



Building A Better Community



MINUTES Regular Meeting of the Board

Wednesday, December 16, 2015 7:00–9:00 P.M. American Jewish University 15600 Mulholland Drive, Room 223, Main Campus, 2nd Floor, Bel Air, CA 90077

Present: 21	(Quorum: 15
2015-2016 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Representatives	Present	Not Present
Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association	-	
Irene Sandler	X	
Bel Air Ridge HOA		
André Stojka	X	
Benedict Canyon Association		
Matthew Post	X	
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	X	
K-6 Private Schools		
Teresa Lee	X	
7-12 Private Schools		
John Amato (Planned Absence)		X
Laurel Canyon Association		
Jamie Hall	X	
Matthew Friedman (new; replacing Cassandra Barrère)	X	
Cathy Wayne	X	
Tony Tucci	X	

2015-2016 Stakeholder Groups / Certified Reps	Present	Not Present
Members-at-Large		
Larry Leisten	X	
Chuck Maginnis	X	
Residents of Beverly Glen		
Robert A. Ringler	X	
Dan Palmer		X
Roscomare Valley Association		
Robin Greenberg (Planned absence)		X
Michael Kemp	X	
Open Spaces		
Travis Longcore, Ph.D.	X	
Bel Air District		
Dan J. Love	X	
Maureen Levinson	X	
Beverly Park Estates		
Maureen Smith	X	
Totals:	21	4

Guests Present: Bruce Kuyper, Patricia Hearst, David Stafford & Jay Handal.

- 1. Call to Order: Board President, Travis Longcore, called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.
- Roll Call: President, *Travis Longcore*, called the roll with 17 present initially and a quorum met. Within 8-10 minutes, 21 members were present. Of note, *Matthew Friedman* of Laurel Canyon Association joined the Board, replacing *Cassandra Barrère* this evening (under President's Report, item #7b.) (As *Matthew Friedman* had not yet completed funding training, he didn't vote on funding matters this evening.)

3. Pledge of Allegiance

- 4. Adoption of the December 16, 2015 Agenda: *Travis Longcore* proposed moving up both Open Spaces on the agenda ("Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy") for *Tony Tucci's* CLAW presentation & the Elections item for *Jay Handal* from DONE. The agenda was unanimously adopted as amended.
- 5. Approval of the November 18, 2015 Minutes: Copies of the November 18, 2015 Minutes (<u>Attachment A</u>) were circulated with the draft agenda. *Don Loze* made a correction to replace "1,500 cubic yards haul routes in favor of 5,000 cubic yards" with "1,000 cubic yards haul routes in favor of 6,000 cubic yards." Corrections will be incorporated, and the minutes were adopted by unanimous consent with the exception of 2 abstentions from *André Stojka* and *Mike Kemp*, who were not present at the November meeting.

6. Public Comment:

<u>*Patricia Hearst*</u> mentioned a FEMA funds issue with LA-RICS. *Chuck Maginnis* noted that LA-RICS spoke at our EP meeting on interoperability between LAFD & LAPD and said he would check this out with them.

David Stafford from Searock & Stafford, Construction & Management, answered questions on the planned construction at Stephen Wise Temple to expand their multipurpose room, "Hershenson Hall," which was approved by the Mulholland DRB. They plan to submit it for Plan Check in March, with construction to begin in June. Planned work hours: Monday - Friday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 pm, though they do not expect to work Saturdays; no work on Sundays and probably none on holidays. Staging is to be at the center of campus; it will take about 12 months or better to complete.

