



Building A Better Community



**Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council
 Regular Monthly Board Meeting Minutes
 Wednesday July 26, 2023, 7:00 P.M. (6:30 P.M. FOR MEET AND GREET)
 “TreePeople” at Coldwater Canyon Park 12601 Mulholland Drive L.A., CA 90210 plus Zoom**

NAME	BOARD SEAT	Present	Absent
Bayliss, Shawn	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)	X	
Evans, Ellen	Community Interest At-Large (2025) / Board VP - Legislative Affairs	X	
Garfield, DDS, Robert	Casiano Estates Association		X
Goodman, Mark M.D.	Bel-Air Association		X
Greenberg, Robin	Faith-Based Institutions / Board VP – Operations (Present Virtually)	X	
Gros, Mirco	Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association	X	
Hall, Jamie	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Holmes, Kristie	Public Educational Institutions (2025) (Present Virtually)	X	
Kadin, David Scott	Benedict Canyon Association		X
Kamin, Aaron	North of Sunset District (2025)	X	
Kwan, Robert (Bobby)	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Levotman, Vadim	North of Sunset District (2025) / Board Treasurer	X	
Longcore, Travis Ph.D.	Custodians of Open Space (Selected 2023) / Board President	X	
Loze, Donald	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Mann, Mindy Rothstein	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)	X	
Miner, Nickie	Benedict Canyon Association / Board Secretary	X	
Paden, Andrew	Bel Air Hills Association	X	
Palmer, Dan	Residents of Beverly Glen		X
Ringler, Robert	Residents of Beverly Glen		X
Roessel, Angela	North of Sunset District (2025)	X	
Rogovin, Jaye	Bel-Air Association	X	
Sandler, Irene	Bel Air Crest Master Association	X	
Savage, Stephanie	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Schlesinger, Robert	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Smith, Maureen	Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts (2025)		X
Spradlin, Jason	Holmby Hills HOA		X
M. Levinson > G. Sroloff	Bel-Air Association	X	
Steele, Timothy Ph.D.	Bel Air Glen District (2025)	X	
Stojka, André	Bel Air Ridge HOA	X	
Templeton, Patricia	Bel Air Hills Association	X	
Wayne, Cathy	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Weinberg, Steven	Franklin-Coldwater District (2025)	X	
Weisberg, Leslie	Bel-Air Association	X	
Wickers, Alonzo	At-Large Youth Rep (2025)	X	
Wimbish, Jon	Private 7-12 Schools (2025)	X	
<i>Vacant</i>	<i>Private K-6 Schools</i>		(X)
Total:		28	8

Call to Order, Flag Salute & Roll Call 7:06 pm

Following a Meet & Greet, President Longcore provided welcoming comments and procedural information, and called the meeting to order at 7:12 pm. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag was recited and Secretary Miner called the roll with quorum met. *[Kristie Holmes was present virtually for just cause. Robin Greenberg was also present virtually from the Arctic Circle.]*

1. The agenda was **approved** as moved by Evans.
2. **Selection of Board Seats** for Faith-Based Institutions, Custodians of Open Spaces, Private Schools K-6 and Private Schools K7-12

Faith-Based Institutions:

Rabbi Mendy Mentz introduced to himself to the board, and encouraged a vote for Robin Greenberg after recently learning that she is also running for this position. **Robin Greenberg** spoke to the board remotely from the Arctic Circle.

Member Savage nominated Robin Greenberg and Member Weinberg nominated Rabbi Mendy Mentz. **Robin Greenberg** was **confirmed** by all but President Longcore & Members Greenberg & Wimbish, *who were not voting until seated*. President Longcore noted that all board members have the option to have an alternate.

Custodians of Open Space: Member Evans nominated Dr. Longcore. There were no other candidates. Dr. Longcore explained this position. **Dr. Longcore** was **confirmed** by all but himself, Greenberg & Wimbish, *who were not voting*.

