



BABCNC Emergency Preparedness Committee Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, September 18, 2019 7:00 pm
Bel Air Ridge Clubhouse - 2760 Claray Los Angeles, CA 90077

EP Committee Member Name	P	A	EP Committee Member Name	P	A
Chuck Maginnis, BABCNC EP Committee Chair & At-Large Representative; Bel Air Road EP Captain; CERT	X		Michael Schlenker, Bel Air Crest EP Chair, HCEC Emergency Communications Committee Chair, LAFD ACS & CERT		X
Maureen Smith, BABCNC Franklin-Coldwater Representative	X		Ron Cornell, Bel Air Ridge EP Committee, LAFD ACS, HCEC Ham Radio Group Co-founder with Michael Schlenker of HCEC, and CERT	X	
Irene Sandler, BABCNC Traffic Cmte. Chair & Bel Air Crest Master Association Representative		X	Dan Palmer, BABCNC Residents of Beverly Glen Rep. (RoBG); RoBG EP Chair		X
Jacqueline Le Kennedy BABCNC Business Representative		X	Hildreth Simmons, Residents of Beverly Glen RoBG EP Committee Member, City Hall's Keep Los Angeles Beautiful Committee	X	
Danielle Cohen, Bel Air Ridge Resident EPAC Co-Chair, Ham; CERT		X	Seema Hassan, Doheny Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association (DSPNA) Lead for EP	X	
Maureen Levinson, Bel Air Association, HCEC Communications; C-PAB		X	Gail Sroloff, BABCNC Bel Air District Representative		X
Robin Greenberg, BABCNC President Bel Air Hills Association (BAHA) Representative	X		Robert Schlesinger, BABCNC's Benedict Canyon Assn. Rep & Planning & Land Use Committee Chair	X	
			Rob Farber, Bel Air Resident, Former BABCNC member; Currently Alternate & Asst. Treasurer on the BABCNC	X	

Attendees:

- Walt Young, Deputy Exec. Officer, Park Ranger, Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA)
- Crisanta Gonzalez, with the City of Los Angeles Emergency Management Department (EMD).
- Ben Park, Red Cross Volunteer, presenter of Map Your Neighborhood; former contractor with LAEMD
Ben has worked with Crisanta Gonzalez with the EMD
- Bill Kabaker, Bel Air Ridge EP Committee, BAR Fire Preparedness Subcommittee, HCEC Ham radio
Bill is an Irrigation & Water Conservation Specialist, UCLA Professor in Irrigation
- Philip Boche, President of the Colina Glen HOA
- Jackie Defede, BABCNC Board member, Director of Facilities and Safety at Stephen Wise Temple.
- Cathy Palmer, BABCNC Board Administrator

1. **Call to order** – **Chuck Maginnis, Chair** called the meeting to order at 7:14pm.
2. **Roll Call and Introduction of Attendees:** Chuck welcomed all present and invited attendees and committee members to introduce themselves. The roll was then called, with eight committee members present and seven absent. Quorum was met.
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**
4. **Motion to approve July 17, 2019 Minutes:** Robin moved; Rob seconded; 8/0/0; passed

5. Public Comment:

Chuck Maginnis announced that Bill Hopkins is having the 12th Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair on October 12, 2019 at Northridge Mall. Ron recommends this highly.

Bill Kabaker related that he participated in a fire prevention seminar with Topanga Canyon. He noted that Bel Air Ridge EP Committee will present to the board efforts to reduce their fire-risk footprint. Discussion was held on the mesh for vents. He noted that they are looking at common area irrigation controllers to assess high risk areas, as to who operates at the different slopes.

Chuck mentioned “sense technology,” as championed by Bill Grundfest. **Ron Cornell** noted that they’ve been speaking with “fire specialists,” who are part of a brand new field, who come in take a look at your area and let you know what trees are okay, what brush needs to be cleared, etc. Bel Air Ridge is doing homework on this and finds that it is very involved. He and Bill noted that tomorrow they are meeting with someone from “California Chaparral,” which was quoted in the Fire Brig article in the same Sunday LA Times, about how fire breaks are ineffective. Bill believes California Chaparral is a nonprofit; however, they have also spoken with a number of consultants in the realm of “fire-escaping” which he believes is an evolving industry.

