



Building A Better Community



**BEL AIR-BEVERLY CREST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
 Minutes of October 23, 2013 Meeting @ American Jewish University

APPROVED

Persons in Attendance: 17

Quorum: 12

2013 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
<b>Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association</b>		
Irene Sandler	X	
<b>Bel Air Ridge HOA</b>		
Andre Stojka	X	
<b>Benedict Canyon Association</b>		
Alan Fine	X	
Don Loze	X	
Nickie Miner	X	
Michael Chasteen		X
<b>Casiano Estates Association</b>		
Gary Plotkin	X	
<b>Faith-Based Organizations</b>		
Lonnie Mayfield		X
<b>K-6 Private Schools</b>		
Vicki Kelly	X	
<b>K-5 Public Schools</b>		
None – pending		
<b>7-12 Private Schools</b>		
John Amato	X	
<b>Laurel Canyon Association</b>		
Jamie Hall	X	
Cassandra Barrere		X
Monica Weil	X	
Tony Tucci	X	
<b>Members-at-Large</b>		
Larry Leisten	X	
Chuck Maginnis		X
<b>Residents of Beverly Glen</b>		
Ramin Kolahi	X	
Robert A. Ringler	X	

<b>Roscomare Valley Association</b>		
<i>Robin Greenberg</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Michael Kemp</i>	<b>X</b>	
<b>Save Our Strip: Pending</b>		
<b>Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy</b>		
<i>Travis Longcore, Ph.D.</i>	<b>X</b>	

**From DONE:** *Amber Meshack, Project Director:* **Not present**  
**From CD5 Office:** *Noah Muhlstein, Planning Deputy:* **Present**  
*Gurmet Khara:* **Not Present**  
*Jeff Edelstein:* **Not Present**  
**From CD4 Office:** *Sharon Shapiro, Deputy:* **Not Present**

Guests present included Marina Martos, Shawn Gold, LC resident and Robert Stanley, LC resident, all here for a land use matter; Maureen K. Smith, who is working with Chuck Maginnis on Emergency Preparedness, Bill Roen, President of Casiano HOA, in addition to special guest speakers, Fortuna Ippoliti and Ayda Safaei and Erika Estrada, with the with the Metro 405 Construction Project and Sepulveda Pass Project, as well as Joan Pelico, Chief of Staff with Councilmember Paul Koretz, of CD5.

1. **Call to order & Roll Call:** Board Meeting was called to order by President, *Gary Plotkin*, at 7:40 pm. Roll was called by Secretary, *Robin Greenberg*. There were 17 were present; a quorum of 12 was met.
2. **The Pledge of Allegiance** was recited.
3. **Motion to approve the September 25, 2013 Minutes** was made by *Robert Ringler*, seconded by *Larry Leisten*, and unanimously approved with minor changes by *Larry Leisten* to the Bylaws report.
4. **Approval of tonight's Draft Agenda**  
*Larry Leisten* moved to approve tonight's draft agenda; *Andre Stojka* seconded, and the draft agenda was unanimously approved.
5. **Public Comments** There were no non-agendized public comments.
6. **Agendas, September's draft minutes and other written materials** were available.
7. **President's Report – Gary Plotkin**
  - 7.1 **FAST TRACK:**
    - a. **Report on Breakfast with Paul Koretz – Gary Plotkin**  
The Board has received a copy of the breakfast report, and as there are no objections, said report is deemed submitted. (*Guest, Joan Pelico, reviewed items discussed with Paul Koretz below.*)
    - b. **Update on Search for Replacement of Carla Cretaro, of K-5 Public Schools.** No one yet found.
    - c. **Update and Discussion on Board Retreat – Don Loze, Chair –** No retreat until the bylaws are done according to EmpowerLA (DONE).
    - d. **Update on Status of Fire Safety Signs – Andre Stojka –** No update. Deferred until November.
    - e. **Update on BSL LED Conversion Program – Travis Longcore, Ph.D.** No motion or update.
      - (e.1.) **Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Report (New Regular Item on the Agenda) – Travis Longcore, Ph.D.:** Travis related the top issues for SMMC are: 1) the garage expansion at Harvard Westlake, for which they have submitted a letter; 2) the Curtis School expansion; 3) the Hidden Creek development north of Chatsworth near Porter Ranch, which annexes new land into the City; 4) recently acquiring parcels in Cahuenga Pass at auction, and other open space parcels, and, 5) banning rodenticides (have supported it in the past but haven't yet taken a formal position on the current proposal that BABCNC supported in September).
    - f. **Update on Mail Chimp – Ramin Kolahi** (see Agenda Item #9 below)