Private Schools K-6: President Longcore related that Steven Prothro let us know that he and his Alternate, John Otto, were busy and no longer had time to continue, and we did not have anyone for this seat. **Motion to postpone** selection of this seat for a month, to do outreach and fill that vacancy at the next meeting was moved by Evans and seconded by Templeton. Member Gros commented on the need for seats to represent the neighborhoods that we serve, pointing out the lack of diversity here. Member Miner opined that the Rabbi would make a good candidate for this position; however, the motion to **postpone** this selection to next month **passed**.

Private Schools 7-12: Jon Wimbish expressed his interest in continuing on in this position. Member Savage nominated Mr. Wimbish, Member Weinberg seconded the motion, and **Jon Wimbish** was **confirmed** unanimously by acclamation.

3. **Approval of Bel-Air Association (BAA) Appointments:**
Motion to ratify Bel-Air Association Representative Appointments of Jaye Rogovin, Gail Sroloff, Mark Goodman, M.D., & Leslie Weisberg, and to ratify Bel-Air Association Alternates Maureen Levinson & Blair Tanner for all four (4) BAA members **passed** by unanimous consent, as moved by Members Stojka & Levinson.

4. Approval of Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association (DSPNA)

Appointment:

Motion to ratify DSPNA Representative Mirco Gros appointment **passed** by unanimous consent, as **moved** by Levotman and Evans.

5. Approval of Appointment of Alternate for Angela Roessel, North of Sunset District

Motion: To ratify the appointment of Tad Marburg as the Alternate for Angela Roessel, North of Sunset District was **approved** by unanimous consent, as **moved** by Members Roessel and Levotman.

6. Seating of New Board Members:

To Seat Elected Board Members following the March 2023 NC Election:

Bel Air Glen District (1) - Timothy Steele, Ph.D.

Franklin-Coldwater District (1) - Steven Weinberg

North of Sunset District (3) - Aaron Kamin, Vadim Levotman and Angela Roessel

Public Educational Institutions (1) - Kristie Halsey Holmes, Ph.D.

Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts (1) - Maureen Smith

At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2) - Shawn Bayliss and Mindy Rothstein Mann

At-Large Community Interest Stakeholder (1) - Ellen Evans

At-Large Youth Representative (1) - Alonzo Wickers

Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, Octaviano Rios, from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (D.O.N.E.), swore in all new and returning members of the Board, and administered the Neighborhood Council Oath.

7. Approval of the Minutes

Motion to approve the June 28, 2023 Board Meeting Minutes (**Attachment A**) **passed** by all but **one abstention** from Templeton, as **moved** by Member Levotman.

8. General Public Comment

Don Loze commented on our role, per the Charter, to advise City Council members. He also noted that there is an educational program, “Democracy Matters” put together by the League of Women Voters and, as only 9 schools are currently educating students in civics, he’d appreciate it if anyone would help bring this to Southern California. He also recommended the book, Zev’s Los Angeles by Zev Yaroslavsky.

Ellen Evans commented on the reorganization of the Neighborhood Prosecutor program, which has made the Party House handbook obsolete and noted that if you are having party house issues, feel free to contact her.

Pamela Pierson asked for guidance from the Board in pursuing a “Fire-wise” designation for the district so that homeowners in the hillside communities who do annual brush clearance and mitigations get credit on their insurance premiums.

Mindy Mann related that Los Angeles Cleantech Incubator www.laincubator.org is holding a free event, Sat. August 12, 2-5 at 525 South Hewitt Street, taking clothing and finding ways to reuse them, including but not limited to providing dye baths.

Andrew Paden gave an update on the progress of fundraising for “Save Senderos Canyon,” noting that they are continuing to make progress on fundraising and a legal structure for the SMMC acquisition of Senderos Canyon, the 260-acre canyon west of Linda Flora Drive, and east of the 405; however, they are far from their fundraising goals of an initial earnest money deposit and total purchase price. He noted that the acquisition and preservation of this land is not guaranteed; therefore they ask that we continue to spread the word to potential major donors to continue to Save Senderos Canyon. Go to: <https://savesenderoscanyon.org/>

9. Comments of Elected Officials & Agencies

Amanda Laflen, from 3rd District Supervisor Horvath’s office, introduced herself. Questions were asked & answered. Feel free to reach out to 310-231-1170 or alaflen@bos.lacounty.gov.

