



MINUTES Regular Meeting of the Board

Wednesday, November 18, 2015 7:00–9:00 P.M.

American Jewish University

15600 Mulholland Drive, Room 223, Main Campus, 2nd Floor, Bel Air, CA 90077

Present: 16

Quorum: 15

ATTACHMENT “A”

2015/2016 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Reps	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>Matthew Post</i>		X
<i>Nickie Miner</i>	X	
<i>Don Loze</i>	X	
<i>Bob Schlesinger</i>	X	
Casiano Estates Association		
<i>Gary Plotkin</i>	X	
Faith-Based Organizations		
<i>Lonnie Mayfield</i>		X
Holmby Hills Association		
<i>Jason Spradlin</i>	X	
K-6 Private Schools		
<i>Teresa Lee</i>		X
7-12 Private Schools		
<i>John Amato</i>		X
Laurel Canyon Association		
<i>Jamie Hall</i>		X
<i>Cassandra Barrère</i>		X
<i>Cathy Wayne</i>	X	
<i>Tony Tucci</i>	X	

2015/2016 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Reps	Present	Not Present
Members-at-Large		
<i>Larry Leisten</i>	X	
<i>Chuck Maginnis</i>		X
Residents of Beverly Glen		
<i>Robert A. Ringler</i>	X	
<i>Dan Palmer</i>	X	
Roscomare Valley Association		
<i>Robin Greenberg</i>	X	
<i>Michael Kemp</i>		X
Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy		
<i>Travis Longcore, Ph.D.</i>	X	
Bel Air District		
<i>Dan J. Love</i>	X	
<i>Maureen Levinson</i>	X	
Beverly Park Estates		
<i>Maureen Smith</i>	X	
Totals:	16	9

Guest Speakers & Guests:

Mark Simon, Street Services Superintendent, L.A. Bureau of Street Services, Street Maintenance Division
Chuck Turhollow, Division Manager, Industrial Safety & Compliance Division, L.A. Department of Sanitation
Gerald Watson, Wastewater Collection Systems Division, Sanitation Wastewater Manager I
Sanitation Dept. of DPW
Robert Potter, Wastewater Collection Systems Division, Sanitation Wastewater Manager II
Sanitation Dept. of DPW
Adam Miller, Neighborhood Advocate, Hollywood District Office, for CM *David Ryu*, of Council District 4
Noah Muhlstein, Planning Deputy for CM *Paul Koretz*, of Council District 5
Brian Espin, Senior Lead Officer, West Los Angeles Police Station
Five other individuals signed the guest list and/or speaker cards.

1. **Call to Order:** Board President, *Travis Longcore*, called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm.
2. **Roll Call:** Board Secretary, *Robin Greenberg*, called the roll with 15 present and a quorum met. By 7:15 p.m., 16 were present.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Adoption of the November 18, 2015 Agenda:** The agenda was unanimously adopted as written.
5. **Approval of the October 28, 2015 Minutes:** Copies of the October 28, 2015 Minutes (Attachment A) were circulated with the draft agenda. The minutes were adopted by unanimous consent.

6. Public Comment:

Patricia Bell Hearst:

- 1) VA Master Plan contact name and phone contact info: Chris Neil at 310-879-5773.
- 2) Patricia recommended Ted Koppel's book, "Lights Out."

Marcie Polier introduced herself as part of a Brentwood Business Improvement District, North Brentwood Village, speaking on behalf of preserving Brentwood's access to the parking lot north and south of post office and of the dog park in the commercial district in Zone 4 of the VA. She asked that we go online and give public comment so that they do not lose shared use of the VA's land.

Bruce Kuyper reported that owner of 862-870 Moraga Drive, *Ms. Day*, will come back with application for off-menu density bonus incentives; ineligible for on-menu incentives in Very High Fire Hazard Severity Zone.

