeting held at the Getty Center** with regard to emergency preparedness, which was a tremendous success. He noted that there is an increased list of attendants to the EP committee. Minutes and photos will go out.
- **Chuck** noted that *Rick* and *Irene* offered to do things to jump start HOAs getting support for emergency preparedness. *Rick* will do an incident map for people who will use it.
- **Chuck gave an update on Emergency Notification/Testing** noting that questions were discussed at the meeting at the Getty. Importance of increased participation including use of email lists discussed.
- *Gary* advised that the people whose names appear on those email lists need to give their consent in writing, per Empowerment. **Chuck** noted that this will be addressed at their next meeting.
- **The next Emergency Preparedness meeting is Thursday, September 19, 2013 at Bel Air Ridge.**

## **WEST LOS ANGELES REGIONAL ALLIANCE OF COUNCILS (WRAC) – Robin Greenberg (5 minutes)**

Two motions to the DWP Board of Commissioners previously deferred at the July 2013 meeting due to lack of information were continued as follows (and, a non-DWP motion on billboards follows below):

### **WRAC DWP Motion #2:**

- ◆ **Motion to end an additional amount above and beyond the \$1.2 Billion spent on water (20% of our water bills) to mitigate the Owens Lake Dust Control Project which measures 6' above the level of the lake. A lawsuit is pending. 4 million Los Angeles residents are paying to mitigate dust for a handful of people in the Owens Valley.**

Guest Speaker, *Dr. Jim Enstrom*, the current President of the Roscomare Valley Association and epidemiologist at UCLA, speaks about reform of the DWP, came support both of these motions: He strongly supports the continuance of *Ron Nichols* as head of DWP but came primarily to talk about 2<sup>nd</sup> motion, which he described as a misuse of EPA regulation of dust regulation. He stated that in the past years, DWP has spent 1.2 billion for dust mitigation on Owens Lake. He felt there was manipulation of the system so there has to be dust mitigated, consisting of pouring 30 billion gallons of water a year, which he feels is a massive waste of water that should be coming to LA but is not due to technicalities. He states that no one lives around the lake and that those who are there are in no danger of harm from the dust which blows around the lake; that this issue needs a lot of input from scientists, backing from neighborhood councils, and understanding by the Mayor, because, he states, it's wrong and should be stopped. Now, he states, the DWP won't stop, in spite of a law suit against the regulatory agency in the Great Basin that was endorsed by City Council and Villaraigosa. Rather, the DWP has proposed another master plan to continue the project at a cost of another billion dollars. He feels that this new effort is not necessary and opposes the project.

- **Robin Greenberg so moved and Nickie Miner seconded the motion.** Discussion ensued.
- *Vicki Kelly* asked *Mr. Enstrom* if he wants to end all dust mitigation. He replied that this is for the additional expense. *Travis Longcore* and *Jamie Hall* did not feel that NCs should be involved in this case. *Nickie Miner* noted that she would like to know more about the history of this due to its complexity.
- **Nickie Miner moved to table the motion. Larry seconded the motion to table.**
- *Vicki Kelly* asked to separate the two motions for votes.
- *Don Loze* disagreed with tabling, noting that the doctor has appeared before DWP committee and the neighborhood councils who meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of the month and appeared before the Advocacy Committee. He stated that our role as a NC is to advise the City Council, and while the matter is going through the courts, it's not bad faith to suggest there may be another alternative to City Council, and let them know our feelings in their activity and what they are doing in resolution of the matter before the court. *Don* felt that the neighborhood councils have not come together as a force to express our opinion on these matters, that some matters are going down without input from us. He urged supporting the motion from WRAC, as the people of WRAC had a chance to hear the facts, and though no one pretends to be an expert, he'd like to have City Council know our position, that we are supporting any alternative in addition to the one proposed.
- A tie was broken by *Gary Plotkin*, to not table the motion, and then a vote was taken with regard to the motion #2 as follows:
  - ◆ **Motion to table the motion to end the additional amount for the Owens Lake dust mitigation project, vote initially was counted by Gary as 6 yeas and 7 nays. Larry noted it was 7 and 7. Revote was taken, 7 yeas, 7 and nays; and President Gary Plotkin voted not to table so we could vote on the motion. The motion was then voted on as follows:**
  - ◆ **Motion #2 -- to end an additional amount above and beyond the \$1.2 Billion spent on water (20% of our water bills) to mitigate the Owens Lake Dust Control Project which measures 6' above the level of the lake. A lawsuit is pending. 4 million Los Angeles residents are paying to mitigate dust for a handful of**

people in the Owens Valley. A vote was taken with 6 yeas; 5 nays. Then Larry said “no... you’ve got John...” (implied 7 yeas) and 3 abstentions. The motion passed. (SEE BELOW – This came up for a second vote below, due to lack of clarity on the vote count; however, that vote did not pass.)

