



Building A Better Community

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General Meeting Minutes (Approved)
Wednesday July 23, 2014 7:00-9:00 p.m
American Jewish University 15600 Mulholland Drive Bel Air, CA 90077

Present: 17

Quorum: 12

2014 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association		
Irene Sandler	X	
Bel Air Ridge HOA		
Andre Stojka	X	
Benedict Canyon Association		
Michael Chasteen	X	
Alan Fine	X	
Don Loze*	X	
Nickie Miner	X	
Casiano Estates Association		
Gary Plotkin	X	
Faith-Based Organizations		
Lonnie Mayfield	X	
K-6 Private Schools		
Vicki Kelly		X
K-5 Public Schools – Open Seat Pending		
7-12 Private Schools		
John Amato		X
Laurel Canyon Association		
Jamie Hall	X	
Cassandra Barrere		X
Monica Weil		X
Tony Tucci	X	
Members-at-Large		
Larry Leisten	X	
Chuck Maginnis	X	

2013 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
Residents of Beverly Glen		
<i>Robert A. Ringler</i>	X	
<i>Dan Palmer, Alternate**</i>	X	
Roscomare Valley Association		
<i>Robin Greenberg</i>	X	
<i>Michael Kemp</i>	X	
Save Our Strip: Pending		
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy		
<i>Travis Longcore, Ph.D.</i>	X	
Total:	17	4

City Officials

From DONE: *Thomas Soong*, Project Director: Not Present
 From CD5 Office: *Jeff Ebenstein*, Field Deputy: Not Present
Noah Muhlstein, Planning Deputy: Not Present
Gurmet Khara, Council Deputy: Not Present
Shawn Bayliss, Director PLU: Not Present
 From CD4 Office: *Sharon Shapiro*, Deputy: Not Present

Guests Who Signed In:

- *Bruce Kuyper*
- *Katherine Bard (speaker card)*
- *Renata Zerner*
- *Dan Love, Bel Air Alliance (speaker card)*
- *Carolyn Ramsay, Carolyn Ramsay for City Council (speaker card)*
- *Patricia Bell Hearst*
- *Maureen Krawzyk-Smith, Bel Air*
- *Richard Pearson, BGR (speaker card)*
- *Jeff Franklin*
- *Maureen Levinson, BAHA*
- *Hildreth L. Simmons, RoBG*
- *Tom Buttgenbach*
- *Joannie Pearson*
- *Suzanne Greene*

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. **Call to Order:** Council President, *Gary Plotkin*, called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.
2. **Roll** was called by Secretary, *Robin Greenberg*. By 7:10, 14 were present at 7:13, 16 were present, and with the addition of alternate, Dan Palmer, a total of 17 were present with a quorum of 12 met.
**Don Loze* completed funding training prior to meeting; DONE's website was updated.
***Dan Palmer*, Residents of Beverly Glen, produced an appointment letter from his association for the second seat of RBG, until their annual meeting in October 2014.
3. **The Pledge of Allegiance**

While awaiting a quorum, Gary shared his appreciation of everyone on this NC, thanking everyone for making his job as President easier.

Robert Ringler announced “**National Night Out – America’s Night Out Against Crime**” coming up on **Tuesday August 5, 2014, 5 to 8 pm @ Stoner Park Recreation Center**; great for families with free BBQ & refreshments, rides, face painting, etc. Put on by WLA Community Police Department. For further information, call WLA PD Community Relations Office: 310-444-0735.

4. **Approval of June 25, 2014 Minutes of General Meeting:** Robert Ringler moved, Larry Leisten seconded; 10 yeas by Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore; 0 nays, 2 abstentions by Jamie Hall & Andre Stojka who were not here last month; and the minutes were approved.

[Chuck Maginnis arrived.]

5. **(Agenda #6, taken out of order) Approval of June 25, 2014 Minutes of Special Meeting:** Robert Ringler moved, Larry Leisten seconded; 10 yeas by Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Tony Tucci, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore; 0 nays, 3 abstentions by Jamie Hall, Andre Stojka and Larry Leisten who were not present for the special meeting, and the minutes were approved.
6. **(Agenda #5, taken out of order) Approval of July 23, 2014 Agenda:** Robert Ringler moved, Larry Leisten seconded; 13 yeas by Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore; 0 nays, 0 abstentions; agenda was unanimously approved.

