

**BEL AIR-BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
**Minutes of September 25, 2013 Meeting @ AJU**

<b>Approved</b>
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Persons in Attendance: 19

Quorum: 12

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

<b>Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy</b>		
<i>Travis Longcore, Ph.D.</i>	X	

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

♦ **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call:** The Board Meeting was called to order by *President, Gary Plotkin*, at 7:10 pm. (There was a mix-up in the meeting location, which caused several members to arrive slightly late.) The roll was called by *Secretary, Robin Greenberg*. There was an initial count of 15; a quorum of 12 was met, and shortly thereafter, after additional Board members came and signed in, totaling 19 present.
2. **Motion to Approve the August 28, 2013 Minutes was made by Robert and Andre Stojka seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved with changes (noted below), with 13 yeas, no nays and no abstentions.** (*Charles Maginnis* had stepped out of the room during the vote count, and the Chair did not vote because there were no ties.) *Changes in the 08/28/13 minutes were as follows:*
  - *Larry Leisten* made the following corrections in the Bylaws report: Where it said "Empowerment is requiring" it should read – "An Empowerment representative has stated he would want to see" the BABCNC have @ least 50% of its seats on the Board publicly elected.
  - Two bullet points in that Bylaws report in the minutes were to read:
    - "Larry noted that DONE has been critical that we're too residential, that we lost our business commercial representative of 10 years, ..."
    - "Larry noted that the bylaws we are operating under, submitted in May, have not yet been approved and noted that a lot of the procedures that we're bound by are not expressed in the Charter.
  - *Don Loze* clarified he voted in favor of DWP WRAC motion #2 on Owens Valley.
  - *Charles Maginnis* corrected EP meeting was at Bel Air "Ridge" not "Crest"
  - *Cathy* noted that at the last meeting she answered the headcount was 15, while it was 16 after *Michael Kemp's* ratification; votes would have totaled 15 and not 14 without Gary.
  - The WRAC billboards motion had 12 yeas not 11, which did not impact the results.
3. **Approval of tonight's Draft Agenda**
  - *Robert Ringler* moved to approve the draft agenda; *John Amato* seconded, and it was unanimously approved.
4. **Announcements and Public Comments on items not on the Agenda:** None.
5. **President's Report** (*Gary Plotkin*)
  - a. **Jamie Hall's Confirmation as a BABCNC Board Member**  
**MOTION to confirm Jamie Hall's appointment as Board Member representing Laurel Canyon Association was made by Larry Leisten, seconded by Andre Stojka, and passed unanimously with 14 yeas; none opposed and none abstained.**
  - b. **Prospective Business Representative,** *Vincent Fabrocini* could not attend tonight for medical reasons.
  - c. **Need for a new K-5 Public Schools Representative:** *Carla Cretaro* can no longer be the representative for K-5 Public Schools. *Tony Tucci* had reached out to *Wonderland* and *Robin Greenberg* to *Roscomare*. Candidate can be an employee, teacher, principal, parent, PTA member, etc. Importance of this role was stressed by *Irene Sandler*. *Tony & Robin* will follow up with Gary.
  - d. **Meeting Sites, Discussion and Possible Motion:** - *Gary* apologized for the mix up; instead of meeting in Room #208 we ended up in the Conference Room of main building; we have AJU through May 2014 for Board meetings and asked if could we prevail upon our friends at Harvard Westlake or other locations.
    - *Jamie Hall* can secure *Mulholland Tennis Club*, which would cost \$150. - *Gary* noted that AJU is free while other sites may cost \$150 to \$250.

- *Robert* expressed that the more opportunities we give our stakeholders to come to meetings, from east to west, the better, and believes it is worth \$150, as the budget can be amended, as attested to by *Alan Fine*.
- *Jamie* can reserve the Mulholland Tennis Club for the November meeting.
- *Nickie* suggested one meeting place, while *Larry* supported increasing visibility to eastern end of territory.
- *Irene* recommended addressing and being guided by burning issues pertinent to each area we meet in.

**MOTION:** *Robert Ringler* moved that the BABCNC makes a good faith effort to have meeting sites that are representative of the entire Neighborhood Council, by alternating sites during the course of the year, when appropriate, within the boundaries of our Council. The motion was seconded by *Don Loze*. Discussion was held. *Larry* called for the question. There 18 yeas, none opposed and none abstained. The motion passed unanimously.