Reports of Officers

7. President's Report – Travis Longcore

- a. Representatives of Elected Officials and Agencies (Updates & Discussions)
 - i. Tom Soong, DONE Empowerment Advocate Not present
 - ii. Jeffrey Zimerman, DONE IEA (Independent Elections Advisor) Not present
 - iii. Janet Turner, Field Representative for Congressman Ted W. Lieu, CA 33
 Ms. Turner related that the Congressman was promoted to Colonel in the AF Reserves.
 He has a bill, HR34-84, for permanent supportive housing for the homeless veterans. She noted that the Master Plan is a work in progress; the land will always stay with the VA.
 As to leases, she replied they are individually negotiated under the legal settlement.
 - iv. Catherine Landers, Senior Field Deputy &/or Adam Miller, Field Deputy, Hollywood Field Office, for Councilmember David Ryu, of Council District 4
 Adam Miller Adam.miller@lacity.org gave an update from CD4's office, stating that they had a town hall on El Niño (which André Stojka attended). They are trying to cut down noise from tour buses through the canyons, and have put in a permit program for them to use headphones to not blare. He will email the motion. Bob Schlesinger asked Adam to thank CM Ryu for being proactive. Mike Kemp related that there are PLU issues in their area, which he copies to Renee & Julie. Mike requested CD4 representation.
 - *Noah Muhlstein*, Planning Deputy for Councilmember *Paul Koretz*, of Council District 5 *Gurmet Khara* came in place of *Noah* this evening. *Gurmet* distributed a CD5 BHO Update & Haul Route sheet from *Noah*, and a sheet on El Niño Preparedness Tips on the backside, which *Gurmet* prepared. *Gary Plotkin* stated that he is awaiting responses from *Noah* on Angelo Drive & Angelo View and the covenant on hauling between South Beverly Park and San Ysidro. *Gurmet* mentioned new LAFD No-Smoking signs for the canyons, and asked for a list of recommended locations from the Board within the next month or two. *Tony Tucci* noted that HOAs could also purchase the signs for \$70.00 to \$90.00. *Gary* asked about repaving of Mulholland. *Gurmet* replied that Nicada to Benedict Canyon will be resurfaced; however, resurfacing is presently on hold. She noted that the DWP project is completed and the project on Sunset concluded, including striping. *Larry Leisten* gave information on the rebate program to purchase rain barrels.
 The City is currently running ads on radio and TV for El Niño alerts.
 - vi. Chris Ragsdale, Senior Lead Officer, West Los Angeles Police Station Not present
 - vii. Ralph Sanchez, Senior Lead Officer, Hollywood Police Station Not present

- **b.** Announcement of new board member from LCA The Board welcomed *Matt Friedman*, as a new member, pending receipt of a signed appointment letter from Laurel Canyon Association.
- 8. Vice President's Report *Nickie Miner Nickie* reported that she attended the hearing on 1177 Tower Grove, which wanted a lot split, and that their contingent represented a hard-won fight that took about five years. (Item is under PLU report below.)
- 9. Secretary's Report *Robin Greenberg Robin* had a planned absence; however, she noted on the agenda that, "if your ethics certification is expired you cannot vote."

10. Treasurer's Report - Dan Love

- **a.** Update from Treasurer *Dan* reminded the Board that he would like to pull the phone and internet out of unused building in WLA, and transfer the phone line to *Cathy*.
- b. Consideration of November 2015 Monthly Expenditure Report (Discussion & Action) <u>Motion</u>: To approve November 2015 expenditure report and bank statement (<u>Attachment B</u>) <u>Dan Love</u> moved, <u>Larry Leisten</u> seconded. Roll call vote was taken with <u>19</u> yeas (*Irene Sandler*, *André Stojka, Robert Schlesinger, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Matthew Post, Gary Plotkin, Teresa Lee, Jamie Hall, Cathy Wayne, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Mike Kemp, Jason Spradlin, Dan Love, Maureen Levinson and Maureen Smith);* <u>0</u> nays; <u>1</u> abstention (*Travis Longcore*, Board President). <u>Tally</u>: Yes: 19 No: 0 Abstentions: 1 <u>The November MER was approved</u>.

