



**General Board Meeting Minutes (Approved)**

Wednesday September 17, 2014 7:00-9:00 p.m.

American Jewish University 15600 Mulholland Drive Bel Air, CA 90077

**Present: 15**

**Quorum: 12**

2014 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
<b>Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association</b>		
<i>Irene Sandler</i>	X	
<b>Bel Air Ridge HOA</b>		
<i>Andre Stojka</i>	X	
<b>Benedict Canyon Association</b>		
<i>Michael Chasteen</i>	X	
<i>Alan Fine</i>	X	
<i>Don Loze (Arrived at 7:20 p.m.)</i>	X	
<i>Nickie Miner</i>	X	
<b>Casiano Estates Association</b>		
<i>Gary Plotkin</i>	X	
<b>Faith-Based Organizations</b>		
<i>Lonnie Mayfield</i>		X
<b>K-6 Private Schools</b>		
<i>Vicki Kelly</i>		X
<b>K-5 Public Schools – Open Seat Pending</b>		
<b>7-12 Private Schools</b>		
<i>John Amato</i>		X
<b>Laurel Canyon Association</b>		
<i>Jamie Hall (Arrived at 7:22 p.m.)</i>	X	
<i>Cassandra Barrere</i>		X
<i>Monica Weil</i>		X
<i>Tony Tucci</i>		X
<b>Members-at-Large</b>		
<i>Larry Leisten</i>	X	
<i>Chuck Maginnis</i>	X	

<b>2013 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Not Present</b>
<b><i>Residents of Beverly Glen</i></b>		
<i>Robert A. Ringler</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Dan Palmer</i>	<b>X</b>	
<b><i>Roscomare Valley Association</i></b>		
<i>Robin Greenberg</i>	<b>X</b>	
<i>Michael Kemp</i>	<b>X</b>	
<b><i>Save Our Strip: Pending</i></b>		
<b><i>Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy</i></b>		
<i>Travis Longcore, Ph.D.</i>	<b>X</b>	
<b><i>Total:</i></b>	<b>15</b>	<b>6</b>

*Dan Love*, of the Bel Air Alliance, a stakeholder member of the BABCNC Planning & Land Use Committee, was in attendance, at the Board's table.

**City Officials**

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

**Guest Sign-In Sheet**

- *Katherine Bard*, ROBG
- *Ruth Sabeau*, ROBG
- *Lauren Joy Sand*
- *Joan Rimmon*
- *Andrew Harwood*
- *Maureen Krawzyk-Smith*, Bel Air
- *Helene Toomey*
- *Robert Schlesinger*
- *Rodney Rad*
- *Cynthia Ford*, ROBG
- *Maureen Levinson*, BAHA

**Speaker Cards:**

- *Katherine Bard*, ROBG
- *Lauren Joy Sand*
- *Archer Harwood*
- *Helene Toomey*
- *Rodney Reid*
- *Maureen Levinson*, BAHA
- *Patricia Bell Hearst*
- *Shahram Sanieoff*, Casiano resident
- *Shahin Tehrani*, Casiano resident
- *Stephen Jamieson of Soloman, Satterman & Jamieson*, representing applicant, Ben Pouldar

## ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

1. **Call to Order:** Council President, *Gary Plotkin*, called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.
2. **Roll** was called by Secretary, *Robin Greenberg*, at 7:10: 13 were present, and a quorum of 12 met. Don Loze arrived at 7:20 & Jamie Hall at 7:22, at which time a total of 15 were present.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance:** The Pledge was recited.
4. **MOTION: Approval of July 23, 2014 Minutes of General Meeting:** *Chuck Maginnis* moved and *Andre Stojka* seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved with 12 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions and the minutes were approved.
5. **MOTION: Approval of September 17, 2014 Agenda:** *Larry Leisten* moved; *Andre Stojka* seconded. *Alan Fine* added an item under Treasurer's report, regarding the bill for Mulholland Tennis Club. *Larry Leisten* mentioned need for a motion next month regarding ad-hoc committee expenditures. There were no objections to the agenda with the change by Alan Fine, no abstentions, and the agenda was unanimously approved as amended with 12 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore*.
6. **Public Comments (Non-agendized)**  
*Irene Sandler* brought up issue of funding between LA DOT and Metro Project, on the reversible lane of the Sepulveda tunnel still on the books, which she stated neither Encino nor Skirball want; that this time lanes would be directional: 2 in a.m. towards town and, in the afternoon, 2 towards the Valley. *Gary Plotkin* suggested agendizing this. *Robert Ringler* stated that he thought this had been put to rest; that originally it was a reversible lane component all the way to Wilshire. *Patricia Hearst* disagreed with Robert that this is a closed issue.
- **[Don Loze arrived at this point, 7:20, at which time 14 Board members were present.]**

**Additional Public Comment was given by Janet Turner**, towards the end of the meeting, regarding an upcoming meeting with the City Attorney's office, to try to allow alcoholic conditions to go back on the CUB. She stated that she will pass the info on this to us.