Reports of Officers

7. President's Report – *Travis Longcore*

a. Representatives of Elected Officials and Agencies (Updates & Discussions)

- i. *Mark Simon*, Street Services Superintendent, L.A. Bureau of Street Services, Street Maintenance Division – Preparing for El Niño mark.simon@lacity.org 213-847-3146
 - They just wrapped up sweeping for three weeks, collecting materials off streets; cleaned 6,000 curb miles, and will have another after the winds, before the rains in December.
 - **311 most important #** for potholes, downed trees & debris; will be inspected within 24 hours, potholes have a two-day response time. They are hiring additional operators.
 - As to clearing debris in front of catch drains, *Mark* explained that they have a plan to include patrolling hot spots; crews will scrape catch basins and they are working with General Services to get equipment staged.
- ii. *Chuck Turhollow*, Division Manager, Industrial Safety and Compliance Division, L.A. Department of Sanitation – Preparing for El Niño *Chuck* gave out the following numbers:
 - **800-773-2489 24-hour Hot Line (emergency crews will be available)**
 - **213-485-7575 Wastewater Collection**
 - *Chuck* introduced *Robert Potter & Gerald Watson*, Sanitation Wastewater Managers.
 - *Tony Tucci* mentioned the storm drain map on <http://navigatela.lacity.org/navigatela/>.
 - *Bob Schlesinger* asked about catch basins; told the catch basins are designed to collapse during heavy rain as they are spring loaded with secondary release. "You can push open with screwdriver at the little hole, release it and the water will go down."
 - *Larry Leisten* cited occasions where certain street locations had substantial backup of runoff during rains following installation of gates. *Chuck* responded that they have gone through several generations of screens that do not cause problems. If you have a problem, email him about your location.
 - *Robert Potter* They do not allow screens in sump areas because of flooding potential.
 - *Irene Sandler* inquired about sludge on Mountaingate and Sepulveda, reported having difficulty getting any response through 311.
 - *Don Loze* asked about sand and sandbags at fire stations. *Mark Simon* stated that if they don't have sand/sandbags, speak to the Captain about it. The Bureau of Street Services is delivering sand to the fire stations, and the FD Captains should be ordering bags for sand.
- iii. *Tom Soong*, DONE Empowerment Advocate - Not present

- iv. *Janet Turner*, Field Representative for Congressman *Ted W. Lieu*, CA 33 - Not present
- v. *Catherine Landers*, Senior Field Deputy, Hollywood Field Office, for Councilmember *David Ryu*, of Council District 4 *Adam Miller*, Field Deputy, gave report in place of *Catherine*; announced the following:
 - 12/06/15: Christmas party at their new field office at 6501 Fountain
 - 12/07/15: El Niño preparation Town Hall meeting at Gardner Elementary @ 6:30 pm
- vi. *Noah Muhlstein*, Planning Deputy for Councilmember *Paul Koretz*, of Council District 5

- *Gary Plotkin* related that he has called *Noah* multiple times without response to his requests that *Noah* attend land use or general meetings. *Travis* noted that we have a request in for Councilmember *Koretz* to come before this Board and has had no response.

Noah arrived later in the meeting and gave report: He related that they now have new haul route procedure policies and are ready to make a haul route ordinance, a law to make sure there are set rules, protocols, procedures in place, to create a threshold over certain amounts that may require further review and monitoring. He is exploring avenues with departments to try to execute and will rely on this group to help with conditions. As to Angelo View, *Noah* is working to get extra time for review of the documents.

As to the Ridgeline Ordinance, *Noah* noted that there has been a lot of back and forth between City Attorney's and his office as to potential funding, which was not the case. When they set the budget for the Planning Department, they will make it a stand-alone program with one million dollars. He hopes to introduce that in a week or so.

Travis Longcore asked if he could ask how *Councilmember Koretz* could support vacating the paper street on Basil Lane, and to look at the motion this board has taken, on the record, as community voices run counter to the decision of the Councilmember.

Tony Tucci stated that he and *Alan Bell*, former Deputy Planning Director, discussed the wildlife habitat ordinance, and would like to have a place for this at the Planning Dept. as a planning tool. He asked *Noah* to advocate for it.