Reports of Committees

11. **Public Safety/Disaster Preparedness Committee** – *Chuck Maginnis, Chair* (Update & Discussion) - *Chuck* gave update, that at the November 17th EP meeting, *Christy Adair* gave a presentation on CERT. The first NC alliance on EP has taken place, led by *Len Schaffer*, with 75 people in attendance. *Chuck* related that they would like to see more people from LCA. *Irene Sandler* attended the Saturday meeting, and said that a scientist from Cal Tech suggested that even if you are in a designated low-flood area, to think about getting flood insurance for the year. *Cathy Wayne* noted it takes a month to become effective and there are restrictions. Per FEMA, if two neighboring houses affected, they will be covered; if only one, it will not. **Next EP Meeting: January 21, 2016, with speaker on homeland security**.

12. Planning & Land Use Committee Report - Michael Kemp, Chair

Update on December 8, 2015 PLUC Meeting (Update, Discussion & Action)

a. The following motions are recommended by the BABCNC Planning & Land Use Committee from their December meeting:

i. 1177 Tower Grove Road

AA 2015-567-PMLA Lot split

Request by Applicant for a modification of the BABCNC position.

Previous BABCNC position: Support with condition of covenant to run in perpetuity.

Requested modification: Support with condition of covenant to run for fifteen (15) years.

Motion: To alter our previous position from "in perpetuity" to that the covenant run with the land for fifteen (15 years). Motion passed in PLU.

Moved by the Committee. Discussion was held. The Board then voted unanimously to support the motion; none opposed; no abstentions. Motion passed.

ii. 384 Delfern Drive:

Singleton Estate (Historical Preservation) Support for Historical Preservation requested by Holmby Hills HOA.

<u>Motion</u>: To support Historical Preservation of the *Wallace Neff* house as requested by Holmby Hills HOA. The PLU Committee unanimously supported this. Specifically, BABCNC supports the application from the Los Angeles Conservancy for this single home and grounds to be given "Historical Cultural Monument status", for review and hearing by the Cultural Heritage Commission. The PLU Committee moved and the Board voted unanimously to support the motion.

b. Updates only at this time:

10016 Charter Oak Lane

ZA 2015-1829-ZAD New SFD on a sub-standard street Continued until after the Architect and Owner meet with Benedict Canyon Association.

8815 W. Crescent Drive

ZA 2014-4541-ZAD

Construct a new 5,778 s.f. SFD, and construct an undeveloped street (Crescent Drive) leading up to the proposed project, with a Fire Department approved emergency "turn-around".

Continued from October & November 2015 PLU meetings, and continued again while they are trying to work something out with the neighborhood group.

2123 Groveland Drive:

ZA 2015-2821-ZAD A new SFD on a sub-standard street. Continued from September, October & November 2015 PLU meetings, and continued again.

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

a. Updates from the Committee – Gary Plotkin

b. Update and Discussion on pending BHO & BMO Code Amendments and on Planning Department Hearing of 12/03/15 with Action – *Mike Kemp*

Mike stated he and others on the ad-hoc committee have attended hearings conducted by the Planning Department to hear from the public on these amendments. They noted that we have unique issues in the revisions that do not affect many other areas, e.g., sizes of houses in the hills, e.g., 60,000 square feet and huge amount of grading, e.g., 30,000 cubic yards. There are proposed Planning revisions (that include some grading issues); and then there are haul routes issues, that fall under the jurisdiction of the Department of Building and Safety. He is asking for Board support of the PLU Committee's recommendations to the Planning Department to submit by January 11th. (We have more time to submit the Building Department issues to the Department of Building & Safety.) These will be addressed separately.

c. <u>Motion</u>: To approve proposed pending BHO revisions as recommended by the PLU & Mansionization Committee (See Attachment C) – *Mike Kemp*

<u>Main Motion</u>: To support and submit comments on the <u>Baseline Hillside Ordinance Proposed</u> <u>Revisions Key Points</u> on the first page and top part of second page. Moved by the Committee. *Don Loze* asked if we want to take a position on whether to have a ZAD or variance for over 1,000 cubic yards and made the following amendment.