7. **(Agendas, brochures, & public service handouts available)**
8. **President's Report – Gary Plotkin**  
**FAST TRACK – REPORTS:** (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action)
  - a. **Confirmation of Dan Palmer as the BABCNC “Resident of Beverly Glen” Board member to replace Ramin Kolahi.**  
**MOTION:** BABCNC confirms the appointment of *Dan Palmer* as Board Member to replace *Ramin Kolahi* representing Residents of Beverly Glen.  
*Chuck Maginnis* moved, *Alan Fine* seconded. *Dan* was unanimously confirmed with 13 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp & Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

• **[Jamie Hall arrived at this point, at 7:22, at which time 15 Board members were present.]**

b. **Bel Air Alliance Update – Dan Love**

- Before *Dan* began, *Gary* passed around a high quality public relations mailer for Bel Air and asked if anyone knew of it, as no one could be contacted. *Travis Longcore* confirmed that no name was found on the website.
- *Dan Love* reported that projects have been coming to BAA and to our PLUC, the most prominent on Somma Way, north of the hotel, off Stone Canyon, to build a 44,000 sq. foot home on 22,000 square feet, with double basement; basement excavation of 30,000 cubic yards of dirt, and with 5' wide caissons that go down 100 feet. The Alliance opposes this and filed an appeal (copy available to view) as the City had not considered environmental, traffic or rainwater impact. Council offered additional condition that soil be removed from one truck at a time, allowed in from Sunset, to be filled and then leave, with reduced times, 9:00 to 3:00, limiting number of trucks that can get in. Haul route was approved on that condition. *Dan's* appeal is on different grounds. The developer has not filed an appeal.
- *Dan* mentioned the old Bing property, 11 acres above the hotel, off Stone Canyon Road, with a large amount of hauling, and stated that they reached out and had a good meeting.
- *Gary* noted the Councilman's office has been helpful on the mansionization ordinance that *Dan* worked on. *Dan* has met with *Shawn Bayliss & Noah Muhlstein*.

c. **Budget Reps' Report on Budget Day 08/16/14 Stojka & Miner, BABCNC's Budget Reps:**

- *Andre Stojka* reported that he and *Nickie Miner* attended the meeting. *Ron Galperin & the Mayor*, among others were there. He felt that the people at our area's small group meeting had integrity, backgrounds in accounting and knowhow on handling the City. They elected *Jay Handal & Terrence Gomes* to be our Budget Advocates.

d. **Community Impact Statement Submitters for the new Fiscal Year 2014/2015**

**MOTION:** BABCNC authorizes *Gary Plotkin, Robert Ringler, Robin Greenberg & Michael Kemp* to submit Community Impact Statements on behalf of the Board.

**[Jamie Hall & Don Loze began to be included in the votes at this time.]**

*Robert* moved, *Michael Kemp* seconded; motion passed unanimously with 14 yea votes by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

e. **Alternate Second Signatory for the new Fiscal year 2014/2015**

**MOTION:** BABCNC elects, as alternate Second Signatory, *Andre Stojka*, to sign funding expenditure requests, treasurer's reports, all funding-related vote count sheets and board resolutions on behalf of BABCNC.

*Chuck Maginnis* moved, *Dan Palmer* seconded. *Alan Fine* will check for paperwork. The motion passed unanimously with 14 yea votes by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

f. **Reminder to attend NC Congress coming up September 20, 2014**

*Jamie Hall* encouraged attendance at this valuable educational event.

g. **Discussion on new policy on posting** (In summary, now that stakeholders are increasingly communicating via internet, we now need to physically post at least one

Brown-Act compliant agenda, within the NC that is time compliant.)

After discussion, it was decided to **table further discussion to the next meeting.**

Discussed were reasons to continuing to posting as previously 'til the end of year.

Suggestions included Glen Deli, posting to the west, at Laurel Canyon, the middle and Moraga. *Chuck* added, from his experience, the posting sites accept faxes.

[*Irene* brought up need for a disclaimer on the website regarding outreach. Deferred.]

**h. Office Remodel** *Robin Greenberg*

*Robin* stated we're going to go through General Services for painting & carpeting; *she, Gary & Cathy* have gone to the office and began de-cluttering. *Gary* stressed that he would like the office to be used more by the Board.