- g. **Revised AGF Ordinance Relating to Cell Pole Installations with Recommended Changes by PPCC, Possible Motion to Support** – *Gary Plotkin*  
Deferred to November due to need for more information.
- h. **Update on Slope Failure Mitigation Measures on Laurel Canyon Blvd.** - *Jamie Hall*. *Jamie* gave report on the haul route hearing at which LCA members, including *Tony* and *Jamie* along with members of the HHWNC, Councilman *La Bonge* and *Jonathan Brand* attended. He reported that the project will go through; however, there will be a second hearing.
- i. **Sept. 28th Congress of Neighborhood Councils at City Hall:** Board members, *Tony Tucci*, *Jamie Hall*, *Alan Fine* and *Andre Stojka* attended. *Cathy*, Administrator, attended. It was noted by all to be informative, worthwhile, and recommended for next time, for those interested in expanding their understanding of the working relationship between NCs and the City.
- j. **MOTION** was presented by *Larry Leisten* to expand the jurisdiction and modify the name of the Bylaws & Rules Committee to include “Elections”. This was seconded by *John Amato*; the question was called and the motion passed unanimously.
  - **MOTION** was presented by *Larry Leisten* to nominate and cause Board to vote to approve new members to the Bylaws, Rules and Elections Committee, was seconded by *Irene Sandler*, and passed unanimously.
  - **MOTION** to Nominate the following Board members to the Bylaws, Rules and Elections Committee was moved by *Vicki Kelly*, seconded by *Irene Sandler*, and unanimously passed by the Board:
    - *Jamie Hall*
    - *Robin Greenberg*
    - *Don Loze*
    - *Nickie Miner*
    - *Michael Kemp*
    - *Andre Stojka*
    - *Ramin Kolahi*

Of note, these 7 NEW members will be added to the 5 existing members (*Gary*, *Robert*, *John Amato*, and *Larry*) for a total of 12 members. A quorum of 6 is necessary to hold a meeting, with Chair not voting only to break tie.

- 8. **Planning and Land Use Committee (PLU)** – *Ramin Kolahi*
  - **MOTION** to approve *Michael Kemp* as Chair of Planning & Land Use Committee was made by *Ramin Kolahi*. *Larry Leisten* seconded. There was no opposition. *Michael Kemp* was unanimously approved as new Chair of the Planning & Land Use Committee.
  - **2166 N. Stanley Hills Drive & 2170 N. Stanley Hills Drive** – Deferred to next month.
  - **8467 Brier Drive:** **MOTION** was presented by *Ramin* To support the applicant's request for relief from Municipal Code: Section 12.21-C.10(i)2 as conditioned in ZA 2003-2004 to not require the widening of Brier Drive from the Property to the Hillside Boundary. The motion was seconded by *Robert Ringler*. Board Discussion ensued and *Larry Leisten* called for the question. There was one opposed and no abstentions. The Motion Passed as Amended as follows: As opened by *Ramin*, that BABCNC support the applicant's request at 8467 Brier Drive for relief from condition of improving the road from 20 feet, based on the following:
    1. That the applicant agrees to improve the unimproved areas of Brier Drive.
    2. That there is significant community support.
    3. That the section of frontage less than 20 feet is minor in nature.
  - **New Cases: (not discussed)**
    - 1602 N. Clearview Drive – Tabled per BCA
    - 2620 N. Wallingford Drive – De Minimus request
    - 1255 Angelo Drive – Resident attended meeting, Waiver of Tract Map, does not seem to be piecemeal development, no issues.
    - 1814 N. Doheny Drive – De Minimus request
    - 1210 Wetherly Drive – *Jaime Hall* assigned to case
  - **Current Cases: (not discussed)**
    - 944 Airole Way & 11201 N. Chalon Road – *Michael Kemp* communicating with applicant