7. Public Comments – Agendized & Non-agendized

Katherine Bard: A buyer bought the property at **10220 Scenario Lane** to demolish the small house on the property to build two large houses on the property with swimming pools that will loom over Katherine Bard’s home on the street below. Katherine and neighbors have concerns about large-scale construction on a narrow street with steep hillside, congestion, grading, haul routes with no alternative exit for residents in the neighborhood, mudslides, landslides and fires in that sensitive terrain. She pointed out that a resident died in a fire in that inaccessible portion of the hillsides because of difficulty fire truck had in reaching the residence. Gary referred Katherine to Michael Kemp as the point person who will help follow up on this with her. Nickie Miner volunteered to assist. Robert Ringler recommended taking it to the RBG board & Hillside Federation.

Commented [AR1]: Interesting, but doesn’t go in the minutes unless this information was reported at the meeting

Dan Love: Dan noted that last week Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) passed motion that passed here with respect to the out of control development issues in the hills, specifically in Bel Air. (WRAC’s motion stated that WRAC supports the establishment of emergency measures to control excessive truck activities in the hillsides, including the enforcement and monitoring of permits, haul routes and truck staging areas on the Westside of Los Angeles.)

- Dan referred to one project, in which 40,000 cubic yards of dirt were removed for a 40,000 sq foot basement, for a single family home which is 96,000 sq feet; twice the size of the Bel Air Hotel, and that an owner/ developer got permits without going through a commercial review process, no environmental impact review and little or no consultation with neighbors.

- He noted there have been 8,000 truck trips up and down Stradella and Sarbonne; there’s a haul route on Stone Canyon that represents 30,000 cubic yards of dirt removed, and 6,000 truck trips on Stone Canyon.

- Dan noted that this motion addresses our loss of public safety on our streets; there were two accidents today, with trucks, including an accident on Stone Canyon where a car flipped over. These are narrow streets that people drive too fast on; and accidents happen on those streets, let alone having 10-wheelers on both sides.

- He referenced lack of oversight of the Council’s office and the City, DBS cannot enforce rules; do not have

manpower or will to enforce haul routes. Developers are overwhelming the neighborhoods.

- He noted that the City is not looking at the totality of the number of projects. Gary has asked the City to draw up maps of these haul routes in Bel Air & Beverly Glen. Dan recently saw 46 10-wheeler trucks at the top of Mulholland & Beverly Glen and 67 10-wheeler trucks at Sepulveda by cemetery.

- Dan is asking that safety and security be restored to the neighborhoods, that the City provide oversight and coordination. He has a long list of specific suggestions that Joan Pelico, Gary and himself and others have worked on, and asked: "Why are we removing a million cubic yards of dirt in the last seven years?" The entire ridgeline from lower to upper Linda Flora is being destroyed; they are building a private driveway and 10-foot retaining walls on either side. Mitigating factors will probably not be enough. We need the City to reduce or eliminate these allowed diggings in our neighborhoods.

- Robert Ringler related that he came across four to five projects while jogging, saw two trucks that couldn't pass and 100 trucks in less than an hour, at the top of Bel Air by Nimes Rd, which also caused pollution from the diesel exhaust. He pointed out that this must be seen to be believed.

- Gary related that we need 1) developers to meet and coordinate the number of hauls a day; 2) have to have a map with each project pinpointed on the map, how much hauling and procedures; 3) rules to control the development until getting a City ordinance (which will take 9-12 months). He wants Building & Safety to come up with emergency rules & hopes to get City Attorney on it this week.

- Gary asked the Board and stakeholders to please take pictures and send them to Dan & himself and look at the Beverly Hills Courier and a video that Dan produced.

Carolyn Ramsay, "Carolyn Ramsay for City Council" – www.carolynramsey.com.

- Ms. Ramsay is a candidate running for Tom LaBonge's Council District 4 seat. She has worked for Tom LaBonge as Chief of Staff, before that, as his Deputy Chief of Staff, and before that as Communications Director, previously having been Neighborhood Association President in Winsor Square. She loves working in public service and has worked on a lot of projects in neighborhoods to address specific needs, and wants to do that as Councilperson. She is working on delimitations to limit the scale of development in addition to what the Baseline Hillside Mansionization Ordinance allows & recently introduced a motion for Laurel Canyon. She is sensitive to development in hillsides.