**9. Secretary's Report** – *Robin Greenberg* – No report.

**10. Treasurer's Report & Expenditure Requests** (Updates, Discussion & Possible Action)

**a. Funding/Outreach Expenditure Requests (Not purchased last fiscal year)** *Hall & Fine*

**1. Status of RED Flags, Poles & Signs** – *Cassandra Barrere*

Of note, *Cassandra* was not able to be present this evening, but she had provided a letter for the Board, regarding update and status of these poles, with possible language for the prospective signs. *Gary* read her letter (**see attachment below**) to the Board and opened the floor for a motion.

**MOTION:** BABCNC approves purchase of No Smoking Signs to accompany the already purchased 4 red flags & poles, in the amount not to exceed \$700.00, for the purpose of making clear to the public the significance of the red flags, which will be put up by the LAFD as a preventative measure, alerting people driving in the canyons of a red-flag high alert fire risk.

- *Alan Fine* moved; *Larry Leisten* seconded. Discussion was held.

-*Larry* suggested that the No Smoking signs also include a visual sketch, design to be determined and approved by the Board at a later time.

- *Andre* suggested getting funding approved and worrying about language on signs later.

- *Chuck* noted that *Dan Palmer* offered to place one pole on his property but we need to work out costs of installation on top of costs of the signs. - *Don* called the question.

- *Gary* asked *Dan* to find out costs of embedding poles into concrete, and to provide a motion on said costs at another time.

- Vote was taken: *Chuck* abstained, none opposed, and the motion passed with 13 yeas from *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore.*

**2. MOTION:** BABCNC approves purchase of a Collapsible Exhibit Sign & Stand, stating "Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council" in the amount of \$400.00 to replace our existing old banner which is in disrepair, for the purpose of displaying at meetings and outreach events.

*Alan* moved and *Nickie* seconded. *Jamie* called the question. The motion passed by a unanimous vote of 14 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore;* 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

**3. MOTION:** BABCNC approves purchase of a Conference Phone in the amount of \$800.00 for the purpose of allowing people/stakeholders who are not able to attend meetings to call in to the meeting and be able to listen to the meeting as it takes place.

*Robert* moved and *Andre* seconded. *Jamie* offered to work out the logistics with meeting site staff. *Chuck* asks who will use it. *Nickie* asked to table this. *Jamie* noted that the City uses this tool, which allows people to listen to meetings from their homes and suggests we support the motion. *Robert* would like video conferencing. *Larry* supports this for those who would like to come but can't; feels it's a great tool. *Don Loze* called the question.

There were 2 abstentions by *Chuck Maginnis* and *Nickie Miner*; 0 opposed, and the motion passed with 12 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore.*

**4. MOTION:** BABCNC approves purchase of Web Conferencing Hardware in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.00 for the purpose of allowing people/stakeholders who are not able to attend meetings to log onto the meeting and to listen and see the meeting as it takes place.

Moved by *Alan Fine* and seconded by *Michael Kemp*. Discussion was held, with *Nickie* concerned about security, not want to be videotaped. *Chuck* doesn't disagree with their use if they work. *Jamie* doesn't feel this would be a problem; logistics are involved but doable.

*Michael Chasteen* moved to table, *Larry* seconded the move to table. Vote was taken, with 14 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions, and **motion was tabled**.

**5. MOTION:** BABCNC approves payment of bill to the Mulholland Tennis Club of \$1,861.43 for 10/22/14 meeting space for Board meeting & Meet & Greet for Zev Yaroslavsky.

Moved by *Alan Fine* and seconded by *Larry Leisten*. The motion passed by an unanimous vote of 14 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

**b. Update on DONE Checking Account & Requirements – Alan Fine**

*Alan* noted the bank account is up and running; to cut a check, no need for demand warrants, only funding request form downloaded from the website, and invoice with vote count sheet. DONE is keeping \$4,000 in account monthly. For more, we need to make cash request.

**c. Update on Budget (Funding) Package Submitted to EmpowerLA – Alan Fine –**  
- This package was submitted back in August.

**d. Approve Treasurer's Reports for July & August 2014 – Alan Fine**

**MOTION:** BABCNC approves the July monthly expenditure report & bank statement:  
Moved by *Michael Kemp*; seconded by *Jamie Hall*. The motion passed unanimously with 14 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

**MOTION:** BABCNC approves the August monthly expenditure report & bank statement. Andre moved; Mike Kemp seconded. The motion passed unanimously with 14 yes votes by Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore; 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

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

**a. Update on New Hillside Construction Regulations** to be adopted by the City of L.A. Building & Safety and Planning Departments (since voting on it during the July meeting) - None

**b. Update on Motion filed by CM Paul Koretz RE: Mansionization Construction -** Two ordinances that CM *Koretz* put forth as to the hillside construction and baseline hillside ordinance are coming up to PLUM on September 23<sup>rd</sup> of City Council. It is important for us to be there. *Michael, Dan and Gary* plan to be there.

