



*Building A Better Community*



**Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Monthly Regular Board Meeting (Virtual)  
Wednesday October 26, 2022 7:00 P.M.**

**DRAFT MINUTES**

| <b>NAME</b>            | <b>BOARD SEAT</b>                            | <b>Present</b> | <b>Absent</b> |
|------------------------|--|----------------|---------------|
| Barondes, Asher        | At-Large Youth Rep (2023) (Excused)          |                | X             |
| Bayliss, Shawn         | Commercial or Office (2023)                  | X              |               |
| Cobb, Bradford         | North of Sunset District (2023)              | X              |               |
| Evans, Ellen           | Community Interest At-Large (2023)           | X              |               |
| Garfield, DDS, Robert  | Casiano Estates Association                  | X              |               |
| Levinson for Goodman   | Bel-Air District (2023)                      | X              |               |
| Hall, Jamie            | Laurel Canyon Association                    |                | X             |
| Holmes, Kristie, Ph.D. | Public Educational Institutions (2023)       | X              |               |
| Kadin, David Scott     | Benedict Canyon Association                  | X              |               |
| Greenberg, Robin       | Faith-Based Institutions (2023) (06-22-2022) | X              |               |
| Kwan, Robert (Bobby)   | Laurel Canyon Association                    |                | X             |
| Levotman, Vadim        | Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Assn.       | X              |               |
| Longcore, Travis       | Custodian of Open Space (2023)               | X              |               |
| Loze, Donald           | Benedict Canyon Association (Excused)        |                | X             |
| Mann, Mindy Rothstein  | At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2023)      | X              |               |
| Miner, Nickie          | Benedict Canyon Association                  | X              |               |
| Murphy, Patricia       | North of Sunset District (2023)              | X              |               |
| Paden, Andrew          | Bel Air Hills Association                    | X              |               |
| Palmer, Dan            | Residents of Beverly Glen                    |                | X             |
| Prothro, Steven        | Private K-6 Schools (2023)                   | X              |               |
| Ringler, Robert        | Residents of Beverly Glen Association        |                | X             |
| Sandler, Irene         | Bel Air Crest Master Association             | X              |               |
| Savage, Stephanie      | Laurel Canyon Association                    | X              |               |
| Schlesinger, Robert    | Benedict Canyon Association                  | X              |               |
| Spradlin, Jason        | Holmby Hills HOA (Excused)                   |                | X             |
| Sroloff, Gail          | At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2023)      | X              |               |
| Steele, Timothy        | Bel Air Glen District (2023)                 | X              |               |
| Stojka, André          | Bel Air Ridge HOA                            | X              |               |
| Tanner, Blair          | Bel-Air Association                          | X              |               |
| Templeton, Patricia    | Bel Air Hills Association (Excused illness)  |                | X             |
| Wayne, Cathy           | Laurel Canyon Association                    | X              |               |
| Weinberg, Steven       | Franklin-Coldwater District (2023)           |                | X             |
| Wimbish, Jon           | Private 7-12 Schools (2023)                  | X              |               |
| <b>Total:</b>          |  | <b>24</b>      | <b>9</b>      |

President Longcore shared preliminary information on the agenda, called the meeting to order at 7:05 P.M. and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Secretary Miner called the roll with quorum met.

1. The agenda was approved as moved by Wayne.
2. The September 28, 2022 minutes (Attachment A) were approved as moved by Stojka, with 23 yeses, 0 noes and one abstention from Secretary Miner who was absent.
3. **General Public Comment**  
BABCNC welcomes comment from the public on any topic within the Board’s jurisdiction but not on the adopted agenda.

**Shawna Marino** introduced herself as the Vice President of EF (Education First), a global education organization and future owner of the American Jewish University (AJU) site. She noted that they will be inviting us and our neighbors to a community informational session on November 17<sup>th</sup> which will be held in person at the AJU campus. They are looking to reuse the campus as a school, as it is today and transform it and reuse it as an international language school for typically high-school to college-age students, to gain English proficiency. They are looking to house a maximum of 500 students on site and up to 500 additional students living with local host families, which may happen in 5 to 10 to 15 years. To be added to their email list, go to [efla@ef.com](mailto:efla@ef.com) or call 818-304-9095. President Longcore thanked Shawna and she thanked the board, noting that she looks forward to meeting us.

