





Building A Better Community

# MINUTES of Regular Meeting of the Board Wednesday, June 24, 2015 7:00–9:00 P.M. American Jewish University

| Present: 17  |         | Quorum: 15     |
|--|---------|----------------|
| 2015 Stakeholder Groups / Certified<br>Representatives | Present | Not<br>Present |
| Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association             | n       |                |
| Irene Sandler  | X       |                |
| Bel Air Ridge HOA                                      |         |                |
| André Stojka   | X       |                |
| Benedict Canyon Association                            |         |                |
| Michael Chasteen (planned absence)                     |         | Х              |
| Nickie Miner   | X       |                |
| Don Loze   | X       |                |
| Bob Schlesinger  | X       |                |
| Casiano Estates Association                            |         |                |
| Gary Plotkin   | X       |                |
| Faith-Based Organizations                              |         |                |
| Lonnie Mayfield  |         | X              |
| Holmby Hills Association                               |         |                |
| Jason Spradlin (planned absence)                       |         | X              |
| K-6 Private Schools                                    |         |                |
| Teresa Lee   | X       |                |
| 7-12 Private Schools                                   |         |                |
| John Amato   | X       |                |
| Laurel Canyon Association                              |         |                |
| <i>Jamie Hall</i> (planned absence)                    |         | X              |
| Cassandra Barrère                                      |         | X              |
| Cathy Wayne  | X       |                |
| Tony Tucci   | X       |                |

| 2013 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Reps | Present | Not<br>Present |
|--|---------|----------------|
| Members-at-Large                         |         |                |
| Larry Leisten                            | X       |                |
| Chuck Maginnis                           | X       |                |
| Residents of Beverly Glen                |         |                |
| Robert A. Ringler (planned absence)      |         | X              |
| Dan Palmer                               | X       |                |
| Roscomare Valley Association             |         |                |
| <i>Robin Greenberg</i> (planned absence) |         | X              |
| Michael Kemp (planned absence)           |         | X              |
| Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy       |         |                |
| Travis Longcore, Ph.D.                   | X       |                |
| Bel Air District                         |         |                |
| Dan J. Love                              | X       |                |
| Maureen Levinson                         | X       |                |
| Beverly Park Estates                     |         |                |
| Maureen Smith                            | X       |                |
| Totals:                                  | 17      | 8              |

# **Guest Speakers & Guests**:

Greg Bartz, Community Liaison, LADWP Louis G. Rubalcaba, Waterworks Engineer, LADWP Mark G. Zavala, Civil Engineering Associate, LADWP Ray Verches, Southern California Gas Company Mimi Goh, Project Manager, Community Education & Outreach, SoCalGas Officer E. Veloz, LAPD / West Los Angeles Police Station 310-444-0702 WLAPD Station In addition, thirty-three (33) stakeholders and guests were present at this evening's meeting.

[While awaiting a quorum, at 7:09 pm, the Board & Public heard informational items, beginning with Item #7 a.(i) on the Lower Franklin Canyon Reservoir Cover Project by *Greg Bartz* from LADWP. See item below.]

- 1. **Call to Order:** Board President, *Travis Longcore*, formally called the meeting to order at 7:20 pm after the informational item on Franklin Canyon Reservoir project was completed.
- 2. **Roll Call:** *Travis Longcore* called the roll, with 16 Board members present initially, another member arrived at 7:12, bringing the total to 17.

# 3. Pledge of Allegiance

4. Adoption of the June 24, 2015 Agenda: Motion to approve the June 24, 2015 agenda. *Travis* requested one change to the agenda: that the report on Expenditures from the Ad-Hoc Committee be moved up to the Treasurer's report, as the Ad-Hoc Committee's job is done. There were no objections to adopting the agenda by unanimous consent, and the agenda was adopted.

5. Approval of the May 27, 2015 Minutes: Copies of the May 27, 2015 minutes (Attachment A) were circulated with the draft agenda. There were no additions, corrections, or deletions. The motion to adopt the minutes was made and the Board unanimously adopted the May 27, 2015 minutes as circulated.