Don Loze expressed concern about grading and abolishing 1,000 cubic yards haul routes in favor of 6,000 cubic yards. *Noah* said he is committed to being involved in this. *Gary* reminded *Noah* that before the temporary ordinances, we delivered him a draft motion with suggested changes. *Gary* would like to meet with somebody to discuss these. *Noah* stated that he was told there was six-month funding for the unit, but if they cannot get someone to address it (the ridgeline ordinance) by January, they will push for a stand-alone work program for this year's budget. *Noah* said that his motion includes asking CAO's office what has been done. He clarified that the Baseline & Ridgeline Ordinances are separate. *Patricia Hearst* asked why not look at the County's Ridgeline Ordinance. *Nickie Miner* thanked *Noah* for his giving us more time on the Angelo View MND, and reminded him that getting an EIR is imperative.

- vii. *Chris Ragsdale*, Senior Lead Officer, West Los Angeles Police Station – SLO, *Brian Espin*, came in the place of *Chris Ragsdale*. *Officer Brian Espin* reported that Westwood Village underground parking structures are vulnerable for thefts, particularly of high-end bikes. There have been two burglaries last week in the BCA area, two suspects driving a white Audi. He is a big advocate of RING.com, video camera security system.

viii. *Ralph Sanchez*, Senior Lead Officer, Hollywood Police Station - Not present

8. **Vice President's Report – *Nickie Miner*** – No report.
9. **Secretary's Report – *Robin Greenberg*** – *Robin* read a note indicating Fire Station #41 thanks the BABCNC for the extractor washing machine and dryer.
10. **Treasurer's Report – *Dan Love*** (Discussion & Action)
 - a. **Update from Treasurer *Dan*** related that we are looking to eliminate internet from the WLA office and move the printer to *Cathy's* home office. *Dan* will check with us for three months then we should decide. *Larry* will help *Cathy* transfer to forward Verizon to AT&T line.
 - b. **Consideration of October 2015 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (Attachment B)**
MOTION: Board to consider approval of October 2015 expenditure report and bank statement *Dan Love* moved; *Larry Leisten* seconded. No discussion. Roll call vote was taken and the MER was unanimously approved with 14 "yes" votes from *Irene Sandler, Robert Schlesinger, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Gary Plotkin, Cathy Wayne, Larry Leisten, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Jason Spradlin, Dan Love, Maureen Levinson and Maureen Smith.* (*Tony Tucci* had stepped out and was absent during the vote count.)

Reports of Committees

11. **Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee – *Chuck Maginnis, Chair*** – *Travis Longcore* read an email report from *Chuck* who could not be present: 14 participants at last night's meeting, 7 new HAMS, with 4 from BABCNC. *Chuck* is aiming to get a speaker on homeland security for January's meeting.
12. **Planning & Land Use Committee Report – *Michael Kemp, Chair*** - Vice Chair, *Jason Spradlin*, gave report and introduced the following motions as *Michael* was absent.
 - a. **Update on November 10, 2015 PLUC Meeting** (Update, Discussion & Action)
The following motions are recommended by the BABCNC Planning & Land Use Committee from their October 2015 meeting:
 - b. **2123 Groveland Drive: ZA 2015-2821-ZAD**
A new Single Family Dwelling on a sub-standard street.
Motion: The BABCNC recommends to the Los Angeles City Planning Department that the project, due to its location on a sub-standard street, be required to conform to all CEQA requirements, and that a MND (Mitigated Negative Declaration) is not acceptable under the current provisions of CEQA. Moved by *Michael* and the Board voted unanimously to support.
 - c. **10101-10107 Angelo View Drive: ENV 2014-4540**
A haul route to allow the total export of 51,050 cubic yards of dirt for the construction of a 41,206 s.f. SFD with a basement that includes 19,500 s.f. of habitable space and a 13,189 s.f. underground garage.
Motion: The BABCNC recommends to the Los Angeles City Planning Department and Councilman Koretz that the time period for comments on the MND be extended, especially in light of the issue that the applicant originally agreed to a full EIR report and is not stating that the provisions in the MND are equivalent to what would have been in the EIR.
Moved by *Michael*. Following discussion, the Board voted unanimously to support the motion. The Board can make a request of elected official(s).

[Discussion prior to vote: *Nickie* noted the applicant signed on the record that he agreed to a full EIR, to which *Travis* explained it is the City's decision; they're in charge of determining level of review. *Noah* said he will not be able to get to that point until all comments are in; that Planning has already made the decision they do not think there'll be impacts after mitigations are done.]