Walker King, Deputy District Director Council District 4, Councilwoman Raman’s office, gave an update noting:

The “**Neighborhood Prosecutor’s Program**” from the City Attorney’s office is **being replaced** by “**Community Resource Specialists**” with the City Attorney’s office. There will be a meeting with CD4 and the City Attorneys on August 3rd & he’ll let us know how it is expected to work out.

Regarding Urban Forestry’s enforcement of cutting protected trees, he thanked Jamie Hall for bringing to their attention a case of *trees cut down* related to construction on Grandview.

To bring things to the attention of Urban Forestry and StreetsLA / Bureau of Street Services (BSS), let them know as soon as possible; call or send requests to walker.king@lacity.org. The website for StreetsLA, Urban Forestry Division is <https://streetsla.lacity.org/urban-forestry-division>

The Wildlife Ordinance passed in PLUM with amendments, and will come back to full Council with revisions. A fact sheet is available.

The new home-sharing portal will be launched by early fall, to look up properties signed up for valid home-sharing license and to bring stronger enforcement. Questions were asked and answered. Contact their office with your specific concerns.

Octaviano Rios, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment congratulated board members, acknowledged the work, time and effort each one puts in, especially board officers, for advocacy.

He noted that the Department (D.O.N.E.) communicates with us through their **Monthly Profile Newsletter**, and asked that each of us please read it when received in our emails at the beginning of each month. Reach out to him & others at D.O.N.E. about anything relating to the report & NCs.

He encouraged all Board members & stakeholders to attend the **Congress of Neighborhoods September 23, 8am-4pm** at City Hall. <https://www.neighborhoodcongress.la/>

4) Bylaws Amendment applications open 08/01; submissions can be made through April 2024.

Robbie Britton with the Office of the City Attorney is *not* a City Attorney but is a **Community Resource Specialist** who *was* with the Neighborhood Prosecutor (NP) Program, which is still operating. He noted that the NPs continue to work at the Police Station one day a week for four hours. He was with Veronica and knows some of our issues. He'll be at the meeting next week, regarding party and nuisance houses. He can be reached at (213) 473-5861 / r.britton@lacity.org.

Haley Martinez, Council District 5 was not present this evening.

10. Election of Officers

Officers will be elected to a 1-year term by a majority vote of the Board:
President, VP Legislative Affairs, VP Operations, Treasurer, and Secretary

President: Member Schlesinger and multiple others nominated Travis Longcore, which was seconded by many members. There were no other nominations and Dr. Longcore's nomination was **approved** by acclamation.

VP Legislative Affairs Member Hall nominated Ellen Evans, which was seconded by Member Schlesinger. There were no other nominations and Member Evans's nomination was **approved** by acclamation.

Treasurer: Member Evans nominated Vadim Levotman; seconded by Schlesinger. There were no other nominations, and Levotman's nomination was **approved** by acclamation.

Secretary: Miner nominated Nickie Miner; seconded by Schlesinger. There were no other nominations and Miner's nomination was **approved** by acclamation.

Assistant Secretary: Dr. Longcore asked and Secretary Miner agreed to Dr. Timothy Steele helping with secretarial duties, **approved** by acclamation.

Parliamentarian: President Longcore appointed Alonzo Wickers to be Parliamentarian.

11. Election of Standing Committee Members and Chairs

BABCNC Bylaws specify that committee members are to be elected during the second quarter of each year; this was delayed to accommodate the schedule dictated by DONE for the seating of the new Board members. As a reminder, 80% of the members of the Budget and Finance, Planning and Land Use, and Bylaws, Rules and Elections Committees must be Board members and 50% of all other committees must be Board members. The limit on the number of regular members of each committee is 15. Committee members are only elected with a majority vote of all members present. The Chair of each committee is nominated by the President and confirmed with a majority vote of members present.

Returning members of the standing committees are as follows:

Planning and Land Use: Robert Schlesinger, Chair, & Board Members Greenberg, Loze, Bayliss, Stojka, Wayne, Miner, Hall, Spradlin, Evans, Weisberg, Savage, Weinberg & Stakeholder Members Maureen Levinson & Stella Grey.