### 6. Public Comment

*Barbara Blinderman* requested that the Board agendize for July or August how to make the Department of Building & Safety adhere to Public Records Act.

# **Reports of Officers**

# 7. President's Report – Travis Longcore

- a. Representatives of Elected Officials and Agencies
  - i. Greg Bartz, LADWP Community Liaison, CD2, 4, 6, 7 & 13
    <u>Presentation, Q&A on Lower Franklin Canyon Reservoir Cover Replacement Project</u> Greg Bartz introduced the project, offered to answer questions after the meeting and via email: greg.bartz@ladwp.com. He introduced Louis Rubalcaba, PE, Waterworks Engineer with the DWP: louis.rubalcaba@ladwp.com. Mr. Rubalcaba introduced Mark Zavala, Civil Engineering Associate with the DWP: mark.zavala@ladwp.com.
    The team related information including plans to change to the existing floating cover, pipe work, and repaving the reservoir and perimeter road. The reservoir isolation will begin on July 13th. They will run a bypass line and pump as much of the remaining water into the bypass line to serve the customers. A month later, trailers will be brought onto the site and will begin removing the cover, excavation of pipeline work. By February 2017, the work on Lower Franklin Canyon Reservoir should be completed. Working hours will be 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. plus Saturdays 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

### ii. *Ray Verches*, Southern California Gas Company Presentation, Q&A on SoCalGas' Advanced Meter Project

Mr. Verches came with two colleagues, Mimi Goh, Project Manager, Community Education and Outreach person, Mgoh@semprautilities.com, and one of his chief engineers. Mr. Verches reported that the project began in 2012, and that they are two-thirds through. The new meters electronically read gas usage in place of meter readers. They are putting together a network to capture that information into the service centers from which they bill, and are physically upgrading the meters. In the City of L.A., they have about 407 DCUs (data collector units), of which over 350 have gone on existing street lighting poles. They require additional DCUs. Many are in areas such as ours where there is not a lot of lighting, so new poles have to go in. For information as to placement of poles in this area, see page 12 of the packets, which lists the 14 new poles and 5 DCUs, going on Bureau street-lighting poles for a total of 19 poles, covering a wide area. They are digital, wireless with low-powered radiofrequency; they take readings four times a day for a fraction of a second, and use a low-powered wireless modem and a "very, very low radiofrequency tower." As to privacy, Mr. Verches denied that SoCalGas would release personal information to law enforcement though stated he was never asked about this before. Mr. Verches also indicated that it was possible to opt out of the Advanced Meter Project but that doing so would incur a monthly charge for the customer.

**Public Comment:** *Ms. Patricia Bell Hearst* asked if this will affect billing as happened with the DWP. *Mr. Verches* responded that it will help you manage your gas. There is an opt-out. *Travis Longcore* added that they will charge you a monthly fee to opt out.

**Board questions answered by** *Mr. Verches:* These will not cause frequency interference with other networks. They will be installed in residential areas. They will try to use wooden instead of concrete poles to conform to the canyons. *Irene Sandler* and *Travis Longcore* noted that they need to work with the communities/HOAs for each area, with exact maps and locations of the poles deal with issues of fire safety and aesthetics.

### iii. Noah Muhlstein, Planning Deputy, Council District 5 – Not present

# iv. *Travis Longcore* concluded his President's report with the following: DONE has a new set of website standards. *Maureen Smith* has agreed to check these to our website. *Travis* thanked *Maureen* for volunteering to do this. Pudget Day is this Seturday.

- Budget Day is this Saturday.
- Committee elections need to be done by the end of this quarter, to be discussed later.

# 8. Vice President's Report – Nickie Miner

### 9. Secretary's Report – Robin Greenberg – Absent

### 10. Treasurer's Report - Dan Love

Travis thanked Dan for stepping into this position during this difficult period to get through this transition.

a. Consideration of May 2015 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) Board will consider and vote on approval of May 2015 expenditure report and bank statement (<u>Attachment B</u>). *Dan Love* gave report on the MER, noting, under Outstanding Commitments, the approved Neighborhood Purpose Grants including the ham radio equipment and the Fire Stations' items. The owl boxes are pending approval by DONE. Catch up items included staffing services and web maintenance.