13. **Ad Hoc Committee on Mansionization – Gary Plotkin, Chair** (Update & Discussion)

a. **Updates from the Committee – Gary Plotkin**

b. **Status of Enactment of Ridgeline Ordinance – Don Loze**

- **Bruce Kuyper** gave public comment encouraging attendance at hearing on amended draft BMO/BHO ordinance Thursday, 12/03/05 @ Belmont Village Senior Living in Westwood.
- **Don Loze** stated that Neighborhood Council people should be included in the discussions with *Noah* before an ordinance is put into place. *Tony Tucci* suggested looking at *Wendy Gruel's* Ridgeline Ordinance. *Don* mentioned access to JPL to complete needed mapping, the need to look into costs to complete and that we have provided three other sources of funds previously.
- **Patricia Bell Hearst** gave public comment that corporations such as Annenberg Foundation and the Rand Foundation would have the funding.
- **Travis Longcore** asked *Adam* for support from CD4 on this.

14. **Bylaws, Rules, and Elections Committee – Larry Leisten, Chair** (Update, Discussion and Action)

Larry explained to Board that in addition to public election, it will hold a selection event for four seats in a town-hall style meeting, same evening as regular board meeting.

a. **Board approval of division of elections budget approved on 10/28/15, into elections and selections budgets.**

Motion: BABCNC approve budgeting of \$1,000 for selections and \$5,000 for elections. Moved by *Larry Leisten*. Roll call vote taken, and motion was unanimously approved with 15 “yea” votes from *Irene Sandler, Robert Schlesinger, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Gary Plotkin, Cathy Wayne, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Robert Ringler, Dan Palmer, Robin Greenberg, Jason Spradlin, Dan Love, Maureen Levinson & Maureen Smith*. No nays or abstentions.

b. **Board to consider approval of the 2016 Selection Stipulation Worksheet including modified budgets for election and selection outreach. (Attachment C)**

Larry Leisten presented and led discussion on the following, (from Stipulation Worksheet), which required Board approval, as specified by the DONE in the worksheet.

- **Selection Date:** Preference for May 25, 2016 in conjunction with our regular Board meeting immediately prior to election date of June 5th.
- **Selection Location:** Preference for AJU, but may need larger room if we expect larger turnout.
- **Seats open for Selection Process:** Private Schools: K-6, Private Schools: 7-12, Faith Based Organizations, and Open Space.
- **Neutral Third Party:** Preference is for *Thomas Soong*.
- **Who is qualified to run for these seats?** Stakeholders with a “substantial connection” to the represented interests (e.g., private school seat must be school staff (admin or teacher); parent; alumnus; or student of 18 years of age.)
- **Candidate Verification:** Some documentation evidencing connection to interest represented, *Larry* suggested that one strategy to gain support of interested entities was to obtain letter from those entities. *Tony Tucci* recommended changing “endorsement” to “authentication.”
- **Is it necessary for Candidate to be present** on evening on which Selection is held? Discussed.
- **Vote Count:** *Larry* suggested signed ballot with written record of votes cast in event of problem.

- **Outreach Plan:** To be drafted by Outreach Chair with budget constraints in mind. The outreach plan for the selection process should be to provide utmost opportunity for Stakeholders who are qualified to run for open seats up for Selection; to provide utmost opportunity for Stakeholders to attend the town hall style Selection event in which they have the opportunity to support or oppose a candidate. After such comment period, Board votes to select individuals to fill the open Selection seats.

Travis suggested *Larry* put to paper and say this is the way we're going to run it by *Jay Handal*:

Motion: BABCNC authorizes *Larry Leisten* to present the following information to *Jay Handal*: Selection date: May 25, 2015. Location: Our current regular meeting site at AJU; Neutral Third Party suitable to Department of Neighborhood Empowerment; Candidate verification requires candidates representing name stakeholder groups be authenticated by those stakeholder groups and that the candidate not be required to be present at the selection event. Voting method – signed ballot. Outreach Chair will coordinate with Council to create an outreach plan. *Jason* moved, *Dan Love* seconded; vote was unanimous in support of motion.

