



**MINUTES of Regular Meeting of the Board
Wednesday February 25, 2015 7:00–9:00 P.M.**

Present: 14

Quorum: 12

2015 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association		
<i>Irene Sandler</i>	X	
Bel Air Ridge HOA		
<i>André Stojka</i>	X	
Benedict Canyon Association		
<i>Michael Chasteen</i>	X	
<i>Alan Fine</i>	X	
<i>Don Loze</i>	X	
<i>Nickie Miner</i>	X	
Casiano Estates Association		
<i>Gary Plotkin</i>	X	
Faith-Based Organizations		
<i>Lonnie Mayfield</i>		X
Holmby Hills Association		
<i>Jason Spradlin appointed after roll & voted this evening)</i>	X	
K-6 Private Schools		
<i>Vicki Kelly</i>		X
K-5 Public Schools – Open Seat Pending		
7-12 Private Schools		
<i>John Amato (notified of absence)</i>		X
Laurel Canyon Association		
<i>Jamie Hall (notified of absence)</i>		X
<i>Cassandra Barrère</i>		X
<i>Cathy Wayne</i>	X	
<i>Tony Tucci</i>		X

2013 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
Members-at-Large		
<i>Larry Leisten</i> (Notified of absence)		X
<i>Chuck Maginnis</i>	X	
<i>Dan J. Love</i>	X	
<i>Maureen Levinson</i> (elected meeting; <u>not</u> voting)	(X)	
Residents of Beverly Glen		
<i>Robert A. Ringler</i> (notified of absence)		X
<i>Dan Palmer</i> (notified of absence)		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:	14	9

City Officials

- *Gurmet Khara*, Field Deputy
- *Andy Shrader*, CD5 Director, Environmental Affairs, Water Policy & Sustainability

Guests who Signed in:

- *Maureen Levinson*, BAHOA
- *Robert Schlesinger*, BCA
- *Marlene Hakalcha*, Bel Air Park
- *Sarah Freed*, Synergy
- *Bruce Kuyper*

Guests w/ Speaker Cards: **Item#**

- *Phil Larson, Bel Air*, 22b.
- *Katherine Bard*, 6
- *Patricia Bel Hearst*, 6 & 7a.
- *Maureen Smith*, 6
- *Kiyochi Graves*, 11a.

Guest Speakers:

- *Kristen Holdsworth*, UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability
- *Melanie Winter*, The River Project
- *Jevon Lam, P.E.*, Water Conservation Policy, LADWP

At 7:05 p.m., awaiting a quorum, public comment and presentation on the Drought were given out of order:

Agenda #6: *Patricia Bel Hearst* commented on increasing development in L.A. & increasing demands for water; limits placed by DWP on homeowners' use of water, and need for recyclable water for landscaping.

Agenda #7.a.ii. – Presentations on the Drought in Southern California

Kristen Holdsworth from UCLA Institute of the Environment and Sustainability spoke on residential water

consumption across the city, mapping and policy recommendations. From the policy brief written by *Celine Kuklowsky*, she reported that the main drivers of single family water consumption are household income, landscape greenness, water rates, and water volume allocation. Outdoor water use accounts for 54% of residential water use across the city.

Melanie Winter, from “Water LA,” gave a presentation on issues and proposed solutions to the water shortage. She stated that their motto is “Capture Conserve Reuse”. They are partnering with the City, and collaborating with organizations, neighborhood councils and community groups, including the Theodore Payne Foundation.

1. **Call to Order** – President *Travis Longcore, Ph.D.* called the meeting to order at 7:26 p.m.
2. **Roll Call** – Roll was taken by Secretary, *Robin Greenberg*, with 13 present; 14 when *Jason Spradlin* was admitted to the Board this evening and able to vote, necessitating 8 votes for motion to pass. There was a total of 15 present when *Maureen Levinson* was voted onto the Board; however, *Maureen* did not vote. Per items 7f & 7g, *Jason Spradlin* became a BABCNC Board member representing Holmby Hills HOA, this evening. He completed the required trainings. *Maureen Levinson* was voted onto the Board as an At-Large member from the Bel Air area; is still completing trainings and did not vote this evening. Notwithstanding the BABCNC Bylaws, per approval of the Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), the quorum necessary for BABCNC to conduct business is 12 members, and that quorum was met.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance** – was recited.
4. **MOTION to adopt the February 25, 2015** was made by *Gary Plotkin*, seconded by *André Stojka*, and passed by unanimous consent with 13 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.
5. **MOTION to approve the January 28, 2015 Minutes (Attachment A)** was made by *Alan Fine*, seconded by *Michael Kemp*, and passed by unanimous consent with 13 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.
6. **Public Comment** - BABCNC welcomed public comment on any topic that is not on the adopted agenda.