- *Jamie Hall* introduced the Board to LCA's alternate rep., ***Alison Simard*** (standing in for *Monica Weil*). *Gary* offered a warm welcome to *Alison* and thanked her for coming.

- **October Board Meeting will be at AJU.** (*Sam Levitt*, Sr. Director of Facilities and Auxiliary Services at AJU, later apologized via email for the mix up and said **we will always meet at Colen Hall, Room "108" (not 208). Park at Lot 3 and enter the Conference Building underneath the Student Lounge.** This room will also be available for the Bylaws meeting on 10/09.)

- **November Board Meeting will be at the Mulholland Tennis Club** (up to 45 minutes from Bel Air.)

e. **Motion on Community Impact Statement Submitters**

**MOTION** to authorize *Gary Plotkin, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg & Ramin Kolahi* to submit Community Impact Statements (CIS's) on behalf of the Board was so moved by *Cassandra Barerre* and seconded by *Nickie Miner*. *Robert* called the question. None were opposed and the motion passed unanimously by 18 yeas.

- The importance of CIS's and letters on motions which we are sending to the City Attorney and Councilmembers, and which help WRAC was discussed. CIS's are based on motions approved by the Board and are filed with the City. Nothing is sent out without Board approval.

- *Tony Tucci* reminded the Board to attend the upcoming NC Congress this Saturday at City Hall, which will offer a session on CIS's among other things relevant to NCs.

f. **Motion on Posting Site Change:**

**MOTION:** *Larry Leisten* moved to have the posting site at Bel Air Association, which is no longer available, changed to the Bel-Air Bar & Grill, where there is an outdoor bulletin board open 24 hours a day and the good people of the restaurant will post from email. *John Amato* seconded, and the motion was unanimously approved.

g. **Update and Discussion on Planned Board Retreat** (*Don Loze*, Chair) *Don* noted that DONE's position is that we can't have a retreat until our bylaws are complete. ***Don* has been preparing discussion questions for the retreat and asked the Board to provide input on issues that would be beneficial to discuss.** Some questions: How do we get services from downtown? What are we meeting for? How do we get our issues before our Councilman? How to get representation on various issues including but not limited to traffic, safety, public emergency preparedness, communication, how we get representation, etc. It is not known when the retreat will be, as it is based on completion of the bylaws.

h. **Possible Motion to Increase Funding for Empowerment:** (*Gary Plotkin*) - *Gary* noted DONE previously had 10 people doing the job that 2 are doing now; they don't have the cash to hire enough people to do the work. *Amber* asked us to put on the table a possible motion to increase funding for Empowerment.

**MOTION:** *Larry Leisten* put forth the motion to increase funding for Empowerment, as they do not have the people power to do what is necessary. *Robert Ringler* seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The question was called. There were 8 yeas, 7 nays, 2 abstentions and the motion passed.

i. **Consider 9 Proposed Motions by the NC Plan Review Committee** now before the before the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (See *Exhibit "A"*): Deferred due to time constraints.