- 10453 W. Sandal Lane – *Ramin Kolahi* waiting for applicant to respond to road widening concern.

**9. MOTION #1 on Email Communication Rules and Practices** is presented by *Ramin Kolahi* as follows:

1. Proposed content (including links, images, files etc.) of the email are to be sent to the President and Vice President for consideration at least five (5) days prior to the proposed date of email.
2. The President or Vice President will notify the Board member of any proposed changes or disapproval within two (2) days of receipt of the proposed email.
3. If President or Vice President approve the email content without any changes, the President and/or Vice President will cause the email to be submitted to the webmaster for distribution on the date proposed by the Board member.
4. If the proposing Board member accepts the proposed changes by the President or Vice President, then the revised proposed email is deemed approved and the President or Vice President will cause the email to be submitted to the webmaster for distribution on the date proposed by the Board member.
5. If the proposing Board member does not accept the proposed changes by the President or Vice President, then the proposing Board member may request a special meeting of the Executive Committee to review the proposed changes and the decision of the Executive Committee will be final, subject to override by the full Board.
6. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Chairs of Standing Committee may submit agendas of Regular or Special Meetings within four (4) days of the proposed email distribution date. If the President or Vice President do not object to the proposed email content within one (1) day, the proposed email is deemed approved and the Chair can submit the email to the webmaster for distribution, subject to comments from webmaster with regards to formatting.

The President or Vice President can designate a Board member to make the determinations necessary above in their place by notifying the proposing Board member.

**DISCUSSION:** *Larry Leisten* inquired as to the language of the motion; discussion revealed the motion is with regard to email blasts to “stakeholders.” *Larry* requested clarification of the language and to continue this until next time. The question was called by *Robert*, who clarified the motion is a filter; *Gary* added further clarification and recommended voting.

**VOTE on MOTION #1:** Motion was seconded by *Robert*; 9 yeas, 4 nays, and 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

**MOTION #2** (Associated with above Email Communication Rules and Practices): *Ramin* moved to have *Aaron DeVandry*, Webmaster, manage Mail Chimp at \$20.00/email blast, up to \$120.00/month. This was seconded by *Robert Ringler*; question was called. There were 8 yeas, (*Jamie Hall*, *Travis Longcore*, *Robert Ringler*, *Alan Fine*, *Michael Kemp*, *John Amato*, *Vicki Kelly* and *Robin Greenberg*); there were 3 opposed (*Tony Tucci*, *Larry Leisten* and *Andre Stojka*), and 1 abstention (*Don Loze*). Not voting/ineligible 5 (*Monica Weil*, *Irene Sandler*, *Nickie Miner*, *Ramin Kolahi*, and *the President*.) The motion passed.

**10. Secretary’s Report – Robin Greenberg**

**11. Treasurer Report – Alan Fine**

- Vote to approve Treasurer’s Report: 11 voted in favor (*Alan Fine*, *John Amato*, *Don Loze*, *Robin Greenberg*, *Jamie Hall*, *Tony Tucci*, *Travis Longcore*, *Andre Stojka*, *Robert Ringler*, *Vicki Kelly* and *Michael Kemp*.) There was 1 abstention (*Larry Leisten*) and none were in opposition. Not voting/ineligible: 5 (*Monica Weil*, *Irene Sandler*, *Nickie Miner*, *Ramin Kolahi*, and *the President*.) The Treasurer’s Report was approved.