- Gary asked about CD4 contact person, she believes it is Jonathan Brand and will speak to him.

- Ms. Ramsay is available to discuss limitations on development.

Richard Pearson: Mr. Pearson has lived in the Glen for 25+ years & his family has lived in the canyon since before the '50s. He has concerns about trucks backing up before 6:00 a.m.; states there is no way out of Oletha Lane. He asked for a list of what we are handling, complications and completions. Gary related that we are in the process of filing a report with the City, and it will be online; a narrative of what we're doing, where we are, what the complications are and where our attentions are moving forward. Richard stated that this is his first time here in 25 years of living here. He asked Ms. Ramsay about limitations to which she replied that this is about limiting the scale of development on a particular parcel to be consistent with the neighborhood.

[Irene Sandler, Lonnie Mayfield & Dan Palmer arrived prior to the Treasurer's report.]

8. (Agendas, brochures, & public service handouts available)

9. (Agenda #11 taken out of order) Treasurer Report & Funding Expenditure Requests –. (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action) – Alan Fine

a. Ad-Hoc Special Committee on Financial Surplus – J. Hall, Chair & Fine, Treasurer
Update & Discuss changing from "Ad-Hoc Special" Committee to "Standing" Committee

- Alan asked if this could become a standing committee. Bylaws Chair, Larry Leisten, stated that the committee can only be changed in the Bylaws. (Larry noted that Grayce at DONE was off for a week after having been involved in an accident; that he expects the recently submitted Bylaws to be looked at when she returns.) Jamie agreed with Alan, and asked that we come back to the next meeting with

thoughts as to worthwhile projects and plan for the surplus.

- Gary gave an executive order to **reinstitute the Ad-Hoc Committee, ending June 30, 2015**. *Jamie* agreed to continue to be the Chair. *Jamie* noted mismanagement and consequent waste of our resources, namely, our brainpower, because of the bureaucracy.
- *Jamie* encouraged the Board to bring ideas on how to spend these funds to his committee.

b. Overview on DONE Checking Account & Requirements – Alan Fine

- *Alan* stated we now have our own bank account at Union Bank; no longer have to do demand warrants and long list of paperwork, send to DONE, etc. We can now issue checks and can pay with Visa card up to \$500/day, for incidentals, e.g., refreshments, office supplies, etc.
- If you have an invoice, need to fill out a funding request form on the DONE website, signed by person asking for funds, present it to *Alan* & Board. The Board votes, and he can then issue a check. *Alan* fills out the forms & issues checks and he will find out what to do if companies don't accept checks.

c. Funding/Outreach Expenditure Requests – Alan Fine

(1) MOTION: BABCNC approves purchase of refreshments for meetings, not to exceed \$300 per month, office supplies not to exceed \$300 per month and weekly payments for an Office Administrator not to exceed \$18.00 per hour for 15 hours a week.

- *Robert Ringler* moved, *Jamie Hall* seconded; vote was taken with 15 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Lonnie Mayfield, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp* and *Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions and the motion passed unanimously.

- Of note, *Alan* commented that *Cathy* works more than 15 hours. *Chuck* asked if this includes *Cathy's* help doing minutes for EP meetings. *Gary* noted *Cathy* is booked. *Jamie* suggested bringing this to Ad-Hoc Committee on surplus. *Gary* asked to defer this to the next meeting, that *Chuck* & *Michael* have the same issue, and asked to see how much time they really need in the way of hours, as there are a lot of demands on *Cathy* now that we didn't have before, e.g. we are taking positions on a lot of things, letters have to go out, a lot of follow through..

- *Jamie* reminded the Board if they have not completed trainings on financial expenditures, to not vote. *Cathy* noted everyone at this time was up to date.

(2) Original MOTION: BABCNC approves purchase of refreshments for Outreach Special Reception for retiring County Supervisor, *Zev Yaroslavsky*, which will be open to the stakeholders, to not exceed \$2,000.00. (Must be submitted to DONE for pre-approval.)

- *Alan Fine* moved, *Larry Leisten* seconded.

- *Gary* noted after speaking with *Thomas Soong*, we need to amend language on motion to indicate "Meet & Greet" and notice in the Agenda for that month's meeting, which will be posted. *Thomas* and *Grayce* will assist us.