- j. **Update on Status of Fire Safety Signs** (*Andre Stojka*) *Andre* had spoken to *Skip Haynes* of CLAW and per website they are \$55 per sign, noting we might get a discount; (\$10 more per sign than quoted for), however since LC's signs do not work as an outreach for BABCNC, suggests the Board pick visible spots, agree where signs should be, how many, for the best deal. *Irene* suggested presenting this to HOAs to see who wants particular signs, e.g., no smoking, no open fires, etc. *Cassandra Barrere* asked us to consider going with CLAW as it is a nonprofit. *Jamie* suggested a survey, possibly on "Survey Monkey."
- k. **Report on Operation NC Blitz** (*Andre Stojka*) *Andre* has communicated to the City and the pot holes have been filled. He has seen several of them. It was noted that this was a one-time event.
- l. **Update on BSL LED Conversion Program** (*Travis Longcore, Ph.D.*) *Travis* does not have a motion but is working on it. This is about full-spectrum lights. He has a meeting scheduled with new representative on the Board of Public Works, *Barbara Romero*, who represents the Mayor. He recently gave a talk on this at the Illuminating Society of North America's meeting in Phoenix, and learned interesting facts about traffic safety and lighting levels, including that when dimming the lights by half, drivers did not notice it. He related that this is a long game in terms of getting engineers to see things differently. *Tony* suggested a possible motion that communities are dealt a lower light and can opt for a greater light. *Travis* was invited to bring something to the Board next month.
- m. **Update on IBEW-DWP Issue** (*Don Loze*) *Don* noted that the general issue is resolved, they are not taking a cost of living increase for 3 years and the policies of the Management and the Union will be examined openly by Council. There is nothing more for us to do. *Don* mentioned a recent story in the Times regarding an uncovered 40 million dollar fund supposedly for education, which we will hear more about.
- n. **Update on having Webmaster, Aaron DeVandry, Supervise Mail Chimp** (*Ramin Kolahi*) *Ramin* would like this to be in our Standard Rules Procedures, and has written up a proposal that he will bring to the agenda next month, revised. He talked to Aaron who will charge \$20/email blast with Mail Chimp. We have 30% open rate on our Mail Chimp; others get about 60%; he'd like to increase that. Each Mail Chimp has a campaign and we can check each one, but now the open rate is 30% on the average.
- o. **Announcement: Council members are encouraged to attend the Congress of Neighborhood Councils on Sat. Sept. 28th at City Hall** for training involving NC issues; attend sessions important to you so everyone doesn't go to the same ones and come back with feedback at the next meeting.
- p. **Discussion and Possible Motion on the Deleterious Impact of Anticoagulant Rodenticide on Wildlife in the Santa Monica Mountains:** (*Tony Tucci*)  
*Tony* related the motion was written; LCA's nonprofit organization, CLAW, met with Councilman *Koretz* to discuss this and that other cities in California have adopted resolutions to ban the sale of anticoagulant rodenticide. *Paul Koretz* recommended making a motion, to draft an initiative (online as an attachment) to regulate how poison is applied in our parks, schools, etc.

**MOTION:** *Tony Tucci* presented the motion to draft a letter to City Council requesting that they support Councilmember *Koretz's* initiative for an ordinance that bans the sale and use of anticoagulant rodenticide, and prohibits its use, particularly in our hillsides and other ecologically-sensitive areas. *Cassandra Barrere* so moved the motion as read by *Tony*. *Nickie* seconded. Discussion ensued and the question was called: one opposed, one abstention, and motion passed.

Information and Discussion on the rodenticide issue included:

- *Tony* would like to get this issue to the PAW Committee. *Ali Simard* spoke on strong evidence on the deleterious effects of rat poisoning, from a bobcat expert at UCLA who found a percentage of bobcats tested showed the presence of rodenticide, and from an expert at USC, showing pets accidentally poisoned in parks. Malibu was the first to have a resolution in July and 14 others have followed suit.
- *Ramin* asked – Who are the primary users of the anticoagulants – Parks & Recreation or individual home owners & exterminators; and, if you don't use them, what are effective ways of controlling rodents?
- *Tony* discussed alternatives, e.g., snap traps and letting the natural ecosystem take care of itself. He described effects of poisoning a rat and letting it go into the hillside, whereupon the owl eats the rat, the owl dies, while the owl has the ability to kill 15 rodents a day. He noted mountain lions monitored in the hills get tertiary poisoning as seen in two mountain lions studied that have died within a month of eating coyotes that had eaten rats.