**c. Update on Beverly Hills Proposed Interim Ordinance prohibiting the expansion of level pad area of lots in the hillside** –*Kemp & Loze -- Gary & Michael* say that this was approved.

**d. Update on 10697 W. Somma Way:** New project requesting a haul route for the removal of 29,000 cubic yards of dirt (discussed in July) See item 8b above, Bel Air Associates update.

**e. Update on San Ysidro Haul Route** – *Nickie Miner*  
*Nickie* related that Bob Schlesinger is doing some great work to help pull together what was an agreement brokered four years ago that has been falling apart.

**f. Update on 08/12 & 09/09/2014 PLU Meetings:**

**1. 800 N. Sepulveda Blvd**

ZA 2014-2201-CUB

A Conditional Use Permit for the off-site sale of beer and wine at an existing Food Mart, with service station, between the hours of 6am and 12am daily. The site operates 24 hours daily.

The PLU Committee voted at the 08/12/2014 meeting to recommend to BABCNC Board to oppose the application.

*Michael Kemp* explained that they received a package in August, opposed, applicant was not there, and in September applicant presented their position; PLU Committee decided to stay with previous position to recommend opposing the CUP, as described above. Extensive documents are available.

**MOTION:** The BABCNC recommends that the Zoning Administrator not approve the application as presented in the above noted case. *Robert Ringler* moved; *Robin Greenberg* seconded.

**Public Comment:**

**Steven Jamison** represents applicant, Ben Pouldar, and his son, Matt, and spoke in favor of the CUP. - Mr. Jamison gave details of the renovation of the food mart by the owner who already has 10 to 11 businesses with beer and wine licenses. They put \$1-to-1.5 million into the renovation & have 26 video cameras in & out of the building for video surveillance. They are not asking for a variance but would like to add a small amount of beer and wine, to fill not more than 10% of the 2,000 square foot floor space, with no more than 2 of the 11 cooler doors for beer & wine. He stated that he spoke to LAPD's Sgt. Gaffney, who had no concern for this location as long as they agree to no single sales of beer and wine, eliminating their ability to sell single beers out of six-packs or wine bottles less than 750 ml.

- They just filed the application and are willing to adjust the list further. - They are now limited to no beer or wine after 12:00 a.m., no single sales, not more than 10% of floor space and not more than 2 of the 11 doors for beer and wine.
- Conditions in the CUP include no loitering or consumption on the premises; minimum of 2 employees at all times, cashiers after 10:00 over 21 years of age; training requirements for responsible retailing; carding anyone under 30; no beer or wine near register or door and no advertisement outside building.
- He stated that they have 261 signatures in support, plus some other additional support.

**Shahin Tehrani** spoke in opposition to beer and wine sales at that location; noting that she has lived in the neighborhood for 29 years, and cited concerns for family.

**Helene Toomey:** Lauren Sand spoke on behalf of Helene, who had left, stating that Helene strongly opposes the beer and wine license. Helene had filled out a speaker card indicating her opposition.

**Andrew Harwood,** Casiano resident 27 years, opposes license, citing close proximity to the highway.

**Katherine Bard,** apartment building owner here for 30 years, cites numerous reasons to oppose, including but not limited to proximity to highway, traffic; history of empty bottles, tires slashed, windows smashed, transients in center parkway; history of police concern that they don't have enough staff for this area as documented in a **letter by LAPD\* (see below)**. She provided a **letter of prior termination of CUP\*\* (see below)** for similar request at 670 Sepulveda. Ms. Bard attributed lack of addresses on applicant's petition of support to signers who do not live in the area.

[\*Ms. Bard passed around an LAPD correspondence signed by Willie L. Williams, Chief of Police, 04/11/95 addressing WLA area's opposition to issuance of CUP that would allow off-site sale of alcoholic beverages by the Chevron gas station at 670 No. Sepulveda Blvd., citing proximity to the 405 Freeway, being within 500 feet of a residential area, and presence of pronounced transient population requiring constant enforcement of alcohol-related crimes. The letter also indicated that allowing off-site sale of alcohol privileges would further deplete the WLA Vice unit's limited resources.

\*\*Ms. Bard also passed around an LA City ZA letter dated 08/17/95 ordering application for CUP terminated, pursuant to a letter of withdrawal of ZA 95-0225 (CUB).]