<u>Amendment to the Motion</u>: To amend item #1.a. (on the Proposed Revisions) to require a variance for over 1,000 cubic yards. *Don Loze* moved to amend; seconded by *Larry Leisten*.

Mike clarified that for over 1,000 cubic yards you get a haul route; we want a hearing that the ZA will do or a variance, which we may not get. Cathy Wayne asked why not include the ZAD before it gets to a variance. Mike replied it is either/or. Jamie noted if we are asking for a variance, we are asking for a lot. Don Loze related the history of this issue, dating back to when it was about 250 cubic yards, then pushed to 1,000, then to haul routes that have spawned the trucks, going up and down, which trucks are now getting bigger, and now the Bel Air HOA Alliance has moved it from 5,000 to 6,000. Don would like to put a stop to the 6,000 cubic yards and "to make it as hard as possible for anybody to move a piece of dirt..." He stated that in the original Hillside Ordinance, the City Attorney who became the Mayor, who is supporting all of this, said the most valuable asset in the City of Los Angeles are the Santa Monica Mountains. He noted that Dan reported to us that over a million cubic yards of dirt have been hauled out; that this happened because everybody has ignored the limitation and gone around to the haul route exemption and the basement exemption. He thinks we should go back and make the demands of what this group, the homeowner groups in the hillsides before the Neighborhood Council was formed, really stood for: To protect the Santa Monica Mountains, "not to give people excuses to build these crazy things for foreign investors to move their money out of the country and come here and remove our hills and destroy our roads."

Travis clarified Don's amendment, that if you want more than 1,000 cubic yards you need a variance. If we do not pass this motion, we say you can have a ZAD or a variance. *Mike Kemp* noted that 80% of people at the hearing on 12/03 were against any revisions to the zoning code.

Roll call vote was taken with <u>17</u> yeas (*Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Robert Schlesinger, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Matthew Post, Gary Plotkin, Jamie Hall, Matthew Friedman* (replacing *Cassandra Barrère*) Cathy Wayne, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Jason Spradlin, Dan Love, and Maureen Smith); <u>1</u> nay (*Mike Kemp*) and <u>2</u> abstentions (*Travis Longcore and Maureen Levinson*). (*Matthew Friedman* had joined voting at this point; *Teresa Lee* stepped out.) <u>Tally</u>: Yes: 17 No: 1

No: 1 Abstentions: 2 The amendment to the motion carried.

Discussion returned to the main motion. Travis asked that the typo "u" in CEQA be deleted.

Main Motion Vote was taken and the motion was approved by 19 yeas, (*Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Robert Schlesinger, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Matthew Post, Gary Plotkin, Jamie Hall, Matthew Friedman* (replacing *Cassandra Barrère*) *Cathy Wayne, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Mike Kemp, Jason Spradlin, Dan Love, Maureen Levinson and Maureen Smith*); 0 nays. 1 abstention (*Travis Longcore*). <u>Tally</u>: Yes: 19 No: 0 Abstentions: 1 The main motion was approved as amended. *Don Loze* next recommended that the PLU Committee continue working on the B&S section. <u>Motion</u>: To give the PLU Committee general authority to move forward with the rest of the items for the Department of Building and Safety. Moved by Committee and unanimously approved.

d. Status of Enactment of Ridgeline Ordinance - Don Loze - No report

e. Bylaws, Rules & Elections Committee – *Larry Leisten, Chair* (Update, Discussion & Action) This item was taken out of order, 12 minutes into the meeting, to accommodate *Jay Handal*, Citywide Director of Elections for all Neighborhood Councils.

a. Board to consider approval of outstanding issues on the 2016 Selection Stipulation Worksheet (See Attachment D)

Larry noted that *Jay* has the authority to appoint a person for NTP (Neutral Third Party), to be appointed by the NC Elections Unit. As to tiebreakers, *Larry* has inserted language for a re-vote, and if after a re-vote there is still a tie, there is a process left to chance rather than discretion. Not on the worksheet, he suggested names of candidates put into a hat and NTP picking name.