- q. **Report and Discussion on the Developments Regarding the Slope Failure Mitigation Measures on Laurel Canyon Boulevard Being Considered Immediately** (*Cassandra Barrere*)
- *Cassandra* gave report on slope failure at 1825 North Laurel Canyon Boulevard which dates back seven years, underwent litigation, and the City has settled; now it's considered a danger and emergency. "They want to eliminate the CEQA requirement for a public hearing". She wants the City to slow down and consider public input before initiating work on such a large scale project. - *Jamie* related that this is moving forward despite a recent Town Hall meeting with a lot of Public Comment against doing so.
  - *Cassandra* stated after seven years, they have had only one meeting in August, and now are told of an October 1<sup>st</sup> Haul Route Hearing. She described concerns about Laurel Canyon shutting down for months on and off; and since the work will likely not start in October, before rainy season, is asking for public input while they figure out how to do the haul route & get geology done.
  - *Gary* invited *Jamie* to bring a motion for the next meeting, and recommended while taking rat poisoning motion to WRAC, to also take a motion on this to WRAC, for support from the other NCs.
  - *Ramin Kolahi* advised against taking this to WRAC and noted an October Haul Route date doesn't give time to go to WRAC. He asked if this is this an effort to slow down someone from building buildable lots, and what would they find in a CEQA process that they can't find in a haul route hearing? - *Cassandra* did not believe the questions and issues raised would be answered in a haul route hearing. *Ramin* disagreed.
- r. **Status of digital signs/outdoor advertising & adoption of a letter RE: Summit Media Case on Digital Billboards in Los Angeles**" FYI: From last month, (inadvertently removed from agenda by Cathy; replaced per Gary) A letter in last month's agenda (re-prints available) had been sent to the City of L.A. by Barbara Broide, President of Westwood South of Santa Monica Blvd. HOA. Barbara provided update: "The request to remove the digital structures and/or the conventional original billboard structures that were there are still pending in the Superior Court in Judge Green's courtroom. There will be a new court date in October. However, while the courts are continuing their consideration, the City Council is being lobbied to keep the billboard signs, most likely in a revenue sharing situation with the City." *Gary* noted this is already at Council, and it was not discussed in tonight's meeting.
6. **Secretary's Report:** *Robin Greenberg* began to ask the Board, in the interest of obtaining accurate vote counts, since "**vote counts are very important,**" to please take the necessary time, raise hands high, and keep quiet during the count. However, due to time constraints, she was not able to complete her message. Board Members: Please give vote counts the awe and respect they deserve, by holding all comments, jocular or otherwise, until after the vote counts are securely over. This cannot be stressed enough.
7. **Treasurer Report:** *Alan Fine* stated we are 2-1/2 months into the new fiscal year; out of \$37,000 we have \$32,900 left; the main expenditure being getting Lloyd Staffing paid for Cathy's time (\$2,800 sent to City Hall, in hopes Lloyd Staffing gets paid because they haven't been paid for months).
- MOTION:** The BABCNC Board approves the Treasurer's Report as presented by *Alan Fine*. *Nickie* so moved and *Michael Kemp* seconded the motion. *Larry* called for the question. There were 12 yeas, no nays and no abstentions. (*Michael Chasteen*, *Irene Sandler* and *Nickie Miner* did not vote on this as they have not yet completed the required online funding training or the registration form for same).
8. **Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee – Charles Maginnis**
- Senior Lead Officer 8A29 - *Chris Ragsdale*, WLA Community Police Station – Not present
  - Senior Lead Officer - *Ralph Sanchez*, Hollywood Community Police Station – Not present
  - *Robert Ringler*, BABCNC VP, gave update from the WLA Police Department on crime statistics; noting that we're #9 in the City of L.A. in crime reduction.
  - *Chuck* announced that LAFD Captain, *Stacy Gerlich*, was honored at the White House, (Champion of Change for Community Preparedness and Resilience) and is no longer in charge of CERT for the City. She has a new important position.
  - The EP meeting of September 19<sup>th</sup>, had 18 present, including but not limited to *Tony Tucci*, *Larry Leisten* and *Irene Sandler*, four members of the LAFD, including Captain *Keith Scott* who took *Stacy Gerlich's* place, and the main Captain of the City of L.A., *Chris Cooper*, who said ours is a model for emergency preparedness. *Chuck* was invited to a Fire Chief's meeting, and took a few committee members, which had Commanders and Captains from the FBI, CA Highway Patrol, UCLA Police, EMS, VA Hospital, LAPD as well as the Getty.
  - *Tony Tucci* noted the EP meeting was well attended; he met *Rick Cole*, who makes incident maps, which LCA would like to have for their community. *Susan Reuben*, of the Holmby-Westwood Association, was mentioned and credited for having gotten over 60 volunteers for Block Captains, etc.