4. **Comments of Representatives of Elected Officials & City Agencies**  
**Mehmet Berker, Field Deputy for Councilmember Rahman, Council District 4**, gave update. Mehmet.berker@lacity.org 1) Mehmet noted that the revised Wildlife Ordinance draft came out with an accompanying staff report, available on the Wildlife Pilot Study page. They hope to hear from us on this. 2) Update for things in the district: A bridge home on the other side of the district is getting ready to get back to full capacity since quarantine. 3) The Section 8 waiting list for HAACLA is open for another four days.

**Jarrett Thompson, Field Deputy for Councilmember Koretz, Council District 5** added to Mehmet’s report that 1) the Hillside Construction Regulation (HCR) expansion for Franklin Canyon, Coldwater Canyon and Bowmont-Hazen go to the City Planning Commission (CPC) on November 3<sup>rd</sup>. See fact sheet on the website. 2) Jarrett noted that despite recent chaos in council, Paul Koretz finally got legislation through to Council to transfer funding on the speed feedback signs on Benedict Canyon.

**Janet Turner, Representative of Congress Member Ted Lieu**, noted that the Congressman is very disturbed that this area as well as Brentwood and South Westwood have been hit again by anti-Semitic flyers. She noted that in August, he wrote requesting FBI Director Wray open an investigation but has not received a substantive reply from the FBI yet. The Congressman is a member of the Judiciary Committee and Co-chair of the bipartisan Anti-Semitism Taskforce and in that capacity is calling on the Federal Law Enforcement again to address this on the Westside as well as national increase of hate overall. She noted that he has also come out in solidarity with those protesting in Iran especially regarding women’s rights. He cosponsored [H.R. 9075, the Support for Iranian Political Prisoners Act](#), and he cosigned [H. Con. Res. 110](#), that commends the bravery, courage, and resolve of the people of Iran who are demonstrating across their country. Reminder: November 13<sup>th</sup>, they have “Conversations with Military Families” which she invites you to join by Zoom.

**Octaviano Rios, BABCNC’s NEA from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment** noted that a few weeks ago, we received our monthly NC profiles, which highlighted that the Department of Cannabis Regulation is holding a series of community forums on illegal cannabis activity. Look for dates in October & November in the NC profile.

Octaviano noted there is access to a guide on how to use the USPS bulk mail and consider using this for outreach, including but not limited to upcoming elections. He reminded us that there is a requirement for posting meeting minutes and there is access to the Guide for NCs seeking to discuss ballot measures in the NC Monthly Profile.

He noted that we should have gotten an announcement on the workshop on Workplace Violence and How to Work with Difficult People which took place today, and there will be a recording.

On Saturday October 29<sup>th</sup> from 10-11 the department is hosting an information session on How NCs Can Engage in Advocacy on City Council Issues. In addition, there was a list of Council Files shared with the NCs, including items for CISs. He thanked us for being engaged with Community Impact Statements.

The Congress of Neighborhoods last month, held virtually, was a huge success. Over 300 attendees were present, and the Department was very well represented in supporting that session. All workshops and sessions were recorded; access at [www.neighborhoodcongress.la](http://www.neighborhoodcongress.la) He'll send us a link if you miss it in the NC Profiles or newsletter correspondence.

**Paola Posada**, City of Los Angeles | Office of the City Clerk | Election Division – BABCNC's Election Administrator for the upcoming 2023 election cycle. Paola noted that the Mayor's office approved City Clerk's funding for a hybrid election model, which includes traditional in-person and vote by mail options. The 2023 regional election schedule, timeline & handbook and other election materials are available on <https://clerk.lacity.org/clerk-services/elections/nc-elections>.