Travis asked for clarification on eligibility to run for seats at the election. *Jay* related the person is to have an "ongoing interest" and that "community interest is no longer the factual basis." Examples of a "community interest stakeholder" with an "ongoing community interest" could be a parent of a student in a school for the year, or a dishwasher at a business (who lives, works or owns property). *Jay* agreed with *Travis* that if someone objects to DONE's characterization of someone as having an ongoing interest with a particular non-residential stakeholder group, there will be an opportunity of 10 days to challenge DONE's certification of that person, and take it to Grievance Committee, where there is a process that would be undertaken. But, at the end of the day, it is still the Board that makes the selection.

<u>Motion</u>: To adopt the selection process description, with replacement of black marbles with names in a hat; that the NTP line item on page 1 of worksheet, be filled in "to be appointed by the NC Elections Unit," and to make a correction that the contact person for site for Selection is Sam Levitt and not Lonnie Mayfield. Moved by <u>Larry Leisten</u>, seconded by <u>André Stojka</u>.

- *Jay* related that as to the Neutral Third Party (NTP), the Elections Team will be monitoring selections and that *Jeffrey Zimerman*, our IEA (Independent <u>Election</u> Administrator) can also be our Independent <u>Selection</u> Administrator if we would like.

- *Don Loze* moved to add that we review the procedures that we are adopting prior to the next election. *Larry* replied that the motion is applicable to the 2016 election. *Don* withdrew his suggestion. *Travis* noted that we can have a separate resolution. *Jay* noted that we can amend our bylaws and submit in June for review.

A roll call was vote taken with <u>17</u> yeas (*Irene Sandler, André Stojka, Robert Schlesinger, Matthew Post, Gary Plotkin, Teresa Lee, Jamie Hall, Cathy Wayne, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Mike Kemp, Jason Spradlin, Dan Love, Maureen Levinson and Maureen Smith*); <u>2</u> nays from *Don Loze* and *Nickie Miner,* <u>1</u> abstention by *Travis Longcore.* <u>Tally</u>: Yes: 17 No: 2 Abstentions: 1 <u>The motion carried</u>.

Next *Larry* asked the Board to approve <u>four of the five</u> residential boundary districts up for <u>public election</u> on <u>June 5th</u>, specifically, based on the information provided in the attachment, the

<u>Bel Air District</u>, the <u>Bel Air Glen District</u>, the <u>Beverly Park Estates</u> and <u>North of Sunset District</u> (which territory used to be SOS). The Board will vote on the fifth group, Coldwater/Mulholland/ North Franklin Crest, at our next meeting. Polling volunteers can see from these lists if the property location falls within the address range.

<u>Motion</u> to adopt the four of the five residential boundary areas of <u>Bel Air District</u>, <u>Bel Air Glen</u> <u>District</u>, <u>Beverly Park Estates</u> and <u>North of Sunset District</u> Moved by *Larry Leisten*; seconded by *Robert Ringler*. Discussion ensued. *Bob Schlesinger*

noted that there are no homes in Beverly Park on Summit Ridge; it may be part of BCA.

Motion amended to delete 2600 Summit Ridge *Bob Schlesinger* moved. Discussion was held.

<u>Motion amended</u> to earmark 2600 Summit Ridge, and omit approval of Beverly Park Estates at this time and push its approval to the January meeting. *Bob Schlesinger* moved. *Larry Leisten* seconded. *Larry* called the question.

