



Draft Minutes

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Monthly Board Meeting (Virtual)
Wednesday December 16, 2020 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Present: 21 (Quorum 15)

Attachment “A”

2020/2021 Stakeholder Groups / Representatives	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association		
<i>Irene Sandler, Traffic Committee Chair</i>	X	
Bel Air District		
<i>Mark Goodman, M.D.</i>		X
<i>Gail Sroloff</i>	X	
Bel Air Glen District		
<i>Larry Leisten, Bylaws, Rules & Elections Chair</i>	X	
Bel Air Hills Association (BAHA)		
<i>Robin Greenberg, Board President</i>	X	
<i>Wendy Morris</i>	X	
Bel Air Ridge HOA (Alternate is Ed Cain)		
<i>André Stojka</i>		X
Benedict Canyon Association (BCA) (Alternate is Matt Post)		
<i>Robert (Bob) Schlesinger, PLUC Chair</i>	X	
<i>Donald Loze</i>	X	
<i>Nickie Miner, Asst. Treasurer, Budget & Finance Chair</i>	X	
<i>Mindy Rothstein Mann, Environmental Cmte. Chair</i>	X	
Casiano Estates Association		
<i>Robert Garfield, DDS</i>	X	

Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association (<i>Alternate: Barbara Dawson</i>)		
<i>Ellen Evans, VP of Operations & Outreach Chair</i>	X	
Custodians of Open Space		
<i>Travis Longcore, Ph.D., Parliamentarian</i>	X	
Faith-Based Organizations		
<i>Jackie DeFede</i>		X
Franklin-Coldwater District (<i>Alternate is Steven Weinberg</i>)		
<i>Maureen Smith</i>	X	
K-6 Private Schools		
<i>Teresa Lee</i>		X
7-12 Private Schools		
<i>Jon Wimbish</i>		X
Public Educational Institutions (K-12)		
<i>Kristie Holmes</i>		X
Holmby Hills Association		
<i>Jason Spradlin</i>		X
Laurel Canyon Association (LCA) (<i>Alternates: Anne Alexander & Kris Le Fan</i>)		
<i>Jamie Hall, VP of Legislative Affairs</i>		X
<i>Stephanie Savage, PLUC Vice Chair</i>	X	
<i>Cathy Wayne</i>	X	
<i>Heather Roy</i>		X
Members-at-Large		
<i>Chuck Maginnis, EP Committee Chair</i>	X	
<i>Marcia Hobbs</i>		X
<i>Shawn Bayliss</i>	X	
Member-at-Large / Youth Seat		
<i>Philip Enderwood, Public Safety Liaison</i>		X

North of Sunset District (Alternates: Stella Grey and Barbara Dawson)		
<i>Yves Mieszala</i>	X	
<i>Patricia Murphy, Public Works & Telecom Chair</i>	X	
Residents of Beverly Glen (RoBG)		
<i>Robert A. Ringler, Secretary</i>	X	
<i>Dan Palmer</i>		X
Total:	21	12