At this time, Motion #1 to keep Ron Nichols as General Manager was made and seconded; the question was called.

In the middle of this item, Larry asked for the tally after we canvassed the votes on the last item. When Cathy read back that vote (6, 5, 3) questioningly, Larry suggested taking a repeat vote on Motion #2, which was as follows:

- ◆ RE-VOTE FOR DWP MOTION #2: To end an additional amount above and beyond the \$1.2 Billion spent on water (20% of our water bills) to mitigate the Owens Lake Dust Control Project which measures 6’ above the level of the lake. There were 6 yeas, 6 nays and 3 abstentions. Gary Plotkin then broke the tie by voting against the motion, causing the motion to not pass.

#### WRAC DWP MOTION #1:

- ◆ Robin Greenberg made the motion to keep Ron Nichols as General Manager of the DWP. Nickie Miner seconded the motion. The question was called. There were 13 yeas, 0 nays, and 2 abstentions.
  - Gary thanked Dr. Enstrom for coming in.

*(Of note, the four WRAC motions that came before the Board during our July meeting, have now all been passed, one last month, two tonight, and, according to Steve Twining of WRAC, the remaining motion had passed previously.)*

#### WRAC Motion on Billboards:

- Robin stated that there is no indication that the City will require CBS Outdoor & Clear Channel Outdoor to remove the illegal digital billboards that were unlawfully erected after striking a large settlement agreement with the City. Their main concern is that the billboards will not be stopped by the City and will continue to grow. Robin stated that the HOAs, are committed to preserving the integrity and usual landscape of our community. We fully expect the City’s actions in this matter going forward will be for the benefit of its citizens, to remove the illegal digital billboards. Discussion was held. Larry Leisten called the question.
- ◆ Robin moved the WRAC motion as follows:
- ◆ “WRAC moves to advise the elected officials that any potential settlement agreement by and between the City of Los Angeles and any and all outdoor media companies with regards to any type of billboards should be vetted for a minimum of 90 days to all neighborhood councils, alliances and HOA’s prior to council taking action.”
- ◆ Robert Ringler seconded the motion. There were 0 opposed and 3 abstentions. There were 12 yeas and the motion passed.

#### OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT – Robin Greenberg

- Robin thanked the Bel Air Bar and Grill for the dinner; and invited all present support that business.
- The outreach materials have been copied and provided by Robin (including the application to fix potholes).
- Gary noted that we are going to have a poster at all our meetings with all of our sponsors, restaurants, etc. Will look into posting PR on the website. Larry asked if this was within City policy to have sponsor acknowledgement. This will be looked into.

#### BYLAWS & RULES COMMITTEE REPORT – Larry Leisten

- Larry gave report on the outstanding issues facing City approval of our Bylaws, stating that he attended a meeting downtown and got feedback on the bylaws submitted at end of May. Larry also provided a detailed write up of his report as follows. (Discussion briefly summarized below write up.)
  - “Under the proposed Bylaws, the Board of the BABCNC will be comprised of 25 seats.
  - Each Stakeholder Group with present representation on the Board, willing to actively participate, will be afforded one privately elected/selected representative. The following 13 Stakeholder Groups will have privately elected/selected representation on the Board.
- o Bel-Air Crest
  - o Benedict Canyon Association
  - o Bel-Air Ridge HOA
  - o Casiano Estates