**Motion**: Approval of the May 2015 expenditure report and bank statement (Attachment B). Moved by *André Stojka*, seconded by *Bob Schlesinger*, and the MER was approved by 14 yeas from *Irene Sandler*, *André Stojka*, *Nickie Miner*, *Don Loze*, *Gary Plotkin*, *John Amato*, *Teresa Lee*, *Cathy Wayne*, *Chuck Maginnis*, *Dan Palmer*, *Dan Love*, *Maureen Levinson*, *Maureen Smith*, *and Robert Schlesinger*, 0 nays, and 1 abstention, *Tony Tucci*. (*Mr. Leisten* stepped out.)

*Dan Love* related that he obtained access to the checking account last week; however, still does not have the new bankcard.

*Dan* asked that Board members, to the extent possible, <u>please avoid making any purchases</u> requiring reimbursements, and to ask *Cathy* or himself for purchases to be made by bankcard, as the reimbursement process is unduly complicated.

# **b.** Consideration of Part I of Budget Package Board will consider and vote on approval of Council Budget, Council Outreach Survey & Strategic Plan (<u>Attachment C</u>).

*Dan Love* noted at the last meeting, the Board approved increasing staff hours by 5-10 hours, and that the new budget reflects an additional 7-1/2 hours, on average, per week, for temp staff. He noted the other recurring monthly expenses, including web maintenance, software charges, and a phone bill as well as other miscellaneous charges. He noted that in this budget there will be no provision for large purchases or large NPGs in excess of \$1,000 at the end of the year. *Irene Sandler* asked what to say if we get a NPG request. *Dan* replied that at this time, we are fully allocated; and *Travis* reminded the Board that they wanted to have staffing for EP and PLU, so we can retain the leadership there, and that we'll see when we get there.

**Motion**: Approval of the 2015-2016 Budget Package including the Proposed Budget, the Outreach Survey and the Strategic Plan (Attachment C).

Moved by André Stojka, seconded by Gary Plotkin, and unanimously approved by 16 yeas from Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Nickie Miner, Don Loze, Gary Plotkin, John Amato, Teresa Lee, Cathy Wayne, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Dan Palmer, Dan Love, Maureen Levinson, Maureen Smith, and Robert Schlesinger.

# c. Consideration of Dan Love as Union Bankcard Holder

**Motion**: Approval of *Dan Love* as holder of Union Bankcard on behalf of the Council. Moved by *Nickie Miner*; seconded by *Irene Sandler* and unanimously approved by 16 yeas from *Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Nickie Miner, Don Loze, Gary Plotkin, John Amato, Teresa Lee, Cathy Wayne, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Dan Palmer, Dan Love, Maureen Levinson, Maureen Smith, and Robert Schlesinger.* 

# 11. New Business

**a.** Short Term Rentals: Discussion and possible action on motion to legalize and collect Transient Occupancy Tax on short-term rentals in the City of Los Angeles introduced by *Bonin, Wesson,* and *Koretz*. Consideration of position letter submitted to BABCNC by Benedict Canyon Association. (Attachment) – *Nickie Miner* 

*Nickie Miner* presented the letter by BCA, which describes objections to short-term rentals in the hillside communities for many reasons including risks from transients coming in and out of the hills who may have no idea about fire hazards from cigarette smoking, lighting fires, tiki candles, etc., risks of turning this single-family area into a motel area, creating a zoning change from single family to transient zoning; likely insurance rate increases; property stigma to homeowners in proximity to short-term rentals; increased traffic, illegal parking, blocking emergency vehicles, etc., and, that there is no way to enforce any of it.

<u>Motion:</u> BABCNC supports the position taken by Benedict Canyon Association (BCA) and authorizes a Community Impact Statement to be submitted within 60 days. Moved by *Cathy Wayne* and seconded by *Larry Leisten*. Motion passed unanimously and a CIS will be submitted.

b. **AJU Arch**: Discussion and possible action to send a letter to the Planning Department supporting AJU request to build an arch on west side of building facing Mullholland, in accordance with attached drawing. (Attachment D) – *Gary Plotkin* 

<u>Motion:</u> Support proposed donor arch at AJU. Moved by *Gary Plotkin*, seconded by *Maureen Levinson*; passed by unanimous consent.