**Lauren Sand.** Resident of Casiano since 1964; comments included but not limited to that the owner lives in Trousdale; her being surprised by sudden appearance of the food mart; that this mart would serve transients and not residents; 10% is 200 square feet of beer & wine that we do not need; prefers workers not buy beer and wine and get back on the road there; that the lack of addresses on applicant's petition of support signifies that signees do not live here. Law firm across street opposes.

**Shahram Sonieoff,** homeowner on Casiano, is in favor of the license, citing convenience.

**Rodney Reid** lives in Bel Air Crest, is in support of the minimart that will sell food, beer and wine. He cites convenience and stated he doesn't see violence when he shops at other stores.

### **Director's Comments:**

**Nickie Miner** is concerned that two employees will not be able to take care of this; there is already a lack of police to take care of real crimes; it doesn't fit the Moraga Bellagio area; it is not safe; people loiter because they know it's deserted. She asked why the applicant didn't ask for a permit when they built the minimart and recommended the Board goes with the PLU vote to oppose.

**Travis Longcore** asked if they won't sell beer in less than 6-packs, will they sell 40 ounce beers, to which Mr. Jamison replied in the affirmative, adding that they are willing to modify this. Travis asked



why they need a special CUP to deal with the land use issue and, based on the reply, concluded that this is a completely discretionary issue.

**Jamie Hall** asked the Board why we are so concerned about alcohol, stating that he frequently shops for it at the Laurel Canyon Country Store. He noted that as they don't have a ZA hearing yet, it will be six to eight months, and as the applicant wants to work with us, asks if we can broker an agreement to get some conditions to mitigate the concerns. He recommended not taking a vote now because we want to move on, and until they have a ZA hearing, would like to try to work it out.

**Nickie Miner:** Nickie responded that there is a difference between Laurel Canyon Country Store and this, which is in a deserted area.

**Guest, Janet Turner with Senator Ted Lieu, 28<sup>th</sup> Senate District,** gave public comment that since we are on record to file our complaint, we could delay this vote.

**Don Loze** called for the question.

A hand vote was taken with **7 yeas** by Andre Stojka, Nickie Miner, Don Loze, Michael *Chasteen*, Irene Sandler, **Dan Palmer** and Robin Greenberg.

While the motion was pending with vote underway, Jamie Hall offered to make an alternative motion, to which Chair, Gary Plotkin, replied that it could be done afterwards. After discussion, hand count resumed:

There were then **5 nays** from Robert Ringler, **Dan Palmer**, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten and Michael Kemp.

There were **3 abstentions** by Chuck Maginnis, Travis Longcore and Alan Fine.

Gary declared that there were **7 for, 5 against and 3 abstentions.**

At this point, Robin said she would like to call it to be more accurate. Before Robin could take said voice count to clarify the vote, Jamie Hall moved to make a "friendly amendment" "to table the motion for a while for further consultation between neighbors and applicant to see if we can get some consensus."

*Robert Ringler* seconded the "friendly amendment;" *Travis* noted that technically, it's not a "friendly amendment" at which point *Jamie* stated it is an "amendment."

This was now a new motion to continue, which *Gary* stated takes first priority. He asked for a vote to continue for a period of time to study this further.

**10 (sic) [9] voted favor of continuing, (names in favor were not called) and 5 voted to oppose continuing: Robin Greenberg, Nickie Miner, Don Loze, Andre Stojka and Michael Chasteen.**

*Gary* declared that the motion passed and that the other motion has become moot. He appointed *Travis Longcore & Michael Kemp* Co-chairs to meet with the applicants to see if they could come up with solutions to recommend to the Board. *Gary* moved this up to the November 2014 meeting, since October will be primarily a "meet and greet."

Several stakeholders responded that they have already told us what their issues are.  
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**f. Continuation of Update on 08/12 & 09/09/2014 PLU Meetings:** Michael Kemp presented the following three motions on Cuesta Way, which he described as different-sized projects doing construction, seeking relief from the ordinance to improve and build on substandard road. He stated that the PLU Committee is concerned that there are three projects.

Regarding 454 N. Cuesta Way, Mike stated that he has looked at the road, which was in pretty good condition; about 18 feet wide; goes to a cul-de-sac, that widens out, almost 19-1/2 feet. PLU felt that the three multi-million dollar projects doing construction and improvements should do something to improve the fire-life safety system on the road, re-do the curb...and the road could be widened. The PLU Committee voted to not approve all three.

## **2. 454 N. Cuesta Way, 90077**

Case Numbers: AA-2014-53-WTM WTM- Waiver of Tract Map  
ENV-2014-54-CE CE-CATEGORICAL EXEMPTION  
ZA 2014-914-ZAD ZAD-ZA Determination: Application submitted: 03/18/14

Grading as part of demolition of (E) SFD and Construct new SFD, with Accessory Building, pool, and tennis court. Project is on a lot that fronts three substandard Hillside limited streets. Variance requests relief from code requirement to improve the sub-standard street.