**12. Ad-hoc “I-405 Sepulveda Widening Improvement Project” - Irene Sandler.** *Irene* announced that this Friday there is a Segment 3 meeting. She reported on an Emergency Community Advisory Committee meeting that met to rubberstamp one of three designs, a change from what they had voted on, for two walls in Westwood, one 70’, and one 40’ on Sepulveda, owned by the City of LA. *Irene* produced a sample design, felt to be too busy by *Paul Koretz*. Also considered was portraiture. The vote was to have nothing in the center. There were concerns about graffiti on the part of homeowners.

**13. Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee – Chuck Maginnis – Not Present**

- Senior Lead Officer 8A29 - *Chris Ragsdale*, WLA Community Police Station – Not present
- Senior Lead Officer - *Ralph Sanchez*, Hollywood Community Police Station – Not present

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

- Robin presented the WRAC- approved motion as follows:  
**MOTION:** Educational Equity and Achievement for All Title 1 Students Resolution (for Action November 12, 2013): WRAC recommends that the Governing Board of the LA Unified School District directs the superintendent to lower the Title 1 eligibility threshold back to 40% with 3 tiers of funding that increase with need: 40-50%, 50-65%, and 65 to 100%. This motion was passed by WRAC. *Travis* moved to support this motion. *Tony* seconded. There were two abstentions. The motion passed.
- Reason to support included enabling more children/schools to come under Title 1 School funding; to give children free lunch and/or breakfast at school, so they will have at least one meal a day.

**15. Outreach Committee Report – Robin Greenberg**

**16. Bylaws & Rules Committee Report and 2 Motions – Larry Leisten (As noted above)**

**17. Council District 5 Report – Planning Deputy, Noah Muhlstein, gave report:**

- Project at **Four Oaks Restaurant location, 2181 No Beverly Glen**, is to open an organic wellness restaurant with possible yoga and cooking classes. Z-Admin is waiting for a report from Building and Safety; will then take evidence and see if enough to bring applicant in for plan approval or review for the Zone variance that they have on hand. A stop order was issued and they are to comply. (*Noah* welcomes emails on nuisances.)
- **4214 Seabright:** Street Services will survey and confirm location of staircase in right of way to be removed by year's end.
- **Restriping Beverly Glen and Sunset** has been requested.
- *Noah* will look into northbound **Bus Stop at Getty** safety issue.

**18. Council District 4 Report - Field Deputy & Deputy of Housing and Transportation - Sharon Shapiro**  
No report given.

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

**Next LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee: Wednesday November 13, 2013 at 8:30 a.m.** at the West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue.

**20. Private and Public Schools News -** No report given.

**21. Special Guests, Fortuna Ippoliti, Construction Relations Manager, Ayda Safaei, Construction Relations Officer for Segment 3 of the Metro-405 Construction Project, and Erika Estrada, in charge of Segments 1 and 2 of the Sepulveda Pass Project** gave updates on their respective Metro projects. They have an important community meeting November 7<sup>th</sup>. Freeway and bridge openings and closures were discussed in detail. Noted is that the City of LA does not put in sidewalks. *Gary* thanked the ladies for coming and giving update.

**22. Welcome Special Guest, Joan Pelico, Paul Koretz's Chief of Staff of CD5, reporting on the City.** *Joan* gave update on a variety of issues. She mentioned the breakfast meeting between *Paul Koretz* and members of the BABCNC Board; that he would like to have these meetings 3-4 times a year. She'll try to set up a meeting with *Michael Logrande*, and speak with Street Services in April to give a wish list. She mentioned that each Council District gets 18 miles a year to repave.

**23. New Business/General Announcements:** *Gary* announced a special meeting is planned for a Wednesday in November with *Amber*, City Attorney and a person from the Board of Commissioners, for the Bylaws. *Don* will be out until 11/10 or 11/12.

**24. Motion to Adjourn Meeting adjourned at 9:17.**

**NEXT BABCNC MEETING: November 20, 2013 at the Mulholland Tennis Club**