**Paola provided the additional comments in a written summary of her presentation:**

“The City Clerk's Office is implementing hybrid elections for the 2023 election cycle. We are excited to offer the hybrid election model as it provides the flexibility for stakeholders to vote in-person at a polling location or by mail ensuring maximum participation.

**Regional Election Order:** The regional election order has been rotated for the 2023 election cycle. Bel Air-Beverly Crest is in Region **11** and your Election Day is on **March 26, 2023**.

**Candidate Filing Period:** The candidate filing period for your NC begins on **November 26, 2022**, and ends on **January 10, 2023**. Stakeholders interested in running for a NC board seat have 45 days to submit an online application using the Candidate Filing Portal or a paper candidate application. Candidates have up to three (3) days after the close of the candidate filing period to submit the required documentation. Any documentation submitted by the candidate is deleted from our system upon certification. The list of certified candidates for your NC will be released 60 days prior to the election.

**Voting:** Stakeholders can choose to vote by mail or in-person at the polling location.

The Vote-By-Mail application period for your NC begins on **January 25, 2023**, and ends on **March 7, 2023**. Stakeholders may request a ballot by submitting an online application using the Vote-By-Mail (VBM) Application Portal or by completing a paper VBM application. Ballots will be mailed to stakeholders beginning 35 days prior to Election Day.

Voted ballots returned by mail must be postmarked by Election Day and received by our office no later than 10 days after the election. Stakeholders can also drop off their ballot at the polling location on Election Day. County Ballot Drop Boxes will *not* be used for the 2023 election cycle. On Election Day, stakeholders can register and vote in-person at your polling location. A separate email confirming the location of your polling place will be sent to the Board once recruited.

**Election Resources:** For additional candidate, voter, and election information, view the [2023 NC Election Timeline](#), [2023 NC Election Handbook](#), and [2023 NC Documentation Guide](#). Additional instructional videos and election materials will also be posted on our website at [clerk.lacity.org/ncelections](http://clerk.lacity.org/ncelections) as they become available.”

Other comments from Paola included that anyone who doesn't receive ballot by Election Day will have option to vote in person on Election Day.

Proof of vaccination or proof of negative test will be required to enter polling place; if unable, can vote curbside; you are not required to enter the polling place.

In terms of Election Day challenges, an independent grievance panel will be the deciding body for any Election Day challenges. Their office will provide guidelines to review when using these challenges. Information on this will be posted on their website.

Post-Election Day, their office will begin tallying ballots the next business day which can be observed online or streaming....

Stakeholders will have the opportunity to serve as poll workers on Election Day through the NC Community Volunteer Program. Those interested must submit an application at least 30 days prior to election. Bilingual are desired. Those who apply must attend mandatory training before Election Day.

For questions <https://clerk.lacity.org/clerk-services/elections/nc-elections> or 213-978-0444 or [paola.posada@lacity.org](mailto:paola.posada@lacity.org).

**Renée McDade** was also present from NC Elections, and answered questions from the board. President Longcore thanked Paola and Renée.

Octaviano encouraged NCs, Stakeholders and Community members to promote the elections with all the tools, including USPS bulk mail program, and noted that they are available to help develop a plan to make it a very robust engagement with community on our elections.

### **Reports of Officers**

5. **President** – Travis Longcore reported that he met today with the new owners of AJU property, “EF” along with VP Operations and Board Administrator to discuss their plans, and the outcome was the recommendation that they come and introduce themselves tonight. He’s been trying to keep up with the letters and CISs on our behalf.
6. **Vice President – Operations** – Robin Greenberg reporting upcoming meetings on Zoom.
7. **Vice President – Legislative Affairs** – Jamie Hall was not present.
8. **Secretary** – Nickie Miner suggested that satellite meetings, such as WRAC, be posted on our calendar to help those scheduling meetings. President Longcore noted we could post those in a different color.
9. **Treasurer** – Vadim Levotman
  - i. The September 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) was **approved** by 24 yeses, 0 noes & 0 abstentions, as moved by Treasurer Levotman; seconded by VP Operations, Greenberg. **(Attachment B)**

### **Reports of Standing Committees**

#### **Planning & Land Use** Robert Schlesinger, Chair

10. **Report of the Planning & Land Use Committee:** Chair Schlesinger noted that he spoke with Tony Russo, and Benedict Canyon Association will review the Falcon’s Lair, formerly Rudolf Valentino’s home, in Benedict Canyon and will notify BABCNC in two weeks.