- *Chuck* noted that the minutes and pictures are available on the website.
- Discussion on the Emergency Notification (with Sign Up):  
*Chuck* reviewed the emergency notification system that he has been working on. He has 25 phone numbers, 16 emails, 5 interested in texts and another 2... from the Council. "Emergency Notification is a team effort where everyone is responsible for alarming everyone; it's not a few individuals being on alert to notify everyone else."
- *Chuck* is looking for 6 volunteers to be leaders to sound the alarm, and passed around a signup sheet, He can train, via a website and is looking for 1) people who are responsible to discuss with other group leaders if it is really an emergency, to pull the trigger or not, particularly in the middle of the night, and 2) they need people who can make a decision and be responsible.
- *Gary* followed up with Centurion, who are willing to assume responsibility... *Chuck* clarified this is regarding the ability of the 24/7 gate guards to notify the people on this list, and pull the trigger or not, if there is an emergency.
- *Irene* was concerned that some of this is misleading, and believes the Captain said they would let us know if they felt that there was an emergency because "we don't want people to panic," and if we know that they are to "shelter-in-place" that's different from saying "evacuate and evacuate now." *Irene* said it can be a double edged sword; to be very careful with notifying people and then just leaving them, "there's a fire."
- *Chuck* replied you say "there's a fire at such and such and give a half-a-minute voicemail message, similar to test message, and say what's going on so they can take action or not, turn on TV or not.
- *Larry Leisten* noted that Rick Cole is offering his time to put together an incident map.
- *Larry* found out his phone receives emergency broadcasts; e.g., Amber Alerts, Flash Floods, etc., and gets the same sound we're used to hearing on TV. He thinks this may be a good way to get notification. He said that *Captain Cooper* introduced a brochure of a notification system through LACounty.gov.
- *Larry* shared with his HOA manager what transpired at the EP meeting and suggested he invite Rick Cole to appear before the HOA Board re: incident mapping. He would also like to involve their security Patrol Service, when the system is in place, in addition to what they presently provide.
- *Tony Tucci* offered information on two programs we can all sign up for now for Emergency Notification:
- **1) The Los Angeles County program:** <http://www.lacounty.gov/wps/portal/alertla>
- **2) SNAP (special needs):** <https://snap.lacounty.gov/index.cfm?fuseaction=app.registrylogin>
- *Gary* would like these on the BABCNC website.
- *Don* mentioned "Reverse 911" which *Chuck* says doesn't work, per *Brian Humphrey*, LAPD.
- *Tony* stated that everyone in the County is a part of this program. You get specifics.
- *Larry* responded to *Chuck's* disclaimer, that BABCNC won't be liable for late or no notification regardless of the catastrophe, and says we are "the City of Los Angeles." He advised working with *Gary*, and *Carmen*, because "it's their liability not ours per se," and they should review this language.
- *Nickie* wanted to introduce *Marquis Olison* from [Nextdoor.com](http://Nextdoor.com), another notification system. – *Gary* acknowledged his excellent presentation, and if there were time, he could share.
- *Ramin* noted we are talking about very specialized items and there is some confusion but suggested we do a sign-up sheet through the webpage and send it out so anyone can log their information in that way. He could work with Aaron on it. - *Chuck* thanked *Ramin* for the clarification.
- *Tony* additionally emailed Hollywood Hills NC's EMS links: <http://www.hhwnc.org/node/52>

## 9. Planning and Land Use Committee (PLU) (*Ramin Kolahi*)

- *Ramin* gave report on PLU Committee meeting of 09/10/13, beginning with having passed the following motion, which he brings to the Board today.
- **2-PART MOTION: 1) To support WRAC's support of consolidation of the Planning & Building Departments, and, 2) To oppose any efforts to oppose that consolidation. Robert seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. There was one abstention (*Jamie Hall*). The motion passed.**  
(Of note, this motion includes but does not contain the same information as a WRAC motion below, as that motion involves "fees" and his does not.)
- Discussion on the above motion included:
- *Cassandra* is concerned about unintended consequences. *Ramin* noted that doesn't matter because planning conditions are not being enforced. "We think it's good because now there is no enforcement."
- Building inspectors can check planning conditions; it would foster communication.