- o Faith Based Institutions
- o K-6 Private Schools (Thomas Dye)
- o K-5 Public Schools (Community Magnet & Wonderland)
- o 7-12 Private Schools (Harvard-Westlake & Marymount HS)
- o Laurel Canyon Association
- o Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy
- o Residents of Beverly Glen
- o Roscomare Valley Association
- o Save Our Strip
- An Empowerment representative has stated he would want to see the BABCNC have @ least 50% of its seats on the Board publicly elected.
- Empowerment has agreed that existing residential Stakeholder Groups, which, based upon size, would be afforded more than one seat on the Board, additional representation, but that such additional representative be publicly elected.
- Leadership of the BABCNC has determined that those residential Stakeholder Groups comprising of more than 500 units be afforded an additional representative. Specifically, those 5 residential Stakeholder Groups are:
  - o Benedict Canyon Association
  - o Laurel Canyon Association
  - o Residents of Beverly Glen
  - o Roscomare Valley Association
  - o Save Our Strip
- The above listed homeowner association are requested to submit to the Secretary a description of the boundaries which represent the area of their constituency.
- Based upon the above, the Council will establish 5 districts, each with At-Large publicly elected representation. Those districts are:
  - o Beverly Park Estates and North Beverly Glen Franklin Canyon District
  - o Coldwater Mulholland and Crests Neighborhood District
  - o Holmby Hills Residential District
  - o Moraga/Sepulveda Residential District
  - o Business and Commercial District (Glen Center, Glen Market and Moraga)
- The balance of representation on the Board will be filled by two Council-wide At-Large seats, one reserved for a Community Interest” stakeholder
  - *Larry* has looked at the City Charter as to how we are organized and noted that the legal hierarchy is top-down in nature. *Andre Stojka* felt that we have a right to see where that authority stems from. *Robert Ringler* pointed out the uniqueness of our area based on geography, being primarily residential, with HOAs who know a great deal about their community and take a regional approach to problem solving.
  - *Jamie Hall* pointed out defining boundaries in terms of voters is one of the most important things that we’re going to do, and warrants a special meeting or workshop to discuss apportionment and the 25 seats, to avoid possibilities of disproportionate representation.
  - *Larry* noted that DONE has been critical that we’re too residential, that we lost our business commercial representative of 10 years, and when we go through the process with the City, will determine how *Vincent* is to be elected or selected.
  - *Larry* noted that the bylaws are we operating under, submitted in May, have not yet been approved of and noted that a lot of the procedures that we’re bound by are not in the Charter.
  - *Don Loze* recommended tabling discussion of apportionment and discussing it at the retreat.
  - *Gary Plotkin* concluded that **discussion of this matter will be continued** as the main topic of the meeting in September, with *Carmen* and *Amber* present who will make comments and give us direction as desired by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

**COUNCIL DISTRICT 5 REPORT** - & Planning Deputy *Noah Muhlstein* & *Gurmet Khara*

- **New Field Deputy, *Ms. Gurmet Khara*, was introduced (as replacing *Jeff Ebenstein*),** who will be handling Encino and hillside issues for us; and may handle any general issues of ours.
- *Gurmet* and *Noah* discussed an upcoming special meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> on the **Curtis School Project** (which school *Noah* described as “K-12”, to which *John Amato* and others noted was actually “K-6”) as to how the City will address this massive project for Conditional Use Permit. They will be learning about a new mechanism and new way to address a CUP for a project of this size. They will report to PLU with *Ramin* after *Noah* goes to that meeting.

- This school is on the northern side of Mulholland, west of the 405. They currently have a CUP, but might be using plan approval to increase footprint, building size, enrollment, and swap a football field and add about 160,000 square feet to the property. Prior approvals from the '80's will be looked at in terms of grading, importing and exporting dirt. The meeting is to address major elements to the project.
- *Vicki Kelly* asked if they want to add students. *John Amato* asked if they're going from K-6 to K-12 because if they are adding students it's one thing, if they are going to K-12, that would involve having student drivers among the student population.
- *Irene Sandler* noted that one issue is the destruction of the Santa Monica Mountains for a pathway for the school to have deliveries and possibly parking, and noted that you can see the campus from the AJU.
- *Gurmet* stated that a week from today, they are going to Council again (not for the mural ordinance, which they voted against).
- *Noah* and *Gurmet* will alternate attending our meetings.
- *Chuck* asked for our contact information to include these and other key individuals in the City.

**COUNCIL DISTRICT 4 REPORT** - Field Deputy & Deputy of Housing and Transportation - *Sharon Shapiro*

- No report given.

**TRAFFIC COMMITTEE REPORT & POLICE ADVISORY BOARD REPORT** – *Robert A. Ringler*

- **Next LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee: Wednesday September 11, 2013, 8:30 a.m.** at the West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue.

**AD HOC 405 TRAFFIC COMMITTEE & REPORT OF LAST GENERAL MEETING 8/15/2013** - *Irene Sandler*

- No report given yet. The motion to have Irene Chair this committee was approved as noted above.
- **Of note, the committee's name is now: I-405 Sepulveda Widening Improvement Project.**"

**PRIVATE AND PUBLIC SCHOOLS NEWS** – *John Amato & Vicki Kelly*

- *John Amato* related that Harvard-Westlake has a new President, *Rick Commons*; they had their opening commencement this past Tuesday, with 1600 kids. For the first time ever they had all their kids on one campus. They vested in Rick, the prefects and the middle school kids as officers, for the middle school. Faculty, staff and kids came over the hill at 3700 Coldwater at the upper school.
- *Vicki Kelly* had no report on the John Thomas Dye School.

**NEW BUSINESS/GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- None given.

**ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING:** Motion to adjourn meeting was made by *Don Loze*; *Larry* seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

**NEXT BABCNC MEETING: September 25, 2013**

Respectfully submitted,

Robin Greenberg/cp