Motion: Schlesinger nominated members Bayliss, Evans, Greenberg, Hall, Loze, Miner, Savage, Spradlin, Stojka, Wayne, Weisberg, Weinberg and himself, Stella Grey & Maureen Levinson (15); which was seconded by Member Loze. Member Templeton asked if someone would volunteer to withdraw so someone from Bel Air Hills Association could join as there was no BAHA representation.

Amending Motion: Following discussion, Member Hall moved to *remove Cathy Wayne* and *add* Patricia Templeton, which was seconded by Stojka. The question was raised whether to keep a 15th seat vacant for now; however, the **amendment passed** by **13 yeases** from Bayliss, Hall, Holmes, Kwan, Loze, Paden, Roessel, Savage, Steele, Stojka, Templeton, Weinberg & Wimbish; **6 noes** from Evans, Gros, Kamin, Miner, Sandler & Schlesinger and **6 abstentions** from Levotman, Rogovin, Mann, Levinson, Weisberg & Wickers. Dr. Longcore noted that everybody has a right to have an Alternate.

The **main motion as amended** for Schlesinger's slate plus Patricia Templeton **passed** with no objection. President Longcore **nominated Robert Schlesinger as Chair and Jamie Hall as Co-Chair**, and, **without objection**, Schlesinger will be Chair & Hall Co-Chair.

Bylaws, Rules, and Elections: Cathy Wayne, Chair & Board Members Schlesinger, Greenberg, Bayliss, Sroloff, Evans, Miner, Wimbish, Templeton & Stakeholder Members Maureen Smith & Larry Leisten. Cathy Wayne was absent this evening. Member Wimbish *withdrew* his name from the list.

Motion: Member Roessel nominated & Secretary Miner seconded the existing slate minus Member Wimbish, which was **approved** by acclamation. Dr. Longcore nominated **Ellen Evans as Chair**, which was seconded by Schlesinger & **approved** by acclamation.

Budget and Finance: Nickie Miner, Chair & Board Members Garfield, Levotman, Wayne, Greenberg, & ~~Stojka~~. Member Stojka *withdrew* his name from this list.

Motion to *remove* Cathy Wayne and *add* Aaron Kamin to Miner, Garfield, Levotman, Greenberg was moved by Levotman, seconded by Greenberg & **approved** by acclamation. Dr. Longcore nominated **Vadim Levotman as Chair**, which was **approved** by acclamation.

Traffic: Irene Sandler, Chair, & Board Members ~~Templeton~~, Weisberg, Miner, Garfield, Schlesinger, Greenberg, ~~Sroloff~~, Smith, & Stakeholder Members Maureen Levinson, Pamela Pierson, & Graham Green. Templeton *withdrew* herself from this list, recommended Paden. [Dr. Longcore noted that if a stakeholder comes forward month, if we agendize, we can add.] Maureen Levinson noted that Gail Sroloff wished to *withdraw*. Sandler *added* Joyce Page (*a member who attended all meetings not on the list*)

Motion Sandler moved to have members Sandler, Weisberg, Miner, Garfield, Schlesinger, Greenberg, Smith, Paden, and stakeholder members Maureen Levinson, Pamela Pierson, Graham Green, & Joyce Page; **approved** by acclamation. President Longcore nominated **Irene Sandler Chair, & Leslie Weisberg Co-Chair**, which was **approved** unanimously.

Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness: Vadim Levotman, Chair, & Board Members Greenberg, Holmes, Miner, Palmer, Sandler, Schlesinger, and Stakeholder Members Levinson, Maureen Smith, Philip Enderwood, Ron Cornell, & ~~Bill Kabaker~~. Levotman noted that he thought he heard Bill Kabaker express that he did *not wish to be on the committee*; he *added* Aaron Kamin, and Jaye Rogovin nominated herself. Longcore noted

that this committee has traditionally been open to anybody, as there are not many motions to be considered.

Motion: Levotman moved to have Board Members Greenberg, Holmes, Miner, Palmer, Sandler, Schlesinger, Kamin, Rogovin, Smith, & Stakeholder Members Maureen Levinson, Philip Enderwood & Ron Cornell, which was **approved** by acclamation. Longcore nominated **Vadim Levotman, Chair** which was **approved** by acclamation.