Katherine Bard: *Katherine* gave an update on 10220 Scenario Lane, regarding a lot line adjustment appeal: She was not allowed to appeal that day despite paying to do so. She requested guidance from PLU Chair, Michael Kemp, and provided him a copy of her letter to the Department of Planning.

Patricia Bel Hearst: Patricia and Bruce Kuyper attended a meeting at DONE, and she commented that there is a move for neighborhood councils to subdivide. (For further information on this, see “Message from the GM” in EmpowerLA’s 02/20/15 online newsletter on NC subdivisions, and CF12-1681, which includes the original motion from October 2012, regarding NC’s right to change boundaries. (Archived articles can be found in EmpowerLA’s ongoing blog.)

Maureen Smith: *Chuck Maginnis* introduced *Maureen* and as a prospective member. She attends Emergency Preparedness meetings & NC Board meetings. *Irene Sandler* agreed with his recommendation. *Maureen* introduced herself having legal and real estate credentials, allowing her to contribute on PLU issues. She is becoming a volunteer mediator with City Attorney & volunteers with nonprofit organizations.

Reports of Officers

7. **President’s Report – Travis Longcore**
 - a. **Representatives of Elected Officials and Agencies**
 - i. **Captain Evangelyn Nathan & Vito Palazzolo, West Los Angeles Police Station.**

Captains Nathan & Palazzolo could not attend this evening and sent Chris Ragsdale. *Chris Ragsdale*, Senior Lead Officer, WLA Police Station, gave report on crime in WLA; he has been working with the community, and reports a 6% decrease in crime. He stressed the need to continue to educate everyone to “harden the target,” as many of these crimes are preventable; mostly property/auto-related. He recommends home security.

Dan Love asked about gang-related taggings on the west side of Bel Air. *Chris* stated that they are monitoring the tagger-related graffiti, which are not gang related, as there are no violent crimes associated with them.

Robin Greenberg asked if data from neighborhood surveillance cameras are admissible in court, to which *Chris* replied, absolutely yes, they are.

- ii. *Andy Shrader*, CD5 Director of Environmental Affairs, Water Policy & Sustainability. This item was moved up, taken out of order, prior to meeting. Andy arrived during the presentation and did not speak.
Celine Kuklowsky, Sr. Researcher, CA Center for Sustainable Communities - Not present
Kristen Holdsworth, Project Manager, UCLA Institute of the Environment & Sustainability, spoke on the state of water consumption in Southern California as noted prior to the meeting being called to order.
Melanie Winter, Director of Water LA, spoke on what to do about these recent findings.
Jevon Lam, from DWP Water Conservation Policy, Legislation and Grants, was unable to give his presentation on water savings and water saving devices due to lack of time.
- iii. **Council District 5 Representatives, *Gurmet Khara, Field Deputy* -**
Gurmet Khara is reachable at Gurmet.Khara@lacity.org – She announced that DWP is planning a “Regulator Station Bypass Line Project” at Charing Cross & Hilgard. They will install approximately 300 feet of 36-inch wide welded steel pipe along Hilgard. It will be done in three phases beginning on June 17th 2015 & ending on January 15, 2016. A representative can come to our next meeting to explain the project. Handouts provided.

Don Loze asked *Gurmet* if we could have a copy of every draft of the ICOs being presented so we could discuss them prior to meetings with PLUM. He, *Robin* and *Nickie* were at the PLUM meeting and lacked needed information. No community impact statements on ICOs were noted on the PLUM agenda.

b. Robert’s Rules of Order

A handout summarizing the motions that can be used in a meeting was included in the agenda (Attachment B). *Travis* explained the benefits of using the Rules including time saving.

c. Officer Positions and Terms of Office

Travis gave an update on the officer positions allowed under the Bylaws, the allowable terms of office, and consideration of succession planning for new officer positions; that though *André Stojka* was appointed “Assistant Treasurer” last month, there is no such position. The BABCNC Bylaws limit “Treasurer” to five years if a replacement is available. *Alan Fine* has been Treasurer since 2002, and may be looking for someone to teach the job to. *Travis* noted we need somebody to train to be Treasurer. *Gary* suggested adding “Assistant Treasurer” to the Bylaws.

d. Code of Conduct Compliance

All Board members are required to sign the Code of Conduct form at the DONE website. Please reference <http://empowerla.org/code-of-conduct/>