1. **Call to Order & Roll Call** Board President Robin Greenberg called the meeting to order at 7:02 pm. Secretary Ringler called the roll with 16 present initially; Irene Sandler arrived at 7:04pm; Wendy Morris & Mindy Mann at 7:06, Don Loze at 7:09 and Shawn Bayliss at 7:18pm with **21 present & 12 absent**.
2. **Motion:** Approve **December 16, 2020 Agenda Moved** by Robert R.; **Seconded** by Larry; **16/0/0; passed.**
3. **Motion:** Approve **November 18, 2020 Meeting Minutes (Attachment A) Moved** by Larry; **Seconded** by Cathy; **Amendment Moved** by Larry to delete an irrelevant and redundant line, under item #16, 2nd paragraph; Travis **seconded the amendment; 19 yes; 0 no; 1 abstention** Ellen; **approved as amended.**
4. **Public Comments: Bob Mann from “Save our Canyon” (SOC)** spoke on the proposed hotel in Benedict Canyon, noting that the process is moving toward an EIR with the City. More than 450 emails were sent to the city protesting the project and recommending they reject it, SOC has over 9,000 signatures, including close to 90% of adjoining and abutting homeowners who oppose the project. He noted that every single homeowner is opposing the project. Letters were sent to the city by Hillside Fed, Tree People, CLAW, another environmental group, and Mr. Mann expects a letter from SMMC after the first of the year, as well as letters from individuals who have some presence in the community. Over 200 emails were sent during the public comment period of the scoping meeting containing objections to the project. He opined that the project represents an existential threat to the Bel Air-Beverly Crest community at large and the Santa Monica Mountains. He noted that the developer is requesting a change in the Specific Plan, to have the city ignore the Baseline Hillside Ordinance and Overlay District that restricts construction (HCR), and to set aside any grading export/import limits. His concern is that if the use of Specific Plan mechanisms to circumvent the zoning restrictions are approved, it will set precedent for future commercial development in the Santa Monica Mountains and the Bel Air-Beverly Crest area. He asks the council to vigorously oppose the project for these reasons.
5. **Representatives of Elected Officials & Agencies**
Jarrett Thompson, Deputy Representative for Councilman Paul Koretz, CD5 gave updates:
- **Road Resurfacings in January:** Benedict Canyon from Hutton Dr. to Yoakum Dr. & Roscomare Hammer Dr. to Belcanto Dr. He'll provide updates when available.
- **Guardrail Upgrades** (CalTrans grants) - 15800 Mulholland between 405 & Sepulveda; - 3197 N. Benedict Canyon Bl, Southbound lane from Mulholland Dr. Approx 200 ft South – End Treatments need to be updated
- 1371 Davies Dr, Davies Dr. from Cielo Dr. to Angelo View Dr. 1340-1350 Cielo Dr.
- **Tiny Homes:** Yesterday the Councilmember introduced motion for CAO & BOE to find ways to cut costs of the Pallet Shelter Tiny House Village Program in a citywide effort to more quickly and efficiently provide interim housing for people experiencing homelessness. Tiny houses are prefab 64-square-foot and composite sheds that are being used as quick and inexpensive emergency shelters for homeless individuals. The City planned to open the first tiny-house village in January but cost analysis revealed a burdensome price tag on the project, approximately \$130,000 per unit while other cities are accomplishing similar size installations a fraction of the cost (as little as 10% of that paid by L.A.).

Erin Seinfeld, Field Deputy for Sheila Kuehl covers Beverly Crest; Zac Gaidzik covers Bel Air. Update included that today LA County Dept. of Health confirmed highest number of COVID-related death and hospitalizations; 138 new deaths, 22,422 new cases since Nov 9th. All nine of the designated sites received their allotment of 83,000 doses of the vaccine. Will begin administering staff at highest risk of exposure to frontline healthcare workers. One in 80 people are infected with COVID-19. It is imperative to stay home as much as possible, take every precaution. Call & email if you have anything else to discuss with her. eseinfeld@bos.lacounty.gov

6. **Guest Speaker, David Ryu:** Robin introduced David Ryu with gratitude for all he has done as CD4 Council Member, and shared her appreciation for him, as the “right man at the right time.” Board members gave individual tributes and thanks to him, expressing how valuable he has been to our communities & district, for his listening to us, appreciating his sense of service having grown up in the city, for his work especially in the hillsides, how we respect, appreciate his work and hope the work we did with him will continue, and how he will be missed.
- Stakeholder, Catalina Grode from Laurel Canyon & Laurel Hills, part of an Emergency Communications team in her community, related that she previously expressed concern about missing no-parking tow-away street signs on Lookout Mtn. to his office without expected results, and would like him to pass this along to the new CD Member.
 - David Ryu noted that he has worked with nearly every one of us, in District 4 or not. He gave his appreciation to this group, saying even when we disagreed, we could work together, move forward and revisit issues.
 - He appreciated our support on his campaign. He recommended giving the new councilmember a chance, to educate the new office, move forward and solve issues together. He noted that we did a lot together and that he will still be around. He thanked us all for our service, for fighting for our neighborhoods. Robin thanked him.

