



Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
Ad-Hoc Committee on Environmental Issues Meeting (Virtual)
Friday March 5, 2021 1:00 P.M.

Minutes

A meeting of the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council was held via teleconference on March 5, 2021. Chair Mann called the meeting to order at 1:05 PM. Six members were present, Mindy Rothstein Mann, Chair; Robin Greenberg, Wendy Morris, Maureen Levinson, Robert Schlesinger, and Stephanie Savage, and two members were absent, André Stojka and Jamie Hall.

The agenda was approved unanimously as circulated, as moved by Schlesinger, and duly seconded.

The November 19, 2020 minutes were approved as moved by Schlesinger and duly seconded, with 2 abstentions by Levinson and Morris.

There were no Public Comments on non-agendized items within the jurisdiction of the committee.

Chair Rothstein Mann discussed the possibility of hosting some type of webinar to educate and engage the residents about the Santa Monica Mountains.

Recreation and Parks Fees. Stephanie Savage gave an update on taxes assessed (or not) by Parks & Recreation, specifically on RAP fee #184505 – fees collected from ADUs and new dwellings for the purpose of creating green spaces. She has researched the records and found that there is an inconsistent application of Recreation & Park fees for single family homes in CD4. Fees are being assessed in only 10% of the cases – so funding for the creation of new parks and green spaces is suffering as a result.

Presentation by TreePeople. TreePeople has indicated that they would like to be more involved with the local community. They provided a presentation that did not focus on how we can play a more active role with TreePeople. Committee members' suggestions included giving presentations to our Neighborhood Council schools and having BABCNC meetings at TreePeople.

Environmental Webinars. The committee discussed possible environmental webinars, such as having a Tree Town Hall & having a Webinar Series on topics such as how SB9 and SB10 will affect the hillsides, hearing from someone from Building & Safety on how they address environmental issues, as suggested by Member Levinson, and having a series of different experts who are recorded, giving people a choice to view them at their leisure, as suggested by Morris. No action was taken.

Fuel Modification. The committee discussed the importance of getting the word out about nesting season relative to fuel modification to the public, how to do so effectively, and the budget for doing so. Member Morris moved that we work towards a public campaign before the Hillside Clearances go out, to inform people about nesting season. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Hillside Building and Safety Inspector. The committee discussed the prospect of recommending that the Department of Building & Safety hire a specific inspector who would be trained and responsible for all tree and environmental related issues in the hillside areas. There was much discussion agreeing that there is a problem that needs to be solved but much disagreement about the specifics.

Motion: Chair Rothstein Mann moved that we need to have an environmental inspector for the hillsides and that the details will be determined. The motion was seconded and passed by all with the exception of Member Morris who abstained.

The meeting adjourned at 2:21 P.M., with next meeting date TBD.

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