- e. **Appointment of Parliamentarian:** *Travis* has spoken with our former Parliamentarian, *John Amato*, and is now appointing *Larry Leisten* to be Parliamentarian for this term.
- f. **Recognition of *Jason Spradlin*, Representative of Holmby Hills Homeowners Association, as a Member of the Board:** *Jason* completed his trainings and began voting from this point on.
- g. **Nomination of *Maureen Levinson*, as an At-Large representative, to the Board.**
MOTION: BABCNC acknowledges *Maureen Levinson* as an At-Large member of BABCNC in a non-represented area of Bel Air. (See attachment C for full motion.) President, *Travis Longcore*, moved, discussion was held, and the motion passed unanimously with 14 yeas by roll call vote by *Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Gary Plotkin, Cathy Wayne, Chuck Maginnis, Dan J. Love, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, Travis Longcore, and Jason Spradlin*, 0 nays, 0 abstentions. {*Maureen* didn't vote this evening.}
- h. **Ad-Hoc Committee on Mansionization - See Attachment D**
Travis thanked *Gary* for hard work and leadership as President of the Board for the last term, and the role that *Gary* plays in land use and building and safety.

MOTION to approve the formation of an ad hoc committee on mansionization made by *Don Loze*, seconded by *Nickie Miner*; discussion was held; *Dan Love* spoke in favor. Motion passed.

MOTION was made to appoint *Gary Plotkin* as Chair of the ad hoc committee on mansionization with *Dan Love, Maureen Levinson, Jason Spradlin & Don Loze* as committee members. Motion passed.

8. **Vice President's Report – *Nickie Miner***

- 9. **Secretary's Report – *Robin Greenberg*** - *Robin* asked members to please announce if they are leaving the table during meetings to avoid confusion on vote counts, particularly during unanimous consent votes. Vote count sheets require an accurate count.

10. **Treasurer's Report – *Alan Fine***

Approval of January 2015 Expenditure Report - Consideration of January 2015 expenditure report and bank statement is included in the agenda package (Attachment E).

MOTION: BABCNC approves January 2015 expenditure report and bank statement: *Alan Fine* moved; *Chuck Maginnis* seconded; a roll call vote count was taken with 13 yeas by *Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Gary Plotkin, Cathy Wayne, Chuck Maginnis, Dan J. Love, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Jason Spradlin*, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions, and passed unanimously.

Reports of Committees

11. **Planning and Land Use Committee – *Michael Kemp*, Chair**

- a. **1326 N. San Ysidro Drive** ZA 2014-3685-(ZV) (ZAA)
 The legalization of an existing 2nd Floor, 324 s.f. accessory living quarters, on top of an existing legal non-conforming two-car garage (codified under Permit # 1936LA13784), in conjunction with an existing 1,782.0 s.f. single family dwelling in the RE-15-1 Zone.
Kiyoshi Graves filled out a speaker card. He asked that the Board take the recommendation of the PLUC to support their application and issue a letter of support to submit to the case file.
Motion: The BABCNC recommends that the City of Los Angeles Zoning Administrator

approve the application as presented. *Mike Kemp* moved; motion passed by unanimous consent with 14 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions.

b. 10701 W. Sunset Blvd. ZA 2014-3929 CUW

Construction and installation of a wireless telecommunications facility for Verizon Wireless consisting of (12) panel antennas, (12) RRUs, and (1) parabolic dish mounted on a new 45' high monopine; placement of equipment cabinets, standby generator, and (2) raycaps at grade behind 8' high CMU enclosure.

Motion: The BABCNC recommends that the City of Los Angeles Zoning Administrator approve the application with the following conditions: a. The proposed "monopine" shall be of a high-quality dense-branch design in order to preserve the visual appeal of greenery and landscaping along Sunset Boulevard. b. The antennas shall be covered with "socks" so that the antennas camouflage with the tree itself.

Mike Kemp moved; motion passed by unanimous consent with 14 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

c. 924 Bel Air Road ZA 2014-4571 ZAA

ZA adjustment to allow an 8' wall & driveway gates to be constructed on top of a retaining wall varying in height from 0' to 3'6" for a combined variable height of 8' to 11'6" within the required front yard setback and right of way, in lieu of 3'6" otherwise permitted in the front yard setback.

Motion: The BABCNC recommends that the City of Los Angeles Zoning Administrator deny the application as presented.

Mike Kemp moved; motion passed by unanimous consent with 14 yeas, 0 nays, 0 abstentions.

d. 11007 W. Bellagio Place ZA 2014-4714 ZAD

The request is for the ZAD to permit four retaining walls in conjunction with additions/revision made to an existing SFD.

Motion: The BABCNC recommends that the City of Los Angeles Zoning Administrator deny the application as presented.