7. **Reports of Officers**

- a) President – Robin Greenberg
- b) Vice President of Operations – Ellen Evans
- c) Vice President of Legislative Affairs – Jamie Hall
- d) Secretary – Robert Ringler
- e) Treasurer – Jacqueline Le Kennedy **(Update, Discussion & Possible Action)**
Motion: Approval of November 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (**Attachment B**)
Moved by Jacqueline; **Seconded** by Nickie; **16 yes; 0 no; 2 abstentions:** Gail & Yves; **3 ineligible: passed**
- f) Assistant Treasurer – Nickie Miner

Reports of Standing Committees (Discussion, Possible Action, Letter &/or CIS Submission)

8. **Executive Committee -- Robin Greenberg, Chair**

- a) **Update/Report by Chair: The Executive Committee had its regular Zoom meeting Thursday December 3rd and recommended actions on street furniture (under WRAC) & Benedict Canyon hotel (under PLUC.)**
- b) **Discussion & Possible Motion** Regarding Stephanie’s Role on Executive Committee, as the PLU Committee has only one (1) vote that may be cast by either Bob, or when not present, Stephanie, when both are present Stephanie is to be afforded "panelist" status on Zoom call, and allowed to partake in committee discussions, but vote will be reserved for Bob when present. *[From the November 18, 2020 agenda.]*
Moved by Robin; **Seconded** by Larry; **20 yes; 0 no; 1 abstention:** Cathy Wayne; **passed**
Additional Report: During discussion on Outreach Committee motion 9.b. below, Larry Leisten, Chair of the Bylaws, Rules & Elections Committee, reported on an issue discussed at December’s Executive Committee meeting regarding times that we will need joint committee meetings. It was discussed that when a non-committee member’s presence is essential to the committee’s business, as described in the agenda, that such committee member receive a specific invitation notifying them of their presence needed at the committee meeting. This would also apply to chairpersons of ad-hoc committees who are not members of the Executive Committee, such as Mindy Mann, Chair of the Ad-Hoc Environmental Committee. He also suggested calling a joint committee meeting whenever a matter is taken up by one committee that also falls within the jurisdiction of the other committee.

9. **Outreach Committee – Ellen Evans, Chair**

- a) **Update/Report by Chair: The committee met on Zoom on Monday December 7th.**
Report: Committee voted to approve the board member toolkit to be presented this evening. (**Attachment C**)
- b) **The following action was recommended to the BABCNC board: (Attachment D) (D.i. has been replaced)**
Chair Ellen Evans introduced the tri-fold brochure motion below, giving brief update that, in terms of the election plan, the committee has four tasks for Outreach to address: 1) promoting awareness of the neighborhood council and what we do, 2) recruiting candidates for seats, 3) promoting the fact that people need to ask for their ballots, 4) and to

promote returning their ballots. She noted that the tri-fold definitely does the first. She related that she has just found out from DONE that they will not do any mass communication by mail to tell people that they need to ask for ballots and that may come up as a possible expense next month. She noted that we have a new quote as follows:

- i. **Motion:** To approve the tri-fold brochure to promote pre-election NC awareness at the following cost: \$2,091 for printing and \$2,300 for mailing; \$4,391.00 or up to \$4,400 (not every door direct mail) **moved** by Ellen; **seconded** by Maureen Smith. Discussion was held in which Larry Leisten related that he only learned of the trifold brochure when he received the agenda, and asked that if the Outreach Committee is going to be discussing NC election, that he as Chair of the Bylaws, Rules and Elections Committee be notified and have a joint committee meeting. He would like the brochure to show greater focus on soliciting candidates, generating candidate interest & educating the stakeholders as to the seats and would like to see an improved draft before it is approved for mailing. He would like this draft to clarify which seats stakeholders are eligible to vote for and apprise them of the non-residential and at-large seats that are open to them.