- *Gary* noted at the WRAC meeting, it was mentioned that each department has their own heads and own computers which do not talk to each other. The gentleman there strongly recommended an interface; and stated the only negative is that people are afraid of losing their jobs.
- **PLU Project Updates:** None at the last meeting; however, *Ramin* thanked *Jamie* and *Michael Kemp* for taking on a couple of cases that are coming through. People were welcomed to the meetings.
- **8150 Sunset Blvd Project:** *Ramin* reported that there is a Town Hall style meeting right now with the applicants on the massive project at Crescent Heights and Sunset, just outside our borders, but we've been engaging with Hollywood Hills West NC to coordinate and help keep our residents informed of what's happening there. *Ramin* noted that it is a big project, a long process, with EIR, etc., and he is not sure if it will be brought to our PLU, but the committee is bringing awareness to our constituents in the hills.
- *Tony* would like to hear anything about Scoping Meeting results, which *Ramin* stated is for a draft EIR, and *Tony* and *Jamie* will be going to that meeting.
- **360 Stone Canyon:** *Ramin* met with *Victor Marmon*, Attorney for a few of the neighbors. He spoke to *Shawn Bayliss* about it: the 245 rule was used earlier in the year. Our Council opposed the variance request prior to *Ramin's* time, and all they've done to date is reiterate that same position and have not taken it to Land Use a second time. Time ran out to bring it to PLUM, so they effectively sent it back to APC to hear it again, and now used the 245 rule a second time. *Ramin* feels comfortable with what the Councilmember's use of that was, but wanted to keep everyone informed.
- **Outreach:** *Ramin* asked for help to recruit new Members to the PLU Committee.

#### 10. West Los Angeles Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) – *Robin Greenberg*

- *Robin* reported on results of the WRAC meeting of 09/18/2013, and presented motions to the BABCNC Board today for votes (except for the murals & billboards motions) as follows.

**DWP Owens Valley Motion** – Special Guest Speaker, *Dr. Jim Enstrom* (See Exhibit "B")

**MOTION** (as presented by WRAC): **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."**

- *Robin* introduced *Dr. Enstrom* for further discussion on this subject.
- *Travis Longcore* noted the point of order on this being a settled case, for reconsideration, and after parliamentarian, *John Amato*, confirmed the point of order, it was determined that since no one who had voted against this at the time of the last vote had reconsidered, no one was qualified to bring the motion back for reconsideration; therefore, **there was no motion**.
- Lengthy discussion did ensue on this, which included note from *Don Loze's* that WRAC has studied this issue and has come to its conclusion, and as a Neighborhood Council, we would like to advise the DWP that enough money has been spent. *Don* is in favor of supporting the conclusions of WRAC, and demonstrating our cooperation with them. He opined as a Council, it would be helpful to support WRAC and to have some ability to ask WRAC to support us when we need it.
- *Jamie* emphasized that we have a moral, ethical and legal obligation to right a wrong that was made over 100 years ago.
- *Dr. Enstrom* stated the basic problem is that rate payers and NC's have not gotten a chance to learn about what has been going on in the last 15 years, and with the new Board which takes office next month, there will be opportunity for them to scrutinize these things differently than they have in the past. He has been working with NC's in the Valley, who have more understanding of this issue, as the entire Valley was made possible because of the aqueduct. The population in 1913 was 350,000 it's now more than 10 x that, and water is a critical factor for life in this City.
- For further information on this subject, he recommended reading an L.A. Weekly article from 7 years ago by Jeffrey Anderson, called the "Eternal Dust Bowl – Paying for the Sins of LA's Water Barons Has Created a Half-Billion Dollar Boondoggle" – written when it was half a billion dollars; it's now up to 1.2B and headed to 2B. He stated it is not justified by public health concerns; it's a very complicated issue, but should be understood by the NC's and rate payers, and believes the new Board members will give this fair consideration. He will not come back to this NC but will work with other NCs, and believes they can get this fully understood by the rate payers and NCs.