# **Reports of Committees**

# 12. Planning & Land Use Committee Report – Michael Kemp – Absent

- **a.** Update on June 9, 2015 PLUC Meeting. *Travis Longcore* presented the following on behalf of the PLU Chair & substitutes who were both absent:
- b. Consideration of motions recommended by the PLU Committee from June 9, 2015 meeting:
  - i. <u>862 N. Moraga Drive</u> DIR 2014-4936-DB Demolition of an existing 5-unit apartment and the construction of a new 13-unit

apartment. Request relief from Code Section 12.22-A, 25: Density Bonus: project provides 7% Very Low Income units and adds 3 Bonus units. Base density = 9 units; 1 Very Low Income Unit (11%); + 3 Bonus units = 13 units. BABCNC PLUC case manager: *Dan Love* 

**Motion:** The BABCNC recommends that the City of Los Angeles Zoning Administrator **deny** the application in case #DIR 2014-4936-DB.

Extensive public comment and discussion was held. There was no objection to calling the question. The motion denying the application from the Planning and Land Use Committee was articulated for reasons having to do with housing development on a substandard street of a hillside area, and that a Very High Fire Severity Hazard Zone is not eligible for any on-menu incentives, and, that the intent of the Q Classification is to in fact limit the height that is expressed in the Q Classification.

A roll call vote was taken and the motion carried unanimously by 16 yeas from all Board members voting: *Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Nickie Miner, Don Loze, Gary Plotkin, John Amato, Teresa Lee, Cathy Wayne, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Dan Palmer, Dan Love, Maureen Levinson, Maureen Smith, and Robert Schlesinger;* no nays or abstentions.

A letter will be sent to the City by Mr. Kemp from PLU Committee reflecting the motion as noted and passed by the Council tonight.

# For the Record – Public Comment on Agenda Item 12.b.i:

# Speaker Cards For Moraga Project / Against Motion:

**Pamela Day, Applicant:** *Ms. Day* related that she has acquired the 5-unit apartment building and would like to put up by-right allowable for multigenerational family use. She is not asking for variances; is making a standard density bonus request within boundaries of Q condition, for a five-foot variation of height and to allow for parking spaces, more than required. She wants to build something beautiful that fits with the area. **Carl Smith, Architect**: *Mr. Smith* passed around renderings; mentioned roof deck set back and taking some cars off the alley.

*Chris Wolf: Mr. Wolf* currently has lived on Moraga for 10 months; wants to set down roots & contribute to community.

Michael Mansour: Mr. Mansour wants to let his parents who are downsizing stay in the area.

Kevin Virken signed a speaker card but was not present at this part of the meeting.

# Speaker Cards Against Moraga Project / For Motion:

**Bruce Kuyper**: *Mr. Kuyper* provided additional print materials with details on the motion from the PLUC meeting, which were not included in detail on this agenda. He first discussed the Q Clarification stating that 32 feet is 32 feet, and that the Planning Department cannot make the required findings in the LAMC. He also noted, as to the request for a five-foot variation, four-story homes with a roof deck on top do not exist in this neighborhood. He refuted the applicant's request for two on-menu incentives with the density bonus, including increased height and reduced front yard setback, stating they are not allowed to be next to R1 zone with that increase in height. Bruce stated that the Density Bonus Ordinance is very clear, if you are in a Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone, you do not get any on-menu incentives. *Mr. Kuyper* pointed out a photo of the existing building, with hand-drawn rendering of the approximate height with the new building. He asked people in the room who are in opposition to the project and for the motion to stand. At least 25 people stood up.

*Joan Rimmon*: *Ms. Rimmon* has lived in neighborhood for 47 years and feels the project will lead to the neighborhood's destruction.