- *Alan* accepted the change of the motion. *Gary* suggested we do the motion in concept, then clean it up to follow the intent.

(2) MOTION as Amended: BABCNC approves purchase of refreshments to not exceed \$2,000 for Outreach Meet & Greet at the time of the October 22, 2014 Board meeting, for which we are inviting certain City dignitaries, including outgoing Supervisor, *Zev Yaroslavsky*, Councilman *Paul Koretz*, and others, which will be open to stakeholders.

- Vote was taken with 15 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Lonnie Mayfield, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp* and *Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions and the motion passed unanimously as amended.

- *Gary* noted that he and *Robin* have come up with a list of people appropriate to be there to

Meet & Greet the community, including Maria Chung, right hand to Zev, Mike Feuer who was a councilman in this area, Paul Koretz & Tom LaBonge, and asked the Board for suggestions.

(3) MOTION: BABCNC approves Funding Request for \$318.83 to AAA Flag Banner for BABCNC roadside signs.

- *Robert Ringler* moved, *Larry Leisten* seconded; vote was taken with 15 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Lonnie Mayfield, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp* and *Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions and the motion passed unanimously.

- d. **Budget (Funding) Package for Submission to EmpowerLA due by 09/01/14 – Fine**
Motion for a Board Resolution to approve the 2014/2015 Funding Package is brought to the table now because we will not have an August meeting.

MOTION: BABCNC approves the 2014/2015 Funding Package for DONE due 09/01/14, which includes: 1) Budget for 2014/2015, 2) Strategic Plan, 3) Self-Assessment, 4) Outreach Survey & 5) Roster.

- *Robert Ringler* moved & *Michael Kemp* seconded.

- *Larry* noted that his name was missing from the accomplishments of the Bylaws Rules & Elections Committee in the Self Assessment.

- Vote was taken with 15 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Lonnie Mayfield, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp* and *Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions and the motion to submit the funding package to DONE passed unanimously as amended, to include mention of the *Larry Leisten* and the Bylaws, Rules & Elections Committee in the Self Assessment.

- Alan & the Board acknowledged Cathy's help in rushing everyone to get this ready.

- e. **Approve Treasurer's Report – Alan Fine**

MOTION: BABCNC approves the June monthly expenditure and P-Card Statement
Alan Fine moved & *Robert Ringler* seconded. Vote was taken with 15 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Lonnie Mayfield, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp* and *Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions and the motion passed unanimously.

10. **(Agenda #9 taken out of order) President's Report – Gary Plotkin**

FAST TRACK – REPORTS: (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action)

- a. **Vacant Seats:** Public Schools K-5 Rep & Business Rep: No update.
- *Larry* commented that the representative for Private K-5(6) has not been attending meetings and needs to be notified. *Larry* reminded that we have language that requires a representative to attend the meetings... *Gary* will call *Vickie* whom he said has been a wonderful member for many years, to see if she wants to remain on the Board.
- b. **White Paper Generated by NC Budget Advocates dated April 7, 2014** (Previously posted on June and April meetings, see babnc.org website for attachment.)
Review & vote to support paper and findings & file a CIS supporting the paper.

MOTION: BABCNC supports the findings and request for execution of those matters contained in the White Paper generated by the Budget Advocates dated April 7, 2014.

- *Don Loze* moved that the Council support, in principle, the White Paper prepared by the NC Budget Advocates. *Robert Ringler* seconded.

- Vote was taken with 16 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie*

Miner, Michael Chasteen, Lonnie Mayfield, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringle, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore and alternate for RBG seat, Dan Palmer; 0 nays, 0 abstentions and the motion was approved in principle, as amended, unanimously.

- *Don Loze* shared his perspective on this White Paper, stating it is an attempt to address a lot of dysfunction in the City and to refocus the City on solutions. He doesn't necessarily agree with all the solutions presented here, as they're either very broad or very specific. He noted that we were not represented in this and asked what is supposed to happen with this afterwards.

- *Don* further noted a problem of the NC system that we spend time addressing these things and are supposed to advise our Councilmen and Council, but we don't have an opportunity to require anything to happen. This report represents hundreds of hours of work by various people. We need to find out what goes on afterwards and get general NC endorsement of this.