The PLU Committee voted at the 08/12/2014 meeting to recommend to BABCNC Board to oppose the application.

**MOTION:** The BABCNC recommends that the Zoning Administrator not approve the application as presented in the above noted case.

### **Public Comment:**

**Jason Sommers** from Crest Real Estate, expediter, introduced Chris Carlin & Tom Donkin, and Colby Schwartz from Tyler Development. He spoke on behalf of the project, requesting relief from street widening of all Cuesta. He stated that they do have the required width in front of their property. This is specifically to reduce outside grade; they're not filing for a haul route. They are working with the neighbors on Cuesta to do some sort of landscape improvement on their owner's cost. They are sending out 4 days notification for anytime they bring in heavy equipment and have right of way people.

### **Directors' Comments and Questions:**

*Gary* asked *Dan Love* if he has comment on behalf of Bel Air Alliance. *Dan* noted that the City has reasons for their rules. The roads were built in the 1920s, and the houses are being upgraded at 3 times the size and they need to provide for adequate safety to residents. This is the chance to upgrade the street to the standard of at least the 20<sup>th</sup> century if not the 21<sup>st</sup>.

*Jamie Hall* related that this is not categorically exempt from CEQA; this is the definition of cumulative impact, when you have three projects on the same street. He related that it is feasible to increase the road and that they need to work it out to the maximal extent feasible not just seek a deviation. *Jason* replied that he is trying to be the good development team, but can't control taking property away from other people. *Jamie* feels we need to be a leader and stop the willy-nilly issuance of DABs on substandard roads.

*Chuck Maginnis* asked what Bel Air Association has to say about this, and *Colby Schwartz* with Tyler Development replied that he has worked with *Paulette*. *Michael Kemp* called the question.

*Gary* read the motion as follows:

**MOTION:** The BABCNC recommends that the Zoning Administrator not approve the application as presented in the above noted case.

Hand count was taken, with 12 yea votes by *Irene Sandler*, *Andre Stojka*, *Alan Fine*, *Don Loze*, *Nickie Miner*, *Michael Chasteen*, *Jamie Hall*, *Robert Ringler*, *Dan Palmer*, *Robin Greenberg*, *Michael Kemp*, *Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 2 abstentions by *Chuck Maginnis* and *Larry Leisten*. The motion passed.

**Number 3 & 4 were then voted on together:**

**3. 457 Cuesta Way, 90077**

Case # ZA2014-2012 ZAD

To permit the remodel and addition to an existing 9,264 s.f. house to 11,083 s.f., including garage. Maximum height of building to be 36 feet. The dwelling is on a lot fronting a Sub-Standard Hillside Limited Street. Variance requests relief from code requirement to improve the sub-standard street.

The PLU Committee voted at the 08/12/2014 meeting to recommend to BABCNC Board to oppose the application.

**MOTION:** The BABCNC recommends that the Zoning Administrator not approve the application as presented in the above noted case.

Michael related that this is next door to the above property. The committee feels this is cumulative and would like at least to come up with some conditions to mitigate.

**4. 474 N. Cuesta Way**

ZA 2014-2319 ZAD

Add a new accessory structure to an existing single family residence.

The dwelling is on a lot fronting a Sub-Standard Hillside Limited Street. Variance requests relief from code requirement to improve the sub-standard street.

The PLU Committee voted at the 08/12/2014 meeting to recommend to BABCNC Board to oppose the application.

**MOTION:** The BABCNC recommends that the Zoning Administrator not approve the application as presented in the above noted case.

Michael Kemp moved; Robert Ringler seconded.

- **[Robert Ringler left the meeting at this point at which time 14 members were present.]**

Hand count was taken with 13 yea votes by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, 0 abstentions and motions **#3 & #4 passed.**

**g. J.M.B. Century City Proposed Project at 1950 Ave. of the Stars – No report.**

**12. Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee** (Updates, Discussion & Possible Action) – *Chuck Maginnis* (15 minutes)

- Senior Lead Officer 8A29 - *Chris Ragsdale*, WLA Community Police Station (3 minutes)

- Senior Lead Officer - *Ralph Sanchez*, Hollywood Community Police Station (3 minutes)

**a. Update on August 20, 2014 EP Committee Meeting** (*No Sept. meeting*) – *Maginnis*

*Chuck* thanked everyone for their comments about the LA Times article stating that Residents of Beverly Glen was mentioned as was Bel Air Ridge; however, the article primarily featured Bel Air Crest.