*Patricia Hearst: Ms. Hearst* opposed the project and waived her right to speak on this matter. *Ron Hudson*, **President**, **Bel Air Association**, **on behalf of BAA**: *Mr. Hudson* suggested that the applicant re-design, go subterranean with the garage and lower the height if they wish to stay in this area.

*Eli Dubrow:* Mr. Dubrow has lived down the street for 35 years and has concerns about excessive height; insufficient setback; questions numbers of cars and if there will be adequate parking.

David Daigle: Mr. Daigle lives across the alley; has concerns about parking, buses at Sepulveda and Moraga during school year, height increase, open deck and fire risk. He asked Board to consider long-term impact of changes of character of neighborhood.

Mark Hancock: Mr. Hancock lives on Moraga and has offices on Moraga for 25 years; has concerns about project not fitting with neighborhood; overloaded parking on Moraga; increase in population density; impact on traffic at Sepulveda.

Katherine Bard, Pat Nation & Tina Ladd: Spoke in opposition to project and for the motion.

Residents who signed cards in opposition to the project / in favor of the motion but did not wish to speak: Jay Ornellas, Jennifer Owens, Joan Rimmon, Arne Schmidt, Andrea Mohr, Mojgan Manavi, Lauren Jay Sand, Helene Toomey, Marikay Ohayon, Denise Wong and Marilyn Millen.

# **Board Ouestions & Discussion:**

*Maureen Levinson* asked about alley parking and elevators for empty nesters. She was told there will be no alley parking and there will be an elevator.

Nickie Miner reported that last Tuesday's meeting was cancelled as Noah was ill, and it will be rescheduled. Gary Plotkin asked about parking: Parking is all non-tandem. For guest parking, they have three additional spots, only required to have 17 and they have 20.

Bob Schlesinger asked about paving gravel alley; told the City would pave but they haven't gotten to that yet. *Cathy Wayne* asked if project will block views, *Ms. Day* denied; said they had a view study for the roof garden. Resident, Mr. Daigle rebutted, stating that the existing apartment building looks into his home and he would lose his hillside Getty Museum view with the proposed building.

**Resident**, Andrea Mohr, next door to Mr. Daigle, said this project will block her views.

John Amato asked if they considered subterranean parking. Ms. Day replied that they are asking for the extra 5 feet for parking and discussed the Q Clarification request. They felt that because they are up against this mountain, it would be worth it to go the extra five feet to provide extra parking in the area.

Dan Palmer requested information on the breakdown of the units.

*Cathy Wayne* asked if the design of the structure fits in with the current neighborhood, to which Ms. Day replied that the neighborhood is in transition. Cathy asked why the need for 5 feet, Ms. Day replied that the number of parking spaces goes down; that if they put a ramp down, that will eat up the parking spaces. Irene Sandler asked about low-income unit, to which Ms. Day replied that there is one Very Low-Income unit. Dan Love stated that he holds the case file, and based on review and the homeowners in the area, he is for the motion. Travis Longcore asked if anyone on the Board would speak against the motion, and no one did. *Nickie Miner* noted that the view of mountains will be destroyed by this project, which she described as obtrusive with no setbacks, no greenery, an eyesore to the neighborhood.

*Cathy Wayne* brought up issue of restoration versus tearing down.

John Amato noted the need to be careful about historic overlays.

Board President, Travis Longcore, thanked all the visitors for the participation in the process.

# ii. 2. 2553 N. Summitridge DIR 2015-1218-DRB-SPP-MSP **Mulholland Design Review**

# **BABCNC PLUC case manager:** *Michael Chasteen*

Motion: The BABCNC PLU Committee recommends that the BABCNC take "no **position**" in the above noted case.

Bob Schlesinger reviewed this case. There was no objection to calling question or unanimous consent; and hearing none, the motion proposed by the PLU Committee carried.