- *Gary* asked *Don* to look into it and report back at the next meeting, which he will do.

c. Update on "Meet & Greet" October 22, 2014 during our monthly Board meeting

(to honor retiring Supervisor, Zev Yaroslavsky) – *Gary Plotkin and Robin Greenberg*

- *Robin* related that *Tony* and she have been talking to the Mulholland Tennis Club.

- Coffee service is \$3.00 per person or ice tea/lemonade service is \$3.00 per person.

- Passed hors d'oeuvres @ \$10/person if chef selects or \$13/person if we select.

- We are anticipating 75 to 100 people in attendance. *Larry* volunteered to help.

- Reminder: This will be our Board meeting with addition of a Meet & Greet.

d. Appointment of Two Budget Representatives – Alan Fine

MOTION: BABCNC appoints 2 Board members as Budget Representatives for the City -

- NC Budget Advocate's Budget Day takes place Saturday 08/16/14.

- *Alan* related yearly the NCs come up with 2 Budget Reps to advise Mayor & City Council.

- *Gary* related that *Nickie* did this last year and has volunteered to do it again this year.

- *Andre Stojka* has also volunteered. **No motion.** *Nickie* & *Andre* are appointed.

- *Gary* reiterated that everyone here on this NC is amazing, as they all step up!

11. (Agenda #10 taken out of order) Secretary's Report – Robin Greenberg – No report

12. Planning & Land Use Committee Report (Updates, Discussion & Possible Action) – Kemp

a. Update on items from the 07/08/14 PLU Meeting

(1) Update on new Hillside Construction Regulations to be adopted by the City of L.A. Building & Safety and Planning Departments

- *Mike Kemp* noted that *Dan Love* & *Gary Plotkin* authored the motion which the Board passed last month, of which we have all been sent a copy via email. *Gary* & *Dan* met at CM *Paul Koretz's* office and there has been great press on this from the Beverly Hills Courier.

- *Dan Love* spoke on one project at 901 Strada Vecchia that has been stopped: A homeowner filed an objection to the permits on basis that what was built exceeds permits and project risks landslides. Within three days the CM prepared a letter in support of nullifying the permits, then the Dept. of Building & Safety gave a stop order and will decide by end of month whether permits are in fact revoked. The size had been recalculated and a larger home was being built.

- *Gary* recommends you see this flying-saucer shaped structure (selling for \$45 million).

- *Mike* credited *Gary, Robin* & *Nickie* for getting other associations such as WRAC on this. *Gary* added it was an accomplishment to get WRAC as people in the flats don't feel the hillside problems are their responsibility. Discussion ensued on the impact of the hillside on the City.

(2) Update on 10697 W. Somma Way: New project requesting a haul route for the removal of 29,000 cubic yards of dirt.

- Mike related that the PLUC voted to see if we could request a 45-day hold on the approval of that haul route and, on the hearing date, they put the haul route on hold for 45 days.
- The PLUC are still planning to meet with developers next week and may have a Special PLU Meeting during the first week of August to deal with that project (if so, would not have the regular meeting on the consecutive planned date.)

The BABCNC Planning & Land Use Committee, from meeting of July 8, 2014, recommends to the BABCNC Board the following actions:

- (3) **9422 Sierra Mar Drive: ZA-2013-3252 ZV ZAA ZAD:** The applicant is seeking to add 600+/- square feet to an existing non-conforming single family residence. Also request that the new addition stay in line with the existing side yard setback.

- Mike noted the homeowner is present tonight; the PLUC reviewed this, homeowner and representative have been very forthcoming, the committee voted unanimously to recommend the ZA approve their variance, which was felt to be very reasonable.

MOTION: That the BABCNC recommends that the Zoning Administrator approve the request of the applicant for the above noted pending case.

Robert so moved, Andre seconded; no discussion. Vote was taken with 14 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore and Dan Palmer*; 0 nays, 1 abstention by Michael Chasteen, and the motion passed.

- (4) **9370 Claircrest Drive: ZA-2014-1315:** Addition of up to 1,000 s.f. to an existing single family residence; fronting on a street less than 20'.

- Mike noted that the Committee, with *Michael Chasteen's involvement*, went over project extensively and voted unanimously to recommend the ZA approve applicant's request; felt to be reasonable.

MOTION: That the BABCNC recommends that the Zoning Administrator approve the request of the applicant for the above noted pending case.