A roll call was vote taken with <u>18</u> yeas (*André Stojka, Robert Schlesinger, Don Loze, Nickie Miner, Matthew Post, Gary Plotkin, Teresa Lee, Jamie Hall, Cathy Wayne, Tony Tucci, Larry Leisten, Chuck Maginnis, Robert Ringler, Mike Kemp, Jason Spradlin, Dan Love, Maureen Levinson and Maureen Smith); <u>1</u> nay from Irene Sandler, who opposed adoption of the outline and <u>1</u> abstention by <i>Travis Longcore*, Board President. <u>Tally</u>: Yes: 18 No: 1 Abstentions: 1 <u>The motion carried.</u>

Jay Handal gave an update on City provisions for NC elections: They have a graphic artist and templates online to fill out; they have negotiated prices with printers; they will be buying bus benches as a City to rebrand neighborhood councils throughout the City. Pole banners will be \$125.00 as part of the messaging program. "It is all about getting candidates if you have candidates, you have voters." In early January, they will start with the bus stops, etc. Each of the 96 NCs will be branded separately. Jay will send us the link to the website.

- f. Ad-Hoc 2016 Elections Committee Update Larry Leisten & Robin Greenberg, Co-Chairs Larry noted that Co-Chair, Robin Greenberg, is out of town. Prior to her leaving town, the adhoc committee had a meeting, discussed outreach, flyers and getting information up at our website, to provide a link at the homepage of our website, large and clear, for visitors interested in running for a seat. There is a February 10th deadline to get the selection info out.
- g. Other Updates from the Chair None

14. Outreach and Education Committee – Robin Greenberg, Chair (absent) No report

Reports of Representatives

15. Budget Representatives' Report – Nickie Miner and André Stojka

- a. Report from Budget Representatives (Update & Discussion) No report
- 16. DWP Committee Update Don Loze

a. Report on DWP Rate Increases: *Don Loze* related that yesterday, the DWP Board approved the recommendation to send to Council increases for water. The formula for metrics was revised as of Friday by DWP, so you can plug your own rates into it and see projected rates over a five-year period. The power portion is yet to come. Recommended rate increases with input from the Ratepayer Advocate will then go to the Environment and Energy Committee, at which time *Don* recommended that people show up at City Hall to complain. The Advocacy Committee thinks increases will be 35% above what we have now, within the next three to four years. *Don* will get this out to us. People from the Council & HOAs need to attend the DWP meetings on the first Saturday morning of the month to understand this complex information. [As noted on our website, the Neighborhood Council - LADWP Memorandum of Understanding Oversight Committee usually meets the first Saturday of each odd-numbered month. Next meeting is Saturday, January 2, 2016, 8:45 – 10 am @ the Hollywood Constituent Center, 6501 Fountain Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90028.]

17. Outdoor Spaces / Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Report – Travis Longcore

a. Update from Outdoor Spaces: Board member, *Tony Tucci*, gave a visual presentation on the four projects CLAW is working on: 1) the ban on rodenticides, 2) the barn owls nesting box program, 3) the wildlife corridors and habitat fragmentation (motion 14-0518 which we supported), and, 4) the habitat block, "Let's Buy A Mountain."

18. West Los Angeles Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) – Nickie Miner for Robin Greenberg

a. Discussion and Update from the November 18, 2015 meeting

i. Consideration of WRAC motion approved on 11/18/15, based on Westwood NC motion on VA Housing legislation supported by Congressman, *Ted Lieu*. (See Attachment "E" for Westwood NC example of recommended motion) (Per *Ms. Turner*, the deadline to submit the letter has passed but she still welcomes letter of support.) This motion has to do with re-allowing the VA to enter into a new set of leases at the site to allow housing for homeless veterans. Following discussion, the item was tabled as it was felt by the Board that there was not enough information to take action.

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

a. Update and Discussion on Action on Short-Term Rentals taken on 10/28/15 – Nickie Miner

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

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

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

Jamie Hall reported that he may have found someone with Stop 8150 Sunset, who wants to volunteer.

22. Adjourn - Cathy Wayne moved to adjourn, and the meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

Next Meeting @ AJU: Wednesday January 27, 2016

[Please Note: For the February 24, 2016 Meeting, Guest Speaker CD5 Councilmember, Paul Koretz]