Outreach: Motion: Stojka moved to have Board Members Stojka, Miner, Mann, Schlesinger, Greenberg, Templeton, Smith & Wickers, which was **approved** by acclamation, as was President Longcore's nomination of **Stojka to remain Chair**.

Public Works & Telecommunications: Dr. Timothy Steele, Chair, & Board Members Evans & Mann, and Stakeholder Members Philip Enderwood & Larry Leisten

Motion: Dr. Timothy Steele moved to have Board Members Evans & Mann as well as Miner who self-nominated, and himself & Stakeholder Members Philip Enderwood & Larry Leisten. Longcore's nomination of **Steele to remain Chair** was **approved** by acclamation.

New Business

12. Monthly Expenditure Report

Motion: Approve the June 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (**Attach B**) moved by Levotman, seconded by Weinberg **passed** by 20 yeses, 0 noes, 2 abstentions, 8 absences, 5 ineligible, and 1 vacancy.

13. Meeting Location

Discussion and Possible Motion. The Board will consider the meeting location for committee and Board meetings in September and direct the Officers on this topic. Possible locations include TreePeople in Coldwater Canyon Park, the Belmont Village Senior Living at 10475 Wilshire Boulevard, 90024, or other sites within and outside BABCNC territory.

Dr. Longcore related information, pros & cons on the Belmont Village location.
[Mindy Mann recused herself, being on the board of TreePeople, and left at 9:01 pm.]

Discussion on TreePeople was held with Hall in favor of TreePeople and Miner in favor of the Belmont; Schlesinger agreeing with both Hall & Miner. Holmes supported Hall's comments. Templeton thinks the Belmont would be easier. Concerns about parking and driving along Mulholland for some members were expressed. Gros thinks TreePeople is more welcoming to more people. Levotman would table discussion until we know the outcome of SB-411 following the Assembly vote in September. Wickers thinks to stay here invites more public participation; Weisberg thinks we should stay here, and that it would be inappropriate to meet outside the territory at the Belmont. She'd like to meet at Harvard-Westlake to which Member Wimbish noted that we could have a one-off meeting for a large crowd on occasion of over 80 individuals rather than as a permanent home. Dr. Longcore recommended Wimbish discuss this with the City Attorney as our Private School 7-12

representative, who happens to work at Harvard-Westlake to be sure there are no issues if the Board considers meeting at Harvard-Westlake.

Motion: Levotman moved to reserve TreePeople for September and revisit this; Weinberg seconded. Further discussion was held. Sandler asked if we could meet at Skirball; she doesn't want to drive Mulholland in the fog and raised ADA access issues. Octaviano was asked to comment on the obligation of the City to provide transportation to electeds, to which he responded that the DOT may be able to provide pickup and drop off; he'll reach out to the Dept. of Disability for information. Dr. Holmes thanked us for the ability to meet online. Miner commented on the perils of driving here, walking through the parking lot at night and going out to the restrooms in a dimly lit environment. Question was called and the motion was **approved**.

14. Funding Request

Motion: Approve funding expenditure of \$295 for Nastec International, Inc., to provide safety and security services at the July Board meeting (**Attachment C**) Moved by Levotman and seconded by Roessel; **passed** by 18 yeses, 0 noes, 2 abstentions, 11 absences, 4 ineligible, and 1 vacancy.

15. Democracy Vouchers Program / City Elections / Representative Decision-Making Council File #23-0359 (*Postponed from the June meeting*)

Motion: To support the motion in CF #23-0359 asking the City to report back on feasibility of establishing a Democracy Vouchers program. (*This was approved in the Rules, Elections, and Intergovernmental Relations Committee on 05/26/2023.*)

Motion: Evans moved to postpone this and the item was postponed to next month.

Council File:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumbe r=23-0359> Council File Motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0359_misc_3-24-23.pdf

Good of the Order

Brief comments of Board Members on items not on the agenda.

Levotman asked questions of Octaviano who answered them.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm to return to TreePeople on August 23rd 2023.

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