**MOTION (as passed by WRAC): To support Rate Payer Advocate's recommendation to support additional cost evaluations for future tranches of the FiT100 program." [No motion made.]**

- Discussion on the above motion, as presented by *Robin*, and written by *Dr. Pickel*, ratepayer advocate included: *Dr. Pickel* supports additional cost evaluation of the DWP. - *Travis Longcore*, Ph.D., explained the FiT program, (Feed in Tariff) to encourage local generation of solar energy, as a program targeted to a certain-size of solar generation which is not the huge desert solar but more local. He said that the complaint the ratepayer advocate has about it is that the amount that the DWP is paying is too high. *Travis* stated that the rate payer advocate's analysis doesn't consider costs of transmission lines or environmental consequences of paving the desert with solar panels; that his is a strictly economic analysis of a multi-dimensional question, of what priority you put on generating solar local in the City versus on habitat lands that humans have lived on for 10,000 years and have plants on them that have been here since the time Columbus set foot on this continent, and paving those over with solar panels. *Travis* is willing to pay extra for encouraging solar that doesn't have to be distributed over long distances. He thinks it's micromanaging to get to this at the NC level. - *Gary* clarified this is to support evaluating whether or not the cost of the program makes sense.

**MOTION: (as resolved by WRAC): To support a Metro Rail Station on the Crenshaw Line (that could serve as an additional station for the Green Line) at the Intermodal Transit Facility (ITF) proposed for LAX. Robin presented the motion and Michael Kemp seconded. Discussion ensued. Robert called for the question. There was none opposed, one abstention (Mike Chasteen), and the motion passed.**

- Of note, this station will be near the airport at Airport & 98<sup>th</sup> Street. There is no station at the airport at this time. A people mover will connect with this.

**MOTION: (as passed by WRAC): To support the consolidation of departments, per Council File 13-0046. WRAC believes that to fully implement the consolidation, it is necessary to establish a financing mechanism (or fee) to grow the Condition Compliance and Code Enforcement Units.**

- *Robin* presented this motion. Discussion ensued as follows: *Jamie* asked why we can't just support the continued exploration before micromanaging specifically what they should be doing; we should wait for the report. *Ramin* supported WRAC in his motion; however, this includes a "fee" for new developments to grow the Condition Compliance and Code Enforcement units. *Ramin* thinks this is a little misguided because he is not sure how it will play out. We have already supported this motion except for the "fee side." *Larry* noted that a fee is a financing mechanism, and thinks the motion may be more appropriate if "(or fee)" was scratched out and left it just "financing mechanism." *Chuck* called the question. Noted was that if we do not support the fee, then we've already approved the motion. **There is therefore no motion on this at this time.**

**MOTION: (as passed by WRAC): That each Council within WRAC should pass a motion requiring that Traffic and Parking be considered in the discussion and presentation of new building projects including all CEQA projects per Senate Bill 731.**

- *Robin* presented this motion. *John Amato* so moved, and *Larry Leisten* seconded. Discussion ensued, the question was called. There were objections to calling the question, for need of more discussion. However, the vote was taken, with 3 opposed (*Michael, Michael* and *Ramin*); 1 abstention by *Chuck*) and the motion passed.
- Discussion on the above was begun by *Jamie Hall* who explained the Senate Bill 731 as part of the "CEQA Reform." Traffic and Parking were removed as normally considered under CEQA for large-scale projects, which he feels is a bad thing, as this is something we care about the most in L.A., while developers don't want to think about those issues for infill projects. This motion says that notwithstanding that new law, we want our City to consider parking and transportation when they consider new projects.
- **Passed by WRAC:** Billboards motion (No further action needed at this time.)
- **Passed by WRAC:** Murals motion Version "B" (No need to vote on this evening.)

## 11. Outreach Committee Report – *Robin Greenberg*



*Robin* provided printouts of various items for the meeting. She also has included the photos taken at the last meeting on the webpage.