# 13. Bylaws, Rules, and Elections Committee - Larry Leisten, Chair

- **a.** Update regarding elections. *Larry Leisten* informed Board that *Thomas Soong* is aware Notice of Determination Letter Official copy of the Bylaws approved by BONC will accompany Letter when issued for upload to website. To prepare for 2016 elections, first step is to define boundaries of newly created residential districts represented by publicly elected representatives. Boundaries will be described by range of street addresses of each street within district rather than metes & bounds.
- **b.** Update on drafting of Standing Rules. *Larry Leisten* noted that now that we have approved the Bylaws, work can begin to revise existing Standing Rules so they are tailored to complement approved Bylaws. Plan is to work on first draft, then to convene the Bylaws Election & Rules Committee in September to review and comment on first draft. One new provision will require each Member to establish a line of communication with the leadership or representative of their constituent Stakeholders and to communicate on a monthly basis. Such communication would include reporting work of Board and to solicit any issues constituent Stakeholders would like addressed by Board.

# 14. Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee – *Chuck Maginnis, Chair* (Discussion, Update & Possible Action)

- a. Report on May 20, 2015 EP meeting with Larry Bogatz, Battalion CERT leader. Chuck Maginnis reported that the EP meeting was very successful; Larry Bogatz did a good job. Jim Nelson gave a presentation on his proposed pilot program as he mentioned at our meeting. Chuck thanked Robin Greenberg for contacting all the local Fire Departments for their needs. (The Neighborhood Purpose Grant for the Fire Stations was approved, as noted above.) The Pancake Breakfast at Station 71 at Beverly Glen and Sunset was successful, and CERT and the NC gave support. Chuck thanked Irene Sandler for her informing them about the SOS sale. The Neighborhood Purpose Grant for the Ham Radios & Antennas was approved, and Michael Schlenker will be holding a meeting Friday at 8:30 at Charlie's Pantry on this. Tony Tucci & Cathy Wayne had expressed interest and anyone else interested should let Chuck know.
- **b.** The following is recommended by the EP Committee from May 20, 2015 meeting: *Chuck* related that *Jim Nelson* from Laurel Canyon spoke at the EP meeting about the choke points, traffic study, as *Jim* had mentioned at our last NC meeting here at AJU. *Chuck* presented the following motion to support *Jim*'s potential pilot program:

<u>Motion</u>: The BABCNC moves to support Jim Nelson's Hillside Evacuation Choke Point model based upon his Laurel Canyon area presentation, as a potential pilot for the City of Los Angeles. Moved by *Chuck Maginnis* and seconded by *Dan Palmer*.

A good deal of discussion was held including note by *John Amato* that we now have new technology that would provide this information, such as used in the WAZE navigating app and the like. *Gary Plotkin* and *Travis Longcore* moved that we continue this to the next meeting and work with EP Chair, *Chuck*, to develop questions and answers. There was no objection to postponing to next meeting, and **the motion was postponed to the July meeting**. **At 9:00,** *John Amato* **had to leave.** 

c. **Discussion & Possible Action: EP Committee Presentation for WRAC** – *Gary Plotkin* <u>*Motion:*</u> Motion to have *Chuck Maginnis* make a complete presentation of where we are and what can be expected to be much more efficient and caught up Emergency Preparedness, moved by *Gary Plotkin* and seconded by *Bob Schlesinger*; none opposed and the motion passed. *Irene* asked if we will have to authorize copying print materials for this WRAC meeting, to which *Chuck* offered to take care of the copying himself.

# d. Next EP meeting July 15, 2015

# 15. Outreach and Education Committee – Robin Greenberg, Chair – Absent

# 16. Ad Hoc Committee on Budget and Finance - Jamie Hall, Chair - Absent

# a. Update from the committee on recommended expenditures previously approved by Board.

Travis Longcore noted that the committee has done its job and he is hereby disbanding it.

### 17. Hoc Committee on Mansionization – Gary Plotkin, Chair

a. Updates From the Committee. *Gary Plotkin* related that they had one meeting and were supposed to meet monthly; however, there was no meeting in June. He will push for one in July. They have made some progress on one project and noted that the only time we get a response from the City is when the Alliance is involved. *Gary* opened the floor to *Dan* for updates:

*Dan Love* stated that they have three to four pieces of litigation, most of them led by neighbors, and he gave update on the following:

**901 Strada Vecchia**. B&S Commission issued the final letter yesterday that they did not abuse their judgment in stopping the project. It has been handed to City Attorney for his action. The Stop work orders are still in place and neighbors continue to report that work is still going on.