- Larry so moved, Robin seconded, no discussion; call for question. Vote was taken with 15 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore and Dan Palmer*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions, passed unanimously.

- (5) **Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance: Support of Tom LaBonge's Motion 13-1478:**

Original MOTION: That the BABCNC prepare a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of Councilman Tom LaBonge's Motion 13-1478, requesting that the Planning Department review and recommend revisions to the Small Lot Sub-Division Ordinance.

- Mike Kemp noted other NCs have submitted CIS's on the motion which is coming to City Council on July 30th. He noted that we also voted for a moratorium on small lot subdivisions at our last meeting, and that is a separate issue with a CIS being worked on by Nickie.

- *Michael Chasteen* agreed to the motion providing it is amended to remove "BABCNC prepare a community impact statement." *Michael Kemp* agreed to the amendment.

Amended MOTION: That the BABCNC supports Councilman Tom LaBonge's Motion 13-1478, requesting that the Planning Department review and recommend revisions to the Small Lot Sub-Division Ordinance.

- So moved by *Michael Kemp* & seconded by *Tony*. *Robert* called for the question.

- Vote was taken with 15 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore* and *Dan Palmer*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions, and passed unanimously as amended.

(6) Appointment of Dan Love to the PLU Committee:

MOTION: That Daniel Love be added to the PLU Committee membership.

- *Michael Kemp* moved that *Dan Love* be added to the committee and *Don Loze* seconded.

- Vote was taken with 15 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore* and *Dan Palmer*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions, and passed unanimously.

- *Gary* noted that you need to be a stakeholder to be on the committee and expressed his feeling that *Dan* with the Bel Air Alliance will have a lot to contribute because his area is as much affected as anybody's here by what's going on in the hillsides now.

- *Larry* mentioned that the Bylaws have procedures, and he will confirm the need for a formal letter and if ethics training is required for committee-only membership.

b. 8935 Wonderland Avenue:

MOTION: Continued from June 25th meeting: BABCNC supports the Planning and Land Use Committee with drafting up a Community Impact Statement to the Los Angeles City Council regarding the proposed pending Ordinance to regulate Community Care Facilities in Single Family Residential Zones and the impact of these facilities in the Hillside areas.

- *Mike Kemp* recommended continuing this item.

- *Jamie Hall* noted that the controversial Community Care Ordinance is coming back to life and that we need to take a role in this. *Jamie* asked *Nickie* to assist on this, which she agreed to.

c. J.M.B. Century City Proposed Project at 1950 Ave. of the Stars (Discussion) Continued from June 25th meeting: Continued

13. Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee (Update) – Chuck Maginnis

- Senior Lead Officer 8A29 - *Chris Ragsdale*, WLA Community Police Station
- Senior Lead Officer - *Ralph Sanchez*, Hollywood Community Police Station

Report on the July 2014 EP Committee Meeting

- *Chuck* related that *Maureen Smith, Hildreth Simmons, Dan Palmer, Irene Sandler* and *Patricia Bell Hearst* have been attending meetings.

- *Chuck* noted that at last month's meeting *Susan Reuben* with *Holmby Westwood* got some answers from attorneys on questions of liability, which they will continue to discuss and share.

- Next meeting is scheduled for the 3rd Wednesday, August 20th, with UCLA's Emergency Management director who will address what will UCLA do in event of an emergency.

- *Benedict Canyon* had a successful meeting with the Fire Dept., with over 100 homeowners.

- *Chuck* produced and demonstrated the reversible HELP / OK signs, per CERT, to be put in windows if help is needed or not; and he produced and passed out orange Emergency Placards, which are good reminders to be prepared with instructions for family.

- *Gary* urged members to take them back to their associations so they can order them and noted that *Robin* will have these available at outreach meetings. They cost \$350.00 for 100, about \$3.50 each for the large ones. For the laminated placards, \$1.30 each or make these yourselves.

- *Larry* asked for the cost so he could take this to his HOA, and as a suggestion, asked if the Board could subsidize his HOA's purchasing these.

- *Gary* made an executive decision to charge everybody, as there are 30,000 people out there.

- *Irene* noted that there are very generous people in their community who may make a donation.

- *Hildreth Simmons*, of Residents of Beverly Glen, volunteered that she is on a commission for the City that has grants for Neighborhood projects and will ask the commission at their next meeting.