## 12. Bylaws & Rules Committee Report – *Larry Leisten*

- *Larry* gave report on the September 18<sup>th</sup> Bylaws meeting, at which *Amber* was present for the latter part. To summarize *Larry's* comments, the purpose of the meeting was to respond to feedback from Empowerment regarding changing the governmental structure; under what conditions do we create publically elected seats on our Board?"
- *Larry* feels it makes sense for everyone in the entire Council to vote, with respect to business,
- and there is a question of whether the educational institutions position should be transformed into a publically elected position, and who can run and who can vote.
- *Larry* is asking for input, and is trying to build consensus.
- *Larry* received an email from *Jamie* with suggestions on the working documents that he distributed to the Board, and thinks some of them are good; he reflected one of the comments in the minutes.
- Last month *Gary* indicated what *DONE* was telling us with respect to publically-elected and privately selected or internally selected appointed representatives. There is no requirement. We get feedback from *DONE*. The goal is, when we submit to *DONE*, that they will support it in a recommendation, because all of our application is going before the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners. He would like to do what is needed to become part of the City. *Larry* is looking for comments that will be moving this forward.
- *Larry* has gotten survey results from Survey Monkey that addresses a lot of the issues we're facing now as a NC, such as subdivisions. We're looking to create internal districts, for publically elected seats; rules for bettering Board selections.
- *Larry* noted that *Amber* advised that the Bylaws need to address how representatives of homeowner groups/associations are selected/elected by their associations. In other words, it must be transparent by being expressed in the Bylaws. This is separate and apart from publically selected/elected seats.
- *Jamie* stressed the importance of representation at this table, and that everyone attend the bylaws meeting. *Jamie* got a lot out of the last meeting.
- *Tony* said we can be unique and special, in our largely residential territory, follow our own path, and he encouraged everyone especially Benedict Canyon to attend.
- It was pointed out by *Don* that Bel Air Association was missing. *Larry* said it will be a district which will be publically elected. *Chuck* said there are 2700 residents there, and *Maureen Smith*, who couldn't make it tonight, but who is interested.

## 13. Council District 5 Report – *Gurmet Khara*, Field Deputy CD5, with *Paul Koretz's* Office

- *Gurmet* related that the Curtis School Hearing has been continued to October or December. She will get us information (which *Gary* will provide to *Ramin*) on what they're intending to do, traffic impact, when it will start, and how it will impact the 405 construction. They are going to double the size physically. *Irene* and *John* noted they are adding students and facilities but not 7-12, which would cause issue with kids driving. *Ramin* said it could be brought to the Land Use Committee, though we're not in that area.

- **We're having *Joan Pelico* and *Fortuna* here at our next meeting**, and *Gurmet* is invited to invite her stakeholders to the meeting, to send questions in 10 days beforehand, so they can research and have answers available.

- *Robert* clarified that ***Fortuna* is the Managing Supervisor of Section Head of I405 Improvement Project**, while ***Joan* is Chief Deputy of CD5** and will speak on CD5 issues.

- *Andre* asked about the Four Oaks Restaurant that was discussed with *Noah* at a prior meeting; said restaurant had no work permit, but is now seen to have a lot of activity. A restaurant newsletter indicated a chef has been named and people believe there's going to be a new restaurant.

- *Gurmet* announced **CD5 & CD6 are hosting a free event on 11/07/13 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at Balboa Recreational Center with senior activities** with free food and exercise activities, to increase awareness of health concerns. She handed out flyers on this event.

## 14. Council District 4 Report - Field Deputy & Deputy of Housing & Transportation - *Sharon Shapiro* – Not Present / No report.

## 15. Traffic Committee Report & Police Advisory Board Report – *Robert A. Ringler*

**Next LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee: Wednesday October 9, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.** at the West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue.

- 16. Ad-hoc “I-405 Sepulveda Widening Improvement Project” (405 Sepulveda Expansion) (Irene Sandler)**  
*Irene* related that the area is being worked on once again. The area that is the Skirball Bridge, the on-off ramp area, is no longer going to be the on-off ramp area for southbound only traffic; that means going to or from the Valley. Those ramps are being moved down 1500 feet onto Sepulveda right near Mountaingate. The issue is that all of that traffic that did get off at Skirball will now be getting off on Sepulveda. The community has worked with Metro to get a dedicated lane for those cars exiting and going toward the Skirball area, which would be all of Encino, Bel Air, Sherman Oaks, etc., will all be dumped there with no extra lane, because there will be several months intervening before the extra lane is built. They will open it next week. She would hope that if she sends you all an email that you will give her some reaction so we have a place to go when we have our community meetings, which we will.
- 17. Private and Public Schools News – None.**
- 18. New Business/General Announcements – None.**
- 19. Motion to Adjourn Meeting passed unanimously, and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.**

**NEXT BABCNC MEETING: October 23, 2013**