**360 Stone Canyon Road:** The Gabbay Brothers are allowed to build a third story on top of their large home on Stone Canyon Road. Trial coming up in September. Neighbor was successful in a hearing.

**Somma Way**: The Alliance did settle with the developer, and agreed to conditions on the haul route, and to do certain remediation on Stone Canyon Road. The hauling has stopped. The word is out in the developer community that they will face opposition.

*Dan* Love noted, in regards to the drought, several homes have four or five large swimming pools and asks how our Councilmember can defend this water use in the pools and landscaping.

# b. Discussion of Ridgeline Ordinance – *Donald Loze*

*Don* reported that he will develop a plan.

#### **Reports of Representatives**

- 18. West Los Angeles Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) *Robin Greenberg Absent Bob Schlesinger* and *Gary Plotkin* attended the WRAC meeting (as did *Cathy Palmer*).
  - a. Update and Possible Actions regarding the May 20, 2015 & June 17, 2015 meetings
  - b. The following motions are recommended by WRAC from their June 17, 2015 meeting:
    - i. Mobility Plan 2035 Statement of Overriding Considerations <u>Council File #15-0719</u> *Travis* introduced this item as increasing zoning near transit, and increasing density.

<u>Motion</u>: BABCNC recommends a vote of 'no confidence' in the City of Los Angeles Mobility Plan 2035 [Case Number: ENV 2013-0911-EIR and CPC-2013-0910-GPA-SP-CA-MSC; State Clearinghouse No. 2013041012] because of its failure to resolve and mitigate critical issues per the Statement of Overriding Considerations, including but not limited to emergency response time, insufficient infrastructure, and broader significant negative impacts on public health, safety and welfare and authorizes submission of Community Impact Statements in relevant files consistent with this position. *Gary Plotkin* moved, *Larry Leisten* seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

# ii. Oppose AB 744 Limiting Local Government Authority Over Parking for SB 1818 Density Bonus Projects. <u>Council File #14-1519</u>

<u>Motion</u>: BABCNC recommends the City of Los Angeles oppose AB 744 and requests Councilmembers *Mike Bonin* and *Paul Koretz* introduce a resolution opposing AB 744 and authorizes submission of Community Impact Statements in relevant files consistent with this position. *Bob Schlesinger* moved, *Maureen Levinson* seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

# iii. Oppose AB 1373 Exempting 40 Square Blocks of DTLA from CA Outdoor Advertising Act. <u>Request for Action</u>

<u>Motion</u>: BABCNC recommends the City of Los Angeles oppose AB 1373 and requests Councilmembers *Mike Bonin* and *Paul Koretz* introduce a resolution opposing AB 1373 and authorizes submission of Community Impact Statements in relevant files consistent with this position. *Gary Plotkin* moved, *Nickie Miner* seconded, and the motion passed unanimously. (Request for Action Letter will be sent to City Council.)

# iv. Re Revised City Sign Ordinance Motion <u>Council File# 11-1705 (having been</u> <u>changed from 08-2020)</u>

**Motion**: BABCNC endorses the following positions on digital signs and authorizes submission of Community Impact Statements in relevant files consistent with these positions:

1. Digital signs to be placed only within sign districts (and none outside of sign districts)

2. Mandatory takedown requirement of minimum of 4 signs for each new sign erected.

3. No grandfathering or "amnesty" of billboards erected without permits or altered in violation of their permits. Enforcement / removal of illegally altered or erected signage/billboards.

4. Passage of the Sign Ordinance as soon as possible in its current form (without attempts to turn back on the now illegal/turned off digital signs) and with its strong penalty provisions for noncompliance.

Nickie Miner moved, Cathy Wayne seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

# v. Neighborhood Council Monitoring of City Services Council File # 15-0524

**Motion**: BABCNC recommends that land use and planning-related recommendations shall be disclosed in all City determinations in a "standing" section of City Staff Reports and City Determinations called "Neighborhood Council Recommendations." Along with those recommendations, an explanation to be provided by the City decision makers if the NC recommendations are NOT followed and authorizes submission of Community Impact Statements in relevant files consistent with this position.