Mike Kemp moved; 14 yeas, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions, and motion presented by the PLUC passed by unanimous consent.

e. Updates on Pending Issues:

i. Update on ICO for "Mansionization" Ordinance. (Copies of the draft ICO were sent to Board members on February 15, 2015 and are available upon request.)

Recommended City Council approve the ICO as a first step. It has been continued and will come back to PLUM again.

ii. Update on pending Ridgeline Ordinance.

Don Loze reported that he has brought this back to *Paul Koretz*. He spoke on having an issue with the CAO, noting that it will cost more than anticipated to complete the process. He doesn't have the report yet and asked that when there is a report, that we have an opportunity to see it. He asked that his comments be incorporated into the minutes. He would have liked to have a CD5 Planning Deputy here at the meeting tonight.

iii. Update on project at 901 Strada Vecchia:

There is a meeting coming up on March 4th, which PLU Committee members will attend.

12. **Bylaws & Rules Committee – *Larry Leisten, Chair*** - Deferred due to planned absence

13. **Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee – Chuck Maginnis, Chair**

Chuck gave update on his January meeting. They now have a Communications Subcommittee with *Ron Cornell* and *Michael Schlenker*, ham radio expert, dealing with communication of oncoming fires and liability issues. The LAFD is pushing CERT.

14. **Outreach and Education Committee – Robin Greenberg, Chair**

- a. **Report on DONE Outreach Task Force Meeting of 01/16/2015** (Attachment F1)
Robin met with reps from all the NCs at *Marcia Selz's* house to discuss outreach.
- b. **Report on CD5 Coalition; Paul Koretz, Guest Speaker 01/17/2015** (Attachment F2)
Paul Koretz discussed goals for 2015, including hiring more IT, and anti-mansionization.

15. **Ad-Hoc Committee Use of Financial Surplus Before End of Fiscal Year – Jamie Hall, Chair**

- a. **MOTION:** To change name of committee to “Ad Hoc Committee on Budget and Finance”
André Stojka moved; *Cathy Wayne* seconded; and passed by unanimous consent

Alan Fine, Treasurer, related that while we have \$23,000 unused, \$14,000 is available in budget. *Chuck* asked for support with the minutes for his EP Committee.

Irene noted that we need to provide outreach and haven't received any wishes.

Travis encouraged members to get together to bring motions forward.

Gary stated that he sent *Vicki* a note a month ago, and will follow-up.

Gary mentioned the veterans on Sepulveda and the International Special Olympics, in August.

Reports of Representatives

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

- a. **MOTION: RE: Support for Council File 14-1624** That the Public Works Department, with assistance from Department of Transportation, Planning, CA, DONE, Chief Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst, be instructed to present a written report setting ways and means by which the City may best serve community organizations seeking to undertake community improvement projects (CIS).
Robin moved; *Nickie* seconded. Discussion was held. *Irene* asked that the motion be amended to say that the report be in writing. The motion passed unanimously, as amended with 14 yeas, 0 nays and 0 abstentions.
- b. **MOTION: RE: Support for Council File 13-0025SI:** Police Commission report 14-0441 regarding recommendations for hit and run collision reward system.
Robin moved; *Nickie* seconded; motion passed by unanimous consent; approved as moved.
- c. **MOTION: RE: Support for Council File 14-1738:** That the Police Department report on the status of its plan to issue body worn cameras to LAPD officers.
Robin moved; *Chuck* seconded; the motion passed by unanimous consent; approved as moved.
- d. **MOTION: RE: Martin Cadillac:** Resolved the WRAC does not support the Martin Cadillac Project as presented in the DEIR (800,000 square foot development site Olympic and Bundy).
Robin moved; *Nickie* seconded; a roll call vote was taken with **9 yeas** by *Irene Sandler*, *André Stojka*, *Alan Fine*, *Nickie Miner*, *Michael Chasteen*, *Gary Plotkin*, *Cathy Wayne*, *Dan J. Love*, *Robin Greenberg*, **2 nays** by *Don Loze* and *Jason Spradlin*; **2 abstentions** by *Chuck Maginnis* and *Michael Kemp*; and the motion passed.