14. Bylaws, Rules & Elections Report (Updates, Discussion & Possible Action) *Larry Leisten*

- *Larry* stated that in an effort to provide an update to the Board, he called *Thomas Soong* last week, left a message, but hasn't heard back. He asked *Thomas* when he may expect a response, since it's been several months. *Gary* noted that he spoke with *Thomas* who told him that there has been a delay because of *Grayce's* accident, that we had done a good job, and expects a response within two weeks.
- *Gary* will also email *Thomas* that he should deal directly with *Larry*.
- *Gary* related that he expects that it will be moved through soon, particularly now that we have a new commissioner from the Westside.
- *Larry* noted the City seems to work biennially and once we get approval, we'll have to move quickly on 2015 if we want to make any changes to the Bylaws, by June 1st.

15. Outreach Committee Report (Updates, Discussion & Possible Action) *Robin Greenberg*

- *Robin* reminded us that the Board meeting in October in which we will be hosting a Meet & Greet event, is an outreach event, and that we'll be giving out promotional products such as tote bags, flashlights and anything else we might have to give out at that time.

16. WLA Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) (Updates, Discussion & Possible Action) - *Plotkin*

Update on July 16, 2014 WRAC Meeting:

MOTION: BABCNC supports the following motion approved by WRAC at its monthly meeting held on July 16, 2014:

Resolved that the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils supports the establishment of emergency measures to control excessive truck activities in the hillsides, including the enforcement and monitoring of permits, haul routes and truck staging areas on the Westside of Los Angeles.

- *Nickie* so moved, *Andre* seconded. No discussion. Vote was taken with 15 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore* and *Dan Palmer*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions, and passed unanimously.

17. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Report (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action)

- *Travis Longcore*

- a. **SMMC Report** – *Travis* submitted his request to the Fire Dept. for documents regarding their tree removal projects, in consultation with his contact at SMMC and our BABCNC Chair. He requested contracts, reports, so they know what's going on, why and how, because the word from the contractor was that they would like to come and cut more trees down in Benedict Canyon. He said that the records keeper at the Fire Department reported that the Brush Clearance Unit's response was that there is no canopy trimming project and there are no documents in response to our request. It was not a formal Public Records Act request.
 - *Travis* will write a more general request, to see the contracts, and what's being asked of the contractors, who are implementing brush clearance in the territory, since they are enforcing brush clearance on trees that are overhanging roads, some on private property. He noted that legally, those need to be brought to landowners to remedy before the FD cuts those trees in half.
 - *Travis* is asking the Board for ongoing support to continue to pursue this, writing a more general request, including all records from the prior brush clearance contractors before they come back to Benedict Canyon next spring. He is writing this on behalf of BABCNC.
 - *Jamie* recommended making a Public Records Act request; they have 10 days. *Irene* asked that he broaden the dissemination of our request to beyond the FD, so that our Council office will know we made the request, and control it. *Travis* noted that if the Board would like, he would copy our Council representatives and City Attorney's office in the clarification of what we are looking for.
 - *Don Loze* noted as a matter of information, that after the incidents in Benedict Canyon a year ago, they made a specific request and got specific answers that were absurd, as a result of dealing with

Captain Abarca, who gave *Travis* the instruction to ask for him again. *Don* urged the Board to let *Travis* have a pretty free hand to do what he is doing and we will get there.

- *Chuck* noted that Benedict Canyon just had the Brush Clearance Unit speak last Monday, and mentioned the trimming canopy. *Alan* related that they spoke about Oakland Fire, where overhead trees caught fire and people couldn't get out. *Chuck* added that one half of the 26 people died in the log-jam trying to get out in their automobiles. *Alan* continued that that's why we have to cut down on tree canopies.

- *Don* related that these are all issues that we've discussed within the Benedict Canyon and thinks this is going to lead to further discussion but we need to get the existing documents, and as would like to see these things in advance.

