



Building A Better Community



**Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Executive Committee Meeting
Monday January 9, 2023 5:00 P.M.**

Name	P	A	Name	P	A
Travis Longcore, Board President	X		Robert Schlesinger, Planning & Land Use Committee Chair	X	
Robin Greenberg, VP Operations; Immediate Past President	X		Jamie Hall, VP Legislative Affairs	X	
Nickie Miner, Secretary; Budget & Finance Committee Chair	X		Cathy Wayne, Bylaws, Rules & Elections Chair	X	
Vadim Levotman, Treasurer; Emergency Preparedness Cmte. Chair	X		Irene Sandler, Traffic Committee Chair	X	
Timothy Steele, Ph.D., Public Works & Telecommunications Committee Chair	X		André Stojka, Outreach Chair	X	

MINUTES

President Longcore called the meeting to order at 5:00pm, with 5 members present and quorum met. The pledge of allegiance to the flag was recited. Members Hall and Sandler arrived by 5:03pm, and Member Stojka shortly thereafter. There were **10 present** and no absences.

1. The January 9, 2023 Agenda was approved, as moved by Miner/Steele.
2. The September 8, 2022 Meeting Minutes (Attachment) were approved, as moved by Miner.
3. There was no general public comment on topics within the Committee’s jurisdiction but not on the adopted agenda.

Reports of Officers

4. President – Travis Longcore

Dr. Longcore gave a brief follow up on 1) the digital communications policy and training, noting that we may incorporate the advice from the City into the Standing Rules, perhaps after elections, e.g., a centralized list of logins, etc. 2) He has responded to queries from the City as to interpretation on our bylaws as to qualifications for elections, and, 3) He has been contacted by Brad Sherman’s Field Office Head, Sean Regan, and we are now in two different Congressional Districts: part Sherman’s and part Irwin’s. Sean volunteered that Congressional Representative Sherman would come say a few words at our next meeting. Longcore suggested that the Congressman address the issue of air noise, being a Federal issue that they should be able to help us with as much as we can be helped.

[Stephanie Savage and Mindy Mann were present, as attendees, and were brought in as a panelists.]

5. **Vice President – Operations – Robin Greenberg** gave a report from her travels to Antarctica, as to the preciousness of nature that we need to protect, and on upcoming committee meetings.

6. **Vice President – Legislative Affairs** – Jamie Hall followed up on need to protect nature, referencing a report on a recent segment of “60 Minutes” on the biodiversity crisis in the world, where scientists predicted a sixth mass extinction, noting this is a bigger challenge that the world is facing. 2) In 2023, we’ll continue to grapple with the Wildlife Ordinance. 3) The LA Times editorial board recently opined that the Hollywood Community Plan (HCP) draft will expire if the City doesn’t adopt it by May. He noted that there is a portion of the HCP in our NC area, including portions of Laurel Canyon and the Bird Streets, it matters to a portion of our NC, and we’ve participated in the process, advocating for stronger environmental protections. He believes that the current draft does not meet our needs, we asked for more that is not currently in the draft.

Questions were asked and answered, including if we can write a new CIS or a letter to move it forward so we can get it done, to which Hall noted that the HCP is from 1988, was in the process of being revised and was adopted, there was litigation... The City is going through a redo that was put on hold to see the result of the election. He noted that the hillsides were only an afterthought in the HCP, while attention on the draft pertains mainly to the flats. He doesn’t recall if we approved a CIS but could re-do a CIS if so. Dr. Longcore asked that Hall reach out to CD4 to find out the status. Robert Schlesinger raised hopes that this year we press for a ridgeline ordinance as well, which was discussed briefly. Dr. Longcore will reach out to Katy Yaroslavsky mid-month.

7. **Secretary** – Nickie Miner had no secretary’s report.
8. **Treasurer** – Vadim Levotman reported that the \$10,000 rollover hit the account and so far we have spent \$16,000 have \$21,000 left over; based on history, seems we will have another \$10,000 if we do not utilize those funds before the end of the fiscal year. President Longcore noted that the Budget & Finance Committees should meet and do some planning on the NPG process, and have a handle on what we are going to spend. He asked B&F Chair Miner to coordinate a meeting.

Reports from Standing Committees

9. **Planning & Land Use** – Robert Schlesinger gave update for Tuesday’s meeting, with two projects. Longcore related the story of the applicant who wanted to come back to the PLU Committee. Stephanie Savage responded regarding the project on Sunset Plaza, that Evans wrote about, and recommended sending that to Stella to put on LADBS agenda.
10. **Outreach** – André Stojka noted that the upcoming meeting will 1) deal with Mindy’s meeting, to expose the NC to the community and getting the community involved; 2) see how to get an email list together for wider exposure, and 3) we will be putting together the next newsletter for February.

Treasurer Levotman reminded us that we only have a \$1,000 budget for the special town hall and \$250 for online advertising, so we will need to be creative on how to spend that money. We have \$4,000 budget for the elections. He noted that we also have a 20-year anniversary of the NC, and Stojka will add that to the outreach committee meeting agenda. Dr. Longcore noted that we should mention in the process of doing the open house that it is our 20th anniversary.

Update on Open House/Public Event – Mindy Mann gave update noting that they have decided to move it to April instead of February, either the 23rd their first choice or the 16th of April. Levotman discouraged the 16th. Mann noted that she has emailed TreePeople, and completed an application to Franklin Canyon to see what costs are involved, as a second alternative.