Bill noted that the LA Times had an article on fire escaping and another article on security cameras.

Walt Young from MRCA, Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority Director: Walt returned today, and reported that brushing is done. If we hear of something that they have missed, that they own, call and they’ll fix it. He noted we may receive a mailer asking for our hot button issues. Walt continued that for the last three years they’ve worked with Topanga Canyon’s & Malibu’s “Arson Watch” program, sponsored by LA County Sheriff; they are civilian volunteers, which has been successful. They marry a park ranger with their patrol whenever they go out and have common communications. If they see something, we go. Over the last couple of years, MRCA has inquired about starting an “Arson Watch” program in the City of Los Angeles from this community to the Hollywood Bowl. The Council offices and certain community groups have been interested but when they say that it has to be all along Mulholland, interest goes down.

Walt He related that they have struck a deal on a trial basis with “**California Emergency Mobile Patrol (CEMP)** <https://www.cemp.org/> based in the Devonshire Division of LAPD. CEMP is a nonprofit with their own command structure that can operate anywhere at the request of any government. Walt noted that when a red flag occurs (a national weather service event, not the city’s parking patrol criteria) they’ll send two to three cars that will check in and we will then have two to three additional cars working for us. They have three vehicles which are blue in color. Walt noted that he appeared at Hillside Federation last night about this. This is MRCA’s program, so when you see blue vehicles saying “Citizen’s Emergency Mobile Patrol” you’ll know who they are.

They want to let folks know that this is their program. They have high hopes to give Mulholland and surrounding communities two to three cars, understanding the limitations, because they are volunteers, if it’s red flag on a Tuesday afternoon, they’ll be working; however, evenings and weekends, it’s an added layer costing everyone zero dollars. He noted that the repeater on Oat Mountain needs replacement and MRCA is providing a \$9,000 grant to replace the radio repeater on Oat Mountain for **California Emergency Mobile Patrol, (CEMP)** Walt related that they are recognized by LAPD, and therefore have LAPD radios; have been through live scan and are vetted.

Walt later clarified that CEMP will soon be providing Arson Watch services along Mulholland under the direction of the MRCA.

Below from bottom left: Maureen Smith, Rob Farber, Philip Boche, Ben Park, Jackie Defede, Bob Schlesinger, Seema Hassan, Crisanta Gonzalez, Walt Young, Bill Kabaker, Ron Cornell, Hildreth Simmons and Robin Greenberg listen to Walt Young's Conservancy updates.



Bob Schlesinger noted that there is a situation on Cielo, where the owner won't clear his brush. Chuck recommended speaking to Jarrett Thompson of Paul Koretz's office who will get in touch with the appropriate people to handle this.

Walt's cell phone: 310-985-5231. The 24-hour ranger: 310-456-7049 walt.young@mrca.ca.gov

Ron Cornell related that HCEC will be doing a drill on October 26th from 8-9:00 on a Saturday, when they do their normal check in at 8:30. Each of the communities that are represented in HCEC, each person will have their own drill within their own community, coordinating with a command structure at a certain location probably outside this area. You can participate but will need a ham operator in your community. He noted that the reason for doing ham radio is that it is the best way to connect everybody together.

Chuck related an announcement from **Stella Gray** (from North of Sunset district): The Speaker Series returns with **"How to Survive the Big One,"** September 23, 6-8:30 at 8768 West Sunset Blvd., (formerly the Sarafino space.)

Chuck related that Bill Grundfeld has mentioned to him that trying to prevent wildfires is unrealistic, and he has looked into "thermal imaging." He mentioned **"AlertWildfire"** (fire-spotting technology using cameras placed on mountaintops) <https://www.unr.edu/stories/alertwildfire>. Chuck noted that Bill has communicated with Jarrett Thompson at Paul Koretz's office who noted that the City FD has looked into this, and are looking for poles. It works with **"Wyfire,"** hopes that these will be up and running in the next year or sooner. Ron asked Chuck to provide him further info on this.