Bob Schlesinger moved; Gary Plotkin seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

# 19. Budget Representatives' Report - André Stojka & Nickie Miner

# a. Report from Budget Representatives

<u>Motion</u>: BABCNC appoints *Catherine Palmer* to represent us at Budget Day. Moved by *Cathy Wayne*, seconded by *Bob Schlesinger*, and the motion passed unanimously. b. Budget Day is Saturday June 27, 2015: 7:30 to 12:30 P.M.

# 20. Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Report – Travis Longcore

# a. Update from Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

# Discussion and possible action on proposed tract map for Hidden Creek Estates Project in Browns Canyon.

*Travis Longcore* presented the letter on behalf of the SMMC, who cares about this issue. He stated that it is not in our territory but is an issue of City-wide importance. *Travis* described the case, stating that there is a large area up near Porter Ranch, in undeveloped open space, being proposed for 285 homes. It fills in the site of a place that is supposed to be set aside for public lands. *Travis* disclosed that he was one of 20 scientists who signed the letter saying that if there were ever an instance where there are significant impacts of a project, this is it, and disclosed that the circulated and drafted that letter. *Travis* is not voting on this, however, as President, he does not vote except to break a tie in any case.

*Travis* is bringing this item to the Board because the Conservancy is very upset about this project. It would be an annexation. In the middle of a drought, the City is contemplating annexing and allowing grading into a wildland area that then is going to be 285 new homes with new water, new landscaping, new lawn, etc. They would be annexing into the City of Los Angeles. A developer owns the land; however, it requires impinging on land that is supposed to be, through an agreement with the Porter Ranch development, set aside for public use.

**Motion**: BABCNC opposes the proposed tract map for Hidden Creek Estates because it would: a) have a significant adverse impact on the environment by extending luxury housing deep into 12,000 acres of protected public open space, b) take public land to support a private development, and c) represents unsustainable development at the urban-wildland interface that will require public subsidy for future fire protection. BABCNC authorizes submission of a Community Impact Statement to this effect if and whenever appropriate. [Attachment E (i) & Attachment E (ii)]

*Dan Love* moved, *Tony Tucci* seconded; *Don Loze* called the question, and the motion passed unanimously.

# 21. Good of the Order

<u>Motion</u> BABCNC is to re-elect all members and all Chairs of every standing committee, (e.g., PLU, Bylaws, EP, Outreach, Traffic) for a one-year term. So moved by *Cathy Wayne*, seconded by *Tony Tucci*, and unanimously passed.

*Tony Tucci* related that there will be a **Public Safety Committee June 26<sup>th</sup> at**, **8:30 a.m.**, RE: No Smoking in Very High Fire Zones, CF#14-0713. He will not be attending and asked that someone may attend.

*Travis Longcore* reported that several associations including Laurel Canyon, Benedict Canyon, CLAW had an attorney write a letter to the Fire Commission saying they really need to follow the law when it comes to removing protected trees, which will require a permit from the City. The letter went out today. *Travis* noted that they are also going house by house and telling people to remove dead trees, which are sometimes not actually dead. If it is a protected tree, even if it is dead, you have to get a permit from the City to do that, even if the Fire Department tells you that you don't.

*Irene Sandler* asked Land Use about the City trying to go back on its non-permitted garages used as bedrooms, etc., to which *Cathy Wayne* responded that it will come out probably in the changing of the Zoning, as density and tax dollars are the main thrust of the Mayor.

*Nickie Miner* concurred, stating that ReCode-LA is trying to increase density as much as possible and tax income, and allowing granny flats; and noted that <u>Planning & Zoning representatives from ReCode-LA will</u> be speaking at the next Hillside Federation meeting on Tuesday, July 21<sup>st</sup> 7:00 p.m. at Pinz Bowling Center (next to Jerry's Deli) 12655 Ventura Blvd.

22. Adjournment: *Donald Loze* moved to adjourn; no objections and the Board adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

# UPCOMING MEETING – Wednesday July 22, 2015 at AJU