- *Travis* indicated that people have property rights, they get to develop their property. We have rules about fire safety. Everybody wants to be safe. But there are also environmental impacts, and things like removing a bunch of canopy has environmental impacts. There was apparently some sort of mitigation planned for those impacts but we have not been provided with any of that information to know how these things have been balanced; are they being balanced, and he related that this goes to what he thinks is our strongest issue relative to the hillside development in these huge projects, is going after them under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), which he feels is the only way that we will see real change and real reform in what's going on, especially because there's some clear systematic violations going on, relative to the practices that the City is undertaking. He feels confident that the SMMC would back up this statement that the issue of cumulative impacts, CEQA gives affirmative duty to a lead agency, which the City of LA is, relative to hillside development, a duty to address and calculate cumulative impacts on the environment. If there are 15 projects going on, and each has a hundred trucks, there are cumulative impacts that someone, who has the resources to protect the quality of life in their neighborhood, needs to, on a systematic basis, go in and challenge every single approval for failure to address the cumulative impacts. That would be a significant undertaking to put together, significant to get these concerns on the record, but it could be done, and *Travis* thinks it would be successful, given what we are talking about: the magnitude of earth moving. The health impacts of the diesel emissions alone – the information is out there, and if put together in a systematic way, just pick one as the case study, while it's still in the review process, and then you challenge every single one as it is under CEQA.

- *Gary* gave *Patricia Bell Hearst* the floor for her thoughts on this. *Patricia* suggested that if each HOA individually sent the same kind of letter or email, the impact would be formidable. She feels the City's dragging its heels will get worse instead of better, and because there are so many here now, if each association did some form of a letter, saying we are concerned about this, and please report back, if they saw these letters, whether they physically act on them, it is saying, whoops, and as *Irene* had mentioned, it has to go to other people in the City, e.g., City Attorney and Council peoples' office. She recommended that *Travis* get with the Hillside Federation on this, the hauling, the tree canopies, etc., saying that because the City is so big, "one letter from the Neighborhood Council isn't going to do it." *Gary* thanked *Patricia* for her comments and invited her to talk to *Travis*.

18. Ad-hoc "I-405 Sepulveda Widening Improvement Project" & Metro Update on Sidewalks @ Skirball Bridge to Mulholland -- *Irene Sandler & Gary Plotkin*

– *Irene* related that reports will continue and thanked *Robert* for sending these reports out. She mentioned this evening's closures, and that the end of 2014 was the date given for completion of the work; however, suggested it would likely be spring 2015.

- *Robert* will talk to *Fortuna* at his Traffic Committee to discuss both Expo Phase 2 & 405.

- *Irene* also brought up the lack of delineators due to problem with adhesives. *Irene* noted this and other safety issues that the City is unable to address.

- *Robert* noted the cheap adhesive, and stated that he is thinking of going to a regional level with the DOT about this and other issues.

19. Ad-Hoc Standing Committee on Los Angeles 2020 Report "Monitoring City's Solutions & Actions" (established on 01/22/14) – Co-Chairs, *Andre Stojka & Tony Tucci* - Continued

20. **Ad-Hoc Transit Committee** (since 01/22/14) – **Select New Chair** – *Gary Plotkin* – Continued
21. **Council District 5 Report** Planning Deputies, *Noah Muhlstein & Gourmet Khara* - No report
22. **Council District 4 Report** Field Deputy of Housing & Transport *Sharon Shapiro* - No report
23. **Traffic Committee Report & Police Advisory Board Report** – *Robert A. Ringler*

LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee: Wednesday August 13, 2013 at 8:30 a.m. @ WLA
Community Police Station 1663 Butler Avenue. Will have update on Expo Phase 2 & 405.

24. **Private and Public Schools News:** No report.
25. **New Business / General Announcements:** (Discussion & Possible Action)
L.A. City Central Collections System - *Don Loze*
Council File #: 14-0600 (FY2014-2015 City Budget Proposal) Continued

Update on Email with Google Apps:

Jamie reminded any members who have not gotten their emails set up on Google Apps to please come talk to him to set a time as they are missing emails for a month now.

26. **Adjournment:** Robert moved; Robin seconded; meeting adjourned at 8:59.

UPCOMING MEETINGS – PLEASE TAKE NOTE:

August 2014: No Meeting

September 17, 2014 @ AJU: NEXT MEETING 1 week earlier than usual

October 23, 2014: Board Meeting with “Meet & Greet” in honor of retiring Supervisor, Zev Yaroslavsky with other City dignitaries to be held at the Mulholland Tennis Club (*Subsequent to final approval of these minutes, the date of this meeting was changed from 10/22 to 10/23.*)