6. EMD Ready your LA Neighborhood (RYLAN) presentation:

■ Crisanta Gonzalez, Emergency Management Dept. Coordinator, Special Guest Speaker, to present “**How to Ready Your LA Neighborhood**” (RYLAN).

Crisanta introduced herself, noting she comes from Northern California, and is happy to be living here in LA at this time. She has a MA in Public Administration with an emphasis on Emergency Management, and is one of the eight disaster managers working for the City of Los Angeles.

Crisanta related that the EMD created the RYLAN program around the Map Your Neighborhood (MYN) tool developed by LuAn K Johnson, Ph.D.

<http://www.transitionus.org/sites/default/files/MapYourNeighborhood.pdf>

Six months after you’ve done MYN they’ll schedule a test for communication deficiencies, watch you do the 9 steps & try to find weaknesses in your plan. (It is not connected to reverse 911.)

Whenever there is an incident, an event, or an activation, she is to go there; if none, she goes to the neighborhoods. She noted that there are five divisions including but not limited to: Planning Division; every two years they recycle; Training Division; train with military and city agencies and creates trainings in community preparedness, the Engagement Divisions; and Operations Division.

She noted that for a city with approximately 4 million residents in LA, 6 million here at any given time, there are 9,000 police officers and 3,246 fire officers. You may be down to 2,500 police officers and fire fighters for a city of 4 million. The Mayor directed them to create a tool to help the neighbors. She helps you split up neighborhoods so each group can touch every door within one hour. They bring these materials when they go to peoples’ homes.

RYLAN covers Prepare; Organize; Practice; Connect; Communicate; Train. They talk about these; earthquake recovery mode; to change steps to make it an evacuation plan. They talk about and help you connect to these.

Chuck brought up Notify LA, noting that there’s no reason everyone shouldn’t be signed up for that. Ron would like Notify LA to do some tests. Alerts are called “WEAs” federally controlled, e.g., Amber Alerts, the President’s notification; this is an opt-in. Notify LA is opt-in.

Chuck noted that we are different from other NCs, as we have HOAs. She noted that we are knowledgeable. He noted that Ben Parks here this evening has helped at least half a dozen neighborhoods in this area. He noted that RYLAN does not do facilitator trainings. She noted that the key difference between RYLAN and MYN is that they will come to you and you will fill out the worksheets.

Bill noted that their board has an attorney that presented the issue of reducing liability, and asked if this is an LA-sponsored initiative that we can take to the board, which she confirmed.

Bill noted that his association goes by the Good Samaritan Law. Bill noted that they are precluded from identifying compromised individuals as a board. Crisanta noted that the neighbor has to give you permission to add them to the list. Ben suggested that you as a group of people can make yourselves aware of those compromised individuals.

Below, Crisanta Gonzalez presents RYLAN as Seema Hassan, Bill Kabaker and the group listen intently.



She noted that when RYLAN is done, they plug the information into an online map. The city of LA keeps no information. It stays on your block. As individuals, the City of LA will help you.

She played a six-minute video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TamrRqXK8sk> which opens with LAPD's Bea Grimala and LAFD Chief Ralph Terrazas. Message is that you will likely be on your own for days or longer; being prepared is essential.

Crisanta noted that you and your neighbors will learn a simple response plan to know what to do within the first hour. They will train 15-20 single family homes or an entire building if you live an apartment or condo; in a sparse area 5-10 homes. "There's always someone willing to help someone else."

Workshop Logistics: 90+ minutes. Location: In a large room, backyard, or nearby gathering place, library or religious facility. They prefer to do it in a home, on your street but they also look at public areas. They do it whenever it's convenient for us.

Crisanta reiterated that Dr. LuAn K. Johnson created MYN. It's been around 20 years. RYLAN adopted the MYN Tool. RYLAN MYN offers EMD people to come to your home and to do trainings. Long Beach has it.

Ron Cornell noted that when he first heard about RYLAN he brought it to this community, no one had ever heard of it. He encouraged them to adopt it, a program by the Mayor of LA. The Bel Air Ridge board said no but that individuals can do it.