### **Bylaws, Rules & Elections Committee**

Cathy Wayne, Chair

11. **Report of the Bylaws, Rules, and Elections Committee:** Chair Wayne reiterated the importance of the election and strongly suggested that anyone wanting to run for the seats that are up for a vote submit an application as soon as possible. She asked that we all go on the website and read the forms and the dates and times of everything that will happen. She noted that our polling place will be at the Harvard-Westlake Middle School, which we greatly appreciate.

### **Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee**

Vadim Levotman, Chair; Nickie Miner, Vice Chair; Philip Enderwood, Deputy Chair

12. **Report of the Emergency Preparedness Committee:** Chair Levotman had no report.

### **Outreach Committee**

André Stojka, Chair

13. **Report of the Outreach Committee:** Chair Stojka noted that when we publish our newsletter, he sends it independently to about 400 people in the Bel Air Ridge community and gets feedback on it. He suggests we all take this to our communities, to let the people know we are working on their behalf.

Chair Stojka opened the floor to Mindy Mann, Chair of the Ad Hoc Environmental Committee, who noted that we talked about having a community outreach open house, and thought January would be a good time to have it. This would be an opportunity to let everyone know what we do at our meetings, what we've accomplished and attempt to accomplish, have tables to let people know about our committees and how to get involved, as well as to let them know about the election process. She hopes we can do this at Tree People.

Chair Stojka asked the committee chairpersons to think about what to include. Dr. Longcore noted that he liked the idea of tables of committees with committee chairs and thanked Stojka. Board members with a constituency groups were asked to forward every newsletter on to them.

### **Traffic Committee**

Irene Sandler, Chair

14. **Report of the Traffic Committee:** Irene Sandler was called but did not respond.

### **Reports of Ad Hoc Committees and Representatives**

#### **Ad Hoc Committee on Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety**

Stella Grey, Chair

15. **Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety:** Ellen Evans gave an update for Stella Grey, noting the project that what the committee is going to take on is to figure out what would be a good piece of reform legislation to give to the City Council, figure out what the problems are, and if there is a good way to suggest they be solved. She reported that the committee had an interesting meeting with a representative from the County Assessor's office.

#### **Ad Hoc Committee on Home Sharing & Party House Ordinances**

Ellen Evans, Chair

16. **Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Home Sharing & Party House Ordinances:** Chair Evans noted that they have not met recently, awaiting the report back from Planning. She thinks they will probably schedule when the meetings on the Wildlife Ordinance are over. She added that the Ad Hoc Committee on the Wildlife Ordinance will begin reviewing the new draft Friday.

#### **Ad Hoc Committee on the Environment**

Mindy Mann, Chair

17. **Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the Environment:** Chair Mann noted that she has been waiting for Wildlife Ordinance revisions and this committee hasn't met. As representative to the Neighborhood Sustainability Alliance Committee (NSAC), she noted that they sent a letter and voted on a motion about the three councilmembers whom they felt should resign. She'll be working on the open house with Outreach.

#### **BABCNC Representatives**

18. **Reports of Representatives of Alliances & Coalitions of NCs (e.g., WRAC, NCSA, Budget Representatives / Budget Advocates, DWP Advocacy and MOU Oversight):** Robin Greenberg, currently WRAC President who is our WRAC rep, gave update on WRAC. President Longcore noted that Don Loze is not here this evening to give updates on the DWP MOU Advocacy Committee. Mindy Mann reported on the NC Sustainability Alliance (NCSA).
19. **Reports of Non-residential Stakeholder Members (Public Schools, Private Schools, Business Districts, Religious Institutions and Open Spaces):** There were no reports from education or business reps. Robin Greenberg, Religious Institutions rep, commented on the change at AJU. Dr. Longcore, our Open Spaces representative, noted that the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) and the Mountains Recreation Conservation Authority (MRCA) have been very engaged with City Planning regarding the Wildlife Ordinance, and that he periodically he has conversations with some leadership with MRCA about acquisitions which the MRCA has policies about.