c. Election of additional members to the Bylaws, Rules, and Elections Committee

Travis set forth the motion to establish the Ad-Hoc 2016 Elections Committee, with *Larry Leisten* & *Robin Greenberg* as Co-Chairs and with *Maureen Levinson*, *Maureen Smith*, *Dan Love*, *Gary Plotkin* & *John Amato* as ad-hoc committee members. Unanimously approved.

d. Other Updates from the Chair

15. **Outreach and Education Committee – Robin Greenberg, Chair** – *Robin* included in the handouts estimates from CRA Custom Banners for 10 banners (\$2,359.85), KES for two sets of mailers (10,479 & 12,874 at \$3,882.35 & \$5,609.67 respectively) a list of locations for street banners, and a letter from the Bureau of Street Lighting regarding the hanging of banners.

Reports of Representatives

16. **Budget Representatives' Report – Nickie Miner and André Stojka**

- a. **Report from Budget Representatives** – No report

17. **DWP Committee Update – Don Loze**

- a. **Report on DWP Rate Increases** – No report

18. **Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Report – Travis Longcore**

- a. **Update from Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy** – No report

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

- a. **Discussion and Update from the November 18, 2015 meeting** – No report

20. **Old Business** – (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action)

- a. **Update and Discussion on Action on Short-Term Rentals taken on 10/28/15 – Nickie Miner**
Bob Schlesinger related that hosts enjoying the utility subsidies provided to low-income residents may not rent out their units for short-term rentals.

b. Update & Possible Action on Public Comment on Veteran’s Administration Property Master Plan.

Public Comment: *Marcie Polier* related that the VA Master Plan is making plans for 700 to 900 housing units for mostly elderly residents and domiciliary for younger vets in rehab to be moved to housing. The Brentwood Improvement District organization that she is part of has plans to create scholarships for the vets to go for housing from domiciliary to HUD housing. She requests that BABCNC write a letter of support (as discussed above, under Item #6, Public Comment, on behalf of preserving Brentwood’s access to the parking lot north and south of the post office and of the dog-park in the commercial district in Zone 4 of the VA.)

Motion: BABCNC write a letter of support to keep open the parking lot north and south of the Post Office and the dog park. *Dan Love* moved and *Nickie Miner* seconded.

- *Irene Sandler* asked about the environmental aspects of UCLA dumping radioactive materials. *Travis* responded that is not within the bounds of the letter. *Marcie* replied that it was cleaned up years ago and the dog park reopened, having been certified to reopen.

- *Patricia Bell Hearst* feels it is irregular for Bel Air to be involved in this. *Robert Ringler* responded that he would like to maintain certain integral parts of the neighboring communities. *Maureen Levinson* stated that she uses that parking lot every day and would like to maintain. *Nickie* noted that we are a part of the neighborhood due to the post office being our post office.

Vote was taken and 15 members present voted “yes” except for *Irene Sandler*, who abstained, and the motion passed. *Nickie & Dan* will draft the letter.

c. Update on Flag Poles and Signs – *Cassandra Barrère* – Absent / No report

21. New Business – (Updates, Discussion and Possible Action) Items all postponed due to time restraints.

a. Discussion and Update on Neighborhood Purpose Grants – *Gary Plotkin*

b. Discussion and Possible Action on the City Project “Wi-Fi Across LA” - *Maureen Levinson*
Involves placing Wi-Fi at 20,000 lampposts across Los Angeles Council File No: 13-0953

c. Discussion and Possible Action on the Power Grid Vulnerabilities – *Maureen Levinson*
Consider supporting *Paul Koretz’s* motion going to the Energy and Environment Committee and submit a community impact statement to the Council File Council File No: 14-1690 as well as to write to the US Congress (HR -2417) (HR-688). (Attachment D)

22. Good of the Order - Members of the Board may report on any item of interest to the Council.

Robert Ringler related that LAPD’S Deputy Chief wants us to know they will be gearing up for incidents.

Cathy Wayne announced a benefit for “Let’s Buy a Mountain” on Saturday 11/21 from 3 to 7 at Casa de Cadillac on Ventura with free food and music.

23. Adjourn – Motion was made to adjourn and the meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Upcoming Meetings @ AJU – December 16, 2015

Return to fourth Wednesday of the month beginning on January 27, 2016