He noted that Bel Air Crest has been a magnificent show place for everybody to take note of. They got over 17 responses to the article from Florida to multiple California communities, and ended up refusing a couple of television spots with NBC, CBS and a French TV station. At his next meeting, they want to discuss communications amongst the different HOAs as well as liability issues again.

Gary asked if no objection, to have Stacy Gerlich, as our feature speaker in November for ½ hour, and get a draw from our stakeholders.

*Chuck* continued his report that he was sad to say that they will have to abandon the Emergency Notification system, which he had adequately researched, but turned out to be unprofitable for the company; though they had made some changes and would be giving us another proposal. He added that we do have Alert County LA, where all land line (ATT & Verizon) residents are automatically notified, along with cell phones, Time Warner Cable and Charter (VOIP), by signing up.

**b. Neighbor to Neighbor – *Chuck Maginnis* – No report.**

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

*Gary* first noted that *Thomas* and he have missed each other; *Thomas* promised he'd finish his review in two weeks. *Gary* will call him back tomorrow. *Larry* noted that we had submitted a formal application to amend the bylaws and asked *Gary* to sign and approve so *Thomas* can work on it and be done when *Gary* gets back. *Larry* also related that when we get comments back from *Thomas*, we can incorporate the Ad Hoc Finance Committee as a standard committee into the bylaws.

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

**a. Update on Meet & Greet during the 10-22-14 Board Meeting at Mulholland Tennis Club**

- *Robin* gave update, that we have food, drink, wine, appetizers, coffee, lemonade, and encouraged everyone to bring friends from the neighborhood, along with the public officials who will be there.  
- *Gary* noted that the next meeting will include business first with special items; he met with *Robin* and would like to make sure this gets out to stakeholders; we will send an e-vite to get a count and asks that each association bring at least 10-15 people and to get *Robin* the list so we can send the e-vites in the next 10 days. *Larry* indicated there are other ways to generate interest. *Chuck* clarified *Larry's* point to send a general invitation to all the different people here, who can pass it on to their managers.  
- *Gary* also would like the lists to build up invites for the meetings, so they don't go through the cracks, and we are building up a list for stakeholders, to reach out to more stakeholders.

**15. West L.A. Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) –** (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action) - *Robin Greenberg*

**a. Update on August 20, 2014 WRAC Meeting:**

**MOTION:** BABCNC supports the following motion approved by WRAC at its monthly meeting held on August 20, 2014:

**People St. Projects** (from *Chris Spitz*) (Nov. 2014 Passage Deadline)

WRAC urges the Mayor, LADOT and the City Council to amend the process for consideration of design and location of L.A. People St. Projects (including Plazas, Parklets and Bicycle Corrals) to include a requirement for advance notice to and consultation with Neighborhood and Community Councils. To the extent applicable, designs and locations should comply with local Specific Plans. We also urge the program to comply with CEQA, as applicable.

*Nickie Miner* moved, *Mike Kemp* seconded. The WRAC motion passed unanimously with 13 yeas by *Irene Sandler, Andre Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Jamie Hall, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Travis Longcore*; 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

**b. Update on September 17, 2014 WRAC Meeting:** Two items were not agendized.

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

- *Travis Longcore*

a. **SMMC Report** - *Travis* related that though not within our territory, the Conservancy is working on the Liberty Canyon overpass or underpass across the 101 Freeway, for connectivity for wildlife from Santa Monica Mountains to Points north. He announced that there would be a big rally there tomorrow, for funding sources for our mountain lions in the SM Mountains.

*Travis* stated he finally got some documents back from the Fire Department regarding the canopy removal project. They did provide documents that he feels were clearly jerry-rigged, as they said they don't know anything about the canopy project. He scanned these and can give them. The contract with the contractor says "clear from curb to sky."

*Travis* related that as a result of people not being happy about their trees being destroyed, the Mayor's office through the City Forester got in touch with the Fire Department, saying we are not convinced that you are not automatically exempted from protected tree ordinance... which covers oaks and sycamores, some of the trees of issue here, and the FD had a hastily convened meeting in which the forester agreed to an expedited process to give them permits to remove the trees that they wanted to remove but they would do some sort of mitigation. None of that had public notice and could not have been known unless we filed the request and got those documents.

He recommended that his nonprofit and other neighborhood associations write the City a letter that says this is a project, it is discretionary, not within the normal course of doing things in the brush clearance unit, and it has an environmental impact. You cannot have a discretionary project with environmental impacts to mitigate for and not put it through CEQA.