Ellen invited Larry to attend all Outreach meetings which have been and are focused on elections.

Chuck requested telephone numbers which mention districts include all district numbers & names.

Public Comment: Julien Antelin from DONE provided important NC Election Dates, and noted, as to DONE's election strategy outreach efforts, that funds have just been approved for this, to raise general awareness for the public through digital ads & social media for candidate recruitment; working with trusted not-for-profit partners, to help recruit and inform people about NCs and how to run for seats. They will use general phone banking, texting, etc., with vendors. He'll meet with our Outreach & Election Chairs.

Amending Motion: To approve the amount under the condition that we adjust the message of brochure to solicit candidates for the election. **Moved** by Larry; **seconded** by Travis who noted that he has no problem with the funding and that it makes sense that the content would be vetted by the Chair of the committee that oversees elections. **15 yes; 2 no;** Ellen & Patricia; **1 abstention:** Mindy; **passed**

Motion as Amended: 16 yes; 0 no; 1 abstention: Yves **3 ineligible; passed as amended**

Ellen has asked board members to make little videos of themselves, write about their NC experience, why they are on the NC, for use in a social media campaign to recruit candidates. She sent a list of questions to the board. They don't have to be long or complicated and would help with outreach.

10. Public Works and Telecommunications Committee – Patricia Murphy, Chair

- a) Update/Report by Chair: The committee met on Zoom on November 20. No report. Will get back together in January. Last meeting passed motion for the mission statement.

11. Emergency Preparedness Committee – Chuck Maginnis, Chair:

- a) Update/Report by Chair: Chair Maginnis related that the committee met on Zoom on December 9, 2020; had a successful meeting with 17 in attendance. Bill Grundfest introduced Phos-Check and AI for power lines, to know in advance if a power line will spark and automatically take it down. Jarrett Thompson addressed red flag and no smoking signs, and will likely work with DOT on this. Walt Young discussed what Measure HH will mean to us.

12. Traffic Committee – Irene Sandler, Chair

- a) Update/Report by Chair on items that her committee are following:
 - Irene spoke to Gabriella Garry who noted that due to lack of funds, changes for Mission Canyon Park are on hold.
 - She is awaiting Metro cross-mountain plans. Private companies offered to fund for first 15 years, then back to County.
 - She is following Sepulveda & Berggruen (as noted under item #21 below).
 - Robert S. mentioned LAPD looking into cameras to record speeders up and down canyons at 2:00 am; a deterrent rather than a violation; however, enforcement isn't in place; wondered if HOAs could help pay for one or two these.
 - Irene noted that the State of CA is looking at driverless & electric vehicles and putting stations around the state.
 - Irene mentioned the six-acre fire that occurred today in the Sepulveda Pass on the South West side, Getty on-off ramp, which travelled into the median and threatened a lot of area; noted that it could have been a big conflagration. It was next to the Berggruen property. Chuck suggested the Citizen App, and when a fire is brewing look at www.lafd.org.

13. Bylaws, Rules & Elections Committee – Larry Leisten, Chair

- a) Update/Report by Chair – Larry has been in communication with Nathan Singh, our Clerk's office representative, who is familiar with our bylaws. Larry has communicated to Nathan that our board structure goes way beyond what the clerk is administering, in terms of seats. Nathan informed Larry that they will conduct forums online to educate those stakeholders interested in running for a seat. Larry noted that we are off to a good start with our representative.

Updated List of Important Election Dates:

Candidate Filing Period (when people can run) Between February 6, 2021 & March 23rd.

Vote By Mail Application (the period where stakeholders can request a ballot) Between April 9th & June 1st.

Ballot needs to be postmarked by Election Day and received within three business days thereafter.