11. **Bylaws, Rules & Elections** – Chair Cathy Wayne noted that we sent a letter posted to our website on how to be nominated for a position on the board, and will be spending for the elections. She will be scheduling a meeting for the joint Bylaws and Budget committees.
12. **Traffic** – Chair Irene Sandler asked that you let her know of anything in your area you think the NC can help with. She noted the biggest concern of another set of Metro meetings, with the community very interested if they live near Sepulveda, but less if they live elsewhere. She noted that BAA has been very vocal because Metro has plans for a tunnel that they don’t want. There was an article on

BAA meeting with Brad Sherman. Member Stojka noted that BAR received a good deal of feedback to our newsletter article on this. It was noted that they are planning on boring Beverly Glen.

Chair Sandler related that there are three in-person meetings and one online meeting. Dr. Longcore noted that we have sent a letter and questions whether there is anything other than having an informational role at this point that this is going on, like making sure that people know that these meetings are happening. Discussion was held on areas of the NC interested in this. Dr. Longcore noted that we could keep track of what is going on but not make formal input until they have released an EIR. Sandler asked as traffic issues that would arise from the hotel in Benedict Canyon, and no one had any new information on this.

13. Budget & Finance – Nickie Miner had no report.

14. Emergency Preparedness – Vadim Levotman had no report.

15. Public Works & Telecommunications – Timothy Steele, Ph.D. had no report.

Mindy Rothstein Mann, Chair of the Ad Hoc Environmental Issues Committee, noted that her committee has not met while the Wildlife Ordinance was being looked at, and asked Dr. Steele whether they may go over some things together, e.g., DWP issues on how they handle trees and tree-trimming. He invited her to communicate with him and Dr. Longcore provided guidance on this.

New Business

16. Discussion & Possible Action: To create a task force to work on finding a new location for in-person meetings for Regular Monthly Board meetings only.

Dr. Longcore introduced this item, and asked if we could create a small group to do the search. Discussion was held on going back to in person meetings, and that DONE is working on an exception from the Brown Act on this. He explained the hybrid program and how we would ask for help from the City in providing the equipment and working out the kinks.

Discussion was held on this, which concluded with Miner noting that the five locations we could go in this NC territory are remote, traffic on the way up, dangerous on the way back, and won't serve our purpose and wondered if maybe they would let us meet once a quarter or third of the year in person.

Plan: 1) That Robin Greenberg, Dr. Longcore & Mindy Mann help find a place, find some options; 2) Dr. Longcore will schedule the hybrid folks for a presentation on the pilot, to let some people participate remotely; 3) share some proposals with the City as to our situation, if needed.

The following item was deferred to the Board Agenda for January 25th

17. EmpowerLA Virtual Governance-hybrid (EVG-h) Workgroup

Discussion & Possible Action whether to propose to the BABCNC Board to participate in the Hybrid Public Meetings Pilot Program.

Background: Josh Nadel & Lanira Murphy, Co-Chairs of the EmpowerLA Virtual Governance-hybrid (EVG-h Workgroup), have asked if they could come speak to the board about this program. They sent us a letter which stated that the workgroup is made up entirely of NC board members empaneled by the Neighborhood Commissioners and works closely with EmpowerLA. Their mission is to try to implement Hybrid Public Meetings (both In Person & Zoom attendance at General Board Meetings) once we return to In-Person meetings, expected to happen in Early 2023 (now looking like that could be by March 1st), and that BABCNC was selected to be a part of the Pilot Program. They need confirmation from our Board.

The Workgroup plans to have at least one of the two co-chairs go to each NC to make a short presentation and answer questions that may help our Board approve the selection and make a successful motion about joining the Pilot Program.

There will be no cost to our NC to be a part of the Pilot Program. They have a FAQ with 30+ questions to help before their arrival. There is also a CIS statement they have included for a Council File related to getting funding for this Pilot Program. They will be making a joint presentation with the Neighborhood Commissioners & EmpowerLA on this Council File in front of the full City Council in an effort to gain funding for the Pilot Program.

They would like to provide us a 5 to 15-minute presentation (5 minutes with minimal questions or as much time as we want to give them to answer all questions).

They are also requesting two related agenda items:

- i. **Discussion & Possible Action:** MOTION to approve our BABCNC selection in the EVG-h Pilot Program
- ii. **Discussion & Possible Action:** MOTION to approve a CIS on **Council File 22-1070 Neighborhood Council Meetings / EmpowerLA Virtual Governance (EVG) System / In-Person / Emergency Declarations** with the following statement:
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1NvZBhMBhmz0Z2IUgKkanHNNDTCtsfUTD9u5UcdGZMAE/edit?usp=sharing>

Additional documents for review:

The report the EVG-h Workgroup wrote this summer that moved this process forward

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/12Abizhc9IH18I9wm9t5KQQIVii4uRgEZlxngeJGkoOw/edit?usp=sharing>

Raw Data used for Pilot Program Selection

https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/11bep_z9-DdqdTmV0pbo5E6BGbrIE6p5/edit?usp=sharing&oid=118124428838767704417&rtpof=true&sd=true

EVG FAQ

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1S3d5SJvemRoyIEkmdGZsggo9FbFEy7OHuxOIGBYxAo/edit?usp=sharing>

Summary of Pilot Program Selections

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FHGMla4kUraEqxKZeBzuz_4yBpt59F45jmeOGVbKyus/edit?usp=sharing

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:35 P.M., to Monday February 13, 2022 at 5:00 P.M.

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