#### **New Business**

20. **Council File 22-1189, Elected Officials / Martinez, de Leon and Cedillo / Offensive Misconducts / Racist and Hateful Comments / City Charter / Immediate Resignation Demand (Bonin – Krekorian – O'Farrell – Price – Raman – Koretz):** Introduced on October 11, 2022. The Resolution resolves that Councilmembers Nury Martinez, Kevin De Leon and Gil Cedillo are CENSURED for their conduct and statements during the referenced meeting of October 2021, and the Council joins the community in demanding their immediate resignation from the Council. The motion was moved by Greenberg and seconded by Holmes. Following discussion, Levotman noted that this has been passed by City Council, called the question, and the motion passed by 20 yeases, 0 noes and 2 abstentions from Secretary Miner and President Longcore.
21. **Council File 22-1195, Racially Insensitive and Divisive Statements / Professional Conduct Failure / City Charter / Ground for Removal (Blumenfield - Rodriguez – Price):** Introduced on October 11, 2022 and referred to Housing Committee. Motion resolves pursuant to Charter 209, to censure Councilmembers Cedillo, DeLeon and Martinez for their racially insensitive and divisive statements, as reported in the media, which constitute a gross failure to conform with and meet the highest standards of personal and professional conduct, even if their actions do not constitute a ground for removal from office under the Charter. The motion was moved by Wayne and seconded by Stojka and passed by 24 yeases, 0 noes and 0 abstentions.



- 22. Council File 22-1197, New Ad Hoc Committee / City Government Reform / October 2021 Recordings Release / Transparency and Limit Corruption / Los Angeles Residents Trust (Raman – Bonin):** Introduced on October 11, 2022. Motion is calling for the City Council to convene a new Ad Hoc Committee on City Governance Reform, which will be charged with implementing reforms to increase transparency, limit corruption, and make City leadership more representative of our communities with the aim of restoring the faith of the people of Los Angeles in their city government. The motion was moved by Wayne and seconded by Schlesinger. Following discussion, Kadin called the question, and the motion **passed** by 23 yeases, 0 noes & 1 abstention from Longcore.
- 23. Council File 22-1196, Charter Reform Ballot Initiative / Los Angeles 2024 / Population Growth / Major Immigrant Destination / Los Angeles City Council Seats / City Residents Representation (O’Farrell – Koretz – Krekorian – Price - Raman):** Introduced on October 11, 2022. Motion is instructing the Chief Legislative Analyst, with the Assistance of the City Attorney, to report on the steps needed to place a charter reform ballot initiative before the voters of Los Angeles in 2024, with recommendations that ensure representation is fixed to population growth, in order to increase the number of Los Angeles City Council Seats. The motion was moved by Wayne and seconded by Miner. Following discussion on this, Member Murphy expressed appreciation for being involved in the Civic University workshops and would like to invite Raphael Sohnshein to speak. Secretary Miner called the question and the motion **passed** by 15 yeases, 3 noes from Kadin, Schlesinger & Levinson, 0 noes, and 5 abstentions from Miner, Paden, Wimbish, Cobb & Holmes.

**Good of the Order:** Levinson noted that California is now requiring insurance discounts for those who reduce wildfire risk; insurance companies have six months to submit paperwork to the state. She noted that WLAPD Captain Jonathan Tom has been promoted to Commander and will be transferred to West Bureau. Captain Heredia has been promoted to Captain III and the next WLA C-PAB meeting is on November 16<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 P.M.

**Adjournment:** President Longcore adjourned the meeting at 9:22 P.M., to **November 16, 2022 at 7:00 P.M.** (third Wednesday rather than fourth week which is the week of Thanksgiving.)

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