- e. **MOTION: Request Extra Funds for DONE Staffing** WRAC supports additional funding for DONE for staffing to supervise the Neighborhood Councils, and that a Community Impact Statement be submitted to Council File indicating same. CIS requested.
See Attachment G: Letter of Support for Extra Funding for DONE dated November 10, 2014, by Budget Advocates, *Jay Handal & Terrence Gomes*, given to City Council November 18, 2014. *Robin Greenberg* moved; *Cathy Wayne* seconded; discussion was held. [*André Stojka* disagreed with this. *Gary Plotkin* noted that DONE has 3-4 field reps for 95+ NCs; if the money goes to add field reps, they'd have a smaller number of NCs to administer.]
A roll call vote was taken with **8 yeas** by *Alan Fine, Michael Chasteen, Gary Plotkin, Cathy Wayne, Chuck Maginnis, Dan J. Love, Robin Greenberg and Michael Kemp*, **3 nays** by *Irene Sandler, André Stojka and Don Loze*; **2 abstentions** by *Nickie Miner and Jason Spradlin*, and **the motion carried**.
- f. **MOTION: RE: Support for Council File 15-0020 – Collecting Fees Related to Condition Compliance** Requests that Planning Department report back on best practices to enforce planning conditions. See Attachment H.
Robin Greenberg moved; *Nickie Miner* seconded; discussion was held, noting lack of enforcement within 90 day period; now 45 days, and lack of communication between Planning & Building & Safety departments.
A roll call vote count was taken with **8 yeas** by *Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Alan Fine, Nickie Miner, Michael Chasteen, Cathy Wayne, Chuck Maginnis, and Robin Greenberg*; **4 nays** by *Michael Chasteen, Gary Plotkin, Dan J. love, and Michael Kemp*; **1 abstention** by *Jason Spradlin* and **the motion passed with 8, a majority of those present**.

17. **Community-Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) Report – Robert Ringler**

Nickie Miner reported, in Robert's absence, that the 02/24/15 meeting had a special report on animal abuse.

18. **Traffic Committee Report – Robert Ringler**

Next LAPD West Bureau Traffic Committee: Wednesday March 11, 2015 at 8:30 A.M. at the West Los Angeles Community Police Station, 1663 Butler Avenue.

19. **Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Report – Travis Longcore** – *Travis* reported that the Conservancy has no new information this month.

Update on LAFD Tree Canopy Project – *Travis* related that he received a letter with none of the issues addressed & will follow up on this. No motion. (Copy of letter provided to Board.)

20. **Budget Reps' Report on Budget Advocates – André Stojka & Nickie Miner** – None.

21. **Unfinished Business**

a. **Red Flags – Jamie Hall, Cassandra Barrère & Dan Palmer**

Update on status of signs and poles to accompany red flags to be deployed in BABCNC territory under red flag conditions. *Cathy Wayne* moved to postpone until the March meeting; *Chuck Maginnis* seconded. The motion passed by unanimous consent.

b. **Google Apps: Status – Travis Longcore for Jamie Hall who was absent**

Update on use of Google Apps for BABCNC email services

MOTION: to authorize licenses for new Board members.

Nicki Miner moved; *Chuck Maginnis* seconded; motion passed by unanimous consent.

22. **New Business**

a. **“Council Votes Yes on Hiring Outside Counsel” CF-14-1606 – Gary Plotkin**

MOTION: To oppose action by City of Los Angeles to hire outside legal counsel to represent the City in suits where residents challenge Planning and Land Use decisions.

Background information is on the www.babcnc.org website and in Council Files No. 14-1606 and 14-1438.

Gary Plotkin moved; *Cathy Wayne & Nickie Miner* support; motion passed/unanimous consent.

b. **Emergency Management Department grant for customized Neighborhood Management Plan – Chuck Maginnis**

Dr. Phil Larson gave Public Comment, stating that the City would like this area as a test site. The issue is highly accepted by their community. *Chuck Maginnis* will give moral support.

MOTION: That BABCNC participate in a grant application for a customized Neighborhood Management Plan for Casiano Bel Air Park, authorizing *Chuck Maginnis* to prepare and submit the proposal, subject to the approval and the signature of the President.

Robin moved; *Gary* seconded; discussion was held. Roll call vote count was taken with 13 yeas by *Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Michael Chasteen, Alan Fine, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Gary Plotkin, Cathy Wayne, Chuck Maginnis, Dan J. Love, Robin Greenberg, Michael Kemp, and Jason Spradlin*, 0 nays, and 0 abstentions, and the motion passed by unanimous support.

23. **Good of the Order**

Members of the Board have the opportunity to report any item of interest to the Council.

Travis Longcore spoke to the Board, stating that 1) the work goes on in the committees between meetings, and, 2) we have to do better with CISs. *Don Loze* encouraged having better personal relationships with our Councilmember and his staff. *Irene* noted *Joan Pelico* is running for the CD4 seat, and that their office has not been responding. *Jason* asked how we connect with the CM’s office and asked if there is a council liaison.

24. **Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 9:07 p.m.**

UPCOMING MEETING – Wednesday March 25, 2014 at AJU