Region 11 BABCNC Election Date is Tuesday June 8, 2021

14. **Budget & Finance Committee** – Nickie Miner, Chair – No report

15. **Seating of the Neighborhood Purpose Grant Committee and Chair** – Deferred

16. **Planning & Land Use Committee** –Robert (Bob) Schlesinger, Chair & Stephanie Savage, Vice Chair

a) **Update/Report by Chair(s):** **On Tuesday December 8th, the PLU Committee met on Zoom, and the following action was recommended to the BABCNC board:**

RE: ENVIRONMENTAL CASE NO.: ENV-2018-1509-EIR / Retreat at Benedict Canyon (Proposed Project) Rejection of the Application / Response to Planning Department Notice of Preparation (NOP)

- Due to consideration of a December 9th deadline for public comment, the PLU Committee voted to write a letter by 12/09/2020, and then bring it to full board after it was submitted for board approval.

Motion: BABCNC supports Benedict Canyon Assn. & Save Our Canyon in OPPOSITION to the application. It will set a significant precedent in the Santa Monica Mountains that is contrary on its face to the Community Plan. We object to it. Moved by Don Loze; seconded by Cathy. 12 yes; 0 no; 1 abstention Leslie; passed. (**Attachment E**)

Moved by Robert; Seconded by Larry; 21 yes; 0 no; 1 abstention: Shawn; passed

Reports by Chairs of Ad Hoc Committees

17. **Ad Hoc Committee on Home Sharing & Party House Ordinance Enforcement** – Savage & Evans, Co-Chairs

a) **Update/Report by Chair(s):** **On December 10th the Committee met on Zoom.**

i. **Report:** The committee approved a motion to invite a rep from the LAPD Special Events Permit Unit to our next meeting to answer questions about special event permits.

ii. **The following action was recommended to the BABCNC board:**

Motion: To submit a Community Impact Statement to the Council File for the current home sharing ordinance suggesting our modifications to the ordinance. Moved by Nickie Miner; seconded by Nic Abramson; 11/0/0; passed. (**Attachment F**)

Ellen noted that the committee came up with modifications to the Home Sharing Ordinance to protect us; in the agenda packet. We want to do a CIS to the expired council file. If there is any input on how to move forward.

Moved by Ellen; Seconded by Robert S. 21 yes; 0 no; 0 abstentions; passed

18. **Ad-Hoc Committee on Environmental Issues** – Mindy Rothstein Mann, Chair:

a) **Update/Report by Chair:** The committee met on Zoom on November 19th.

19. **Ad-Hoc Committee regarding Continuing Teleconference Meetings after Safer-At-Home Order** – Jamie Hall, Chair

a) **Update/Report by Chair** – No report

New Business: (Discussion & Possible Action, Letter &/or CIS Submission)

20. **Update, Discussion & Possible Action RE: Recent FAA NextGen Flight Path News** – Wendy Morris

To approve a letter to LA City Councilmembers on the San Fernando Valley Airports Noise Task Force requesting that they request that San Fernando Valley Airports Noise Task Force forcefully respond to the FAA regarding FAA letter dated 09/01/2020. (**Attachment G**) (Draft letter & sample letter for examples of responses by Bob Bramen.)

Moved by Wendy; Seconded by Mindy; Wendy gave update; 19 yes; 0 no; 2 abstentions: Ellen & Patricia; passed

21. **Discussion & Possible Motion:** To send a public comment letter in response to the Notice of Preparation (NOP) for an EIR of the Berggruen Institute project. The NOP asks for input on preparation of EIR.

- **Berggruen Institute Project:** <https://planning.lacity.org/development-services/eir/berggruen-institute-project>

- **Case Number:** ENV-2019-4565-EIR **CD:** 11 – Bonin **Community Plan Areas:** Brentwood - Pacific Palisades

- **Project Location:** 1901 No. Sepulveda Blvd. & 2100 - 2187 North Canyonback Road, Los Angeles, California 90049

DATA: “Secured” documents copied and pasted from the Planning Website: (**Attachment H**)

- **ENV-2019-4565-EIR: November 20, 2020:**

https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/d600b288-8074-46dd-9f1b-0b132a320949/Notice_of_Preparation.pdf