The letter would say something to the effect that it has come to our attention that this is a project; that it is ongoing, that it exists; you called the project, it has impacts and we want you to stop until you actually disclose what the project is, allow the public to comment, and have a way for everyone to understand what the score is. The letter has been drafted. The Benedict Canyon Association have agreed to sign on, his nonprofit will sign on to it, to cease and desist.

The Chair this evening has given *Travis* the authority to send the email out to the entire board. *Travis* invited anyone who wants to join in on this and added that the letter does not say that they can't do this, it just says this is a project that affects the environment, and has to go through the process, and stop it until you tell us what you're doing and give us the mitigation...

*Larry* noted that Mandeville looked less wooded as it was previously, which *Travis* confirmed.

- 17. Ad-hoc "I-405 Sepulveda Widening Improvement Project"** & Metro Update on Sidewalks @ Skirball Bridge to Mulholland -- *Irene Sandler & Gary Plotkin* -- *Irene* related that *Fortuna* said they'll have the Mulholland and Skirball bridges done by November. The sign saying "Work on Wilshire" is not the 405 project, it's about the bus route on Wilshire. *Nickie* noted it is west of 405.
- 18. 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* - Deferred.
- 19. Ad-Hoc Transit Committee (Discussion whether to continue committee)** *Gary Plotkin*  
We will take this off the calendar: No more transit ad hoc committee.
- 20. Council District 5 Report** Planning Deputies, *Noah Muhlstein & Gurmet Khara* – No report.

21. **Council District 4 Report** Field Deputy of Housing & Transport *Sharon Shapiro* – No report.
22. **Traffic Committee Report & Police Advisory Board Report** – *Robert A. Ringler*  
**Next LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee: Wednesday October 8, at 8:30 a.m.** at the West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue.

*Gary* spoke on behalf of *Robert* who had left the meeting, about the upcoming fundraising event which will be held at the Century Plaza Hotel on November 1<sup>st</sup>, hosted by *Sharon Stone*, *Jimmy Smits*, and others, to raise money for the youth programs sponsored by the Police Station. \$250 a ticket, and \$475 per couple. There are sponsorship packages, VIP packages; forms for silent auction contributions.

23. **Private and Public Schools News** – No report
24. **New Business / General Announcements:** (Discussion & Possible Action)
  - a. **L.A. City Central Collections System** - Council File #: 14-0600 (FY2014-2015 City Budget Proposal) – *Don Loze* -- This is tabled
  - b. **DWP – Rate Increases & Tier 2 Rates** - *Loze* – *Don* related that the increases are coming.
  - c. **City Sidewalks** – *Gary Plotkin* – *Gary* mentioned the one issue that came up today at WRAC; that people are trying to figure out how to regulate outdoor tables for the restaurants.
25. **Adjourn meeting:** Meeting adjourned at 9:25.

### **UPCOMING MEETING**

**October 23, 2014:** Board meeting and Meet & Greet in honor of Supervisor, *Zev Yaroslavsky*, to be held at the **Mulholland Tennis Club**.

(Of note, the October 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting was subsequently rescheduled to October 23<sup>rd</sup> and *Paul Koretz's* guest appearance was rescheduled to November 19<sup>th</sup>.)

**November 19, 2014:** Guest Speaker, CD5 Councilmember *Paul Koretz*

**December 17, 2014:** AJU with Guest Speaker, to be determined

**ATTACHMENT:**

The following is the letter from Cassandra Barrere sent by email on September 17, 2014 @ 4:22 pm, and read aloud to the Board by Gary Plotkin – under Agenda Item #10: Treasurer's Report & Expenditure Requests a. 1. Status of RED Flags, Poles & Signs:

**COMMENTS RE purchased and delivered RED FLAGS**

Dear Council Board,

The 4 red flags, 4 poles and 4 sleeves were delivered to my home and are safe until we decide the next steps.

The Ad hoc committee intent was to place the red flags into the sleeves beside signs explaining the red flag significance.

We discussed having a designated person or Fire Department representative to store the red flags and put them up on official RED FLAG DAYS.

The committee discussed where to place the 4 flags within the Council geography. Two options were offered: 1) at the four corners of the jurisdiction, 2) along Mulholland from LC Blvd to the 405 – with 2 other sites chosen between them.

I do not believe verbiage or design for the sign was ever agreed upon by the Committee.

At the LC Board meeting this week, the following sign messages were suggested to begin the discussion.

**You are entering a very high fire hazard severity zone.**

**The RED FLAG signifies extreme fire danger TODAY!**

**Keep your cigarettes inside your vehicle, it's the LAW.**

**Possibly cite municipal code**

Hope this explains my information regarding the RED FLAG item on the agenda.

Yours, Cassandra Barrere, Laurel Canyon Association