Crisanta noted that the Mayor is not the face of the program; rather, the face is herself and the other trainers. She noted that they want this to be a grass roots program rather than a government-heavy program. She noted that they provide the maps and number the homes. Then you go around the room, house #1, collect info one by one. They provide everything you need to complete your workshop that night. Neighborhood Leader provides location, prints invitations and distributes to the neighbors.

They teach you the 9 steps and at the end of the meeting, she tells us which step to skip to make this an evacuation plan. They pick the area on your street where you'll meet in the gathering site and break up into teams. Identify which house will be the care center. They go over first aid and equipment, culinary skills, language skills, as well as all equipment. The person who volunteers to be the organizing coordinator uses this to pick teams. It's absolutely free.

Discussed use of drills to keep the group interested.

Hildreth related that if you get emergency food with pop-top cans, you don't need to worry about the can-opener.

Contact EMD about getting started with RYLAN: emd.emdweb@lacity.org

Sign up for Emergency Alerts: <https://emergency.lacity.org/notifyla>

7 Resiliency Goals, Status and Steps to achieve

■ Chuck Maginnis and possibly Aaron Gross, LA Chief Resilience Officer

Chuck read from an email from Mayor Garcetti in which he urges NCs to organize and host RYLAN. Chuck noted that we have Jacqueline Le Kennedy as Resiliency Representative.

He stated that the 93 Neighborhood Councils in Los Angeles have been asked to prepare a Resiliency Plan by Neighborhood Council EmpowerLA and Mayor Eric Garcetti. The plan charges Angelenos to become self-sufficient in times of emergencies by being prepared as Civil Servants may take days to weeks to respond. BABCNC's strategy, unique from most Neighborhood Councils having Home Owner Associations (HOAs) rather than a group of homes, was to present and implement Emergency Preparedness plans for their communities. Chuck mentioned that The BABCNC Emergency Preparedness Committee is proud of their achievements thus far in arming many HOAs with being prepared.

Chuck noted the following achievements in achieving our goal:

- Jacqueline Le Kennedy is our BABCNC Resiliency Liaison and will be speaking on "Resilience" goals at the next meeting on the 2nd Wednesday of November instead of the 3rd Wednesday due to Thanksgiving.

- BABCNC HOAs implementing LA Emergency Management Department (EMD) "Ready Your LA Neighborhood" (RYLAN) and/or Red Cross "Map Your Neighborhood" (MYN) where 20-30 homes are grouped to assist themselves for emergencies are: North of Sunset District, including Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association and Residents of Beverly Glen, while Benedict Canyon Association is gearing up for this task.

- Benedict Hills Estates, Benedict Hills HOA and Colina Glen are HOAs in BABCNC's area although not represented on our NC, who have attended our meetings and implemented RYLAN or MYN.

- BABCNC HOAs already having Emergency Preparedness plans include Bel Air Crest, with \$50,000 of EP supplies, Bel Air Ridge with regular communication drills and Bel Air Association who is implementing FRS radio communications for their entire community.
- MAP overlays detailing HOA fault lines, potential flooding areas, gas lines and rivers among other things for emergency planning, have been presented.
- CERT training organized by BABCNC graduating over 25 individuals was completed last year at Colina Glen Clubhouse.
- Weed Whacker Ordinance provision comments were sent to the LAFD by BABCNC with each issue being personally discussed for LAFD's final draft.
- Guest speakers representing various Emergency Preparedness subjects from 2013 are available with a guide to topics and presenters, with minutes (including pictures) on our website: <https://www.babcnc.org/publicsafety-committee.php>

Chuck then commented that his personal street contact list is a good example of people communicating together by notifying and identifying safety issues on their street and their surroundings.

8 HOA discussion on EP Status, Issues & Future Topics

- Open discussion: Crisanta noted our rep is actually Jacqueline Koci-Tomayo. Ron gave credit to Chuck.

9. Adjournment: 9:00pm

Next Meeting: Wednesday, November 13, 2019 7:00 pm (2nd Weds of Nov. due to holiday)

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