- **Berggruen Institute Project Initial Study:**
[https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/4c72b779-dc74-4368-ac58-9e26ed8743b1/Berggruen Institute Project Initial Study \(November 2020\).pdf](https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/4c72b779-dc74-4368-ac58-9e26ed8743b1/Berggruen%20Institute%20Project%20Initial%20Study%20(November%202020).pdf)
- **Appendix IS-1 - Detailed Obstacle Analysis Report:**
[https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/08c3c7d3-db80-4830-ae90-8cb6f97da48f/Appendix IS-1 - Detailed Obstacle Analysis Report.pdf](https://planning.lacity.org/odocument/08c3c7d3-db80-4830-ae90-8cb6f97da48f/Appendix%20IS-1%20-Detailed%20Obstacle%20Analysis%20Report.pdf)

- Travis gave a review and update as to the large private foundation to be built on an old landfill over the 405 (not in our territory). He noted that the project developers have filed for a Specific Plan change to rezone the entire area. The city is accepting comments on the scope of the environmental report, e.g., an alternative to the project that we think could achieve their goals without environmental impact. Travis noted that we can get on record now if there is an interest in doing so, to let City Council know it shouldn't be happening at all. As to CEQA, we can get on record. We are going to be looked to as one of the impacted groups because the egress goes up to the end of our territory on Sepulveda Boulevard. Travis would like to know the will of the council; **moved** by Travis and **seconded** by Nickie. **Motion:** Travis noted that there will be an opportunity to comment on a draft EIR. We can say a) this is a project that affects us; b) we are concerned about the impacts to traffic safety, wildlife, and the precedent it sends to converting land use in the hillsides without going through a community process, and 3) that in the form of specific plan amendments, we really object to the city going forward with processing this and giving special treatment to these developers in this way; make the general point. That gets us on the record.
Moved by Travis; **Seconded** by Mindy; **20 yes; 0 no; 0 abstentions; passed**

22. Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) (Discussion & Possible Action) – Robin Greenberg Update/Report by Representative: WRAC met on Zoom on November 16th & recommended the following:

- a) **Appoint Representatives for three WRAC committees:**
 - i. Appoint WRAC Rep for the Homelessness Committee: None.
 - ii. Appoint Nickie Miner as Rep for the WRAC Transportation Committee **moved** by Nickie **17/0/0; unanimous.**
 - iii. Appoint Travis Longcore, Ph.D., as Alternate Rep of the WRAC Land Use Committee (LUPC) **moved** by Robin; **17/0/0; unanimous.**
- b) **Street Furniture: Preparation of CIS for Bob Blumenfield and Mike Bonin's motion: (Attachment I) Discussion & Possible Motion:** To recommend to the BABCNC Board to SUPPORT the motion that the Bureau of Street Services be instructed to **continue the public engagement process** while the Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program (STAP) request for proposals (RFP) process is underway, provide a public report on the proposals received in response to the RFP and report to the City Council within 60 days of receiving proposals. *[Ellen recused herself.]*
Moved by Nickie; **seconded** by Larry; **7/0/0; 1 recused; Ellen.** Passed in the Executive Committee
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-1536>
[Ellen recused herself.]
Moved by Robin; **Seconded** by Nickie; Bob heard information will be collected from cell phones, and Nickie is concerned about distractions. **16 yes; 0 no; 0 abstentions; 1 recusal; Ellen; passed**

23. Reports from BABCNC Representatives, Liaisons, Budget Advocate, Budget Representative

24. Good of the Order

- Robin has Certificates of Appreciation from David Ryu and business cards that were ordered prior to COVID.
- The December blood drive, put together by Ellen, was successful.
- Mindy noted that the tree ordinance finally passed this week; we will have to worry about getting it enforced.

25. Adjournment Robin adjourned the meet 9:08pm **Next Board Meeting Wednesday January 27th @ 7:00pm**

<https://www.babcnc.org/>
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