



Building A Better Community



Minutes
Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday August 23, 2023, 7:00 P.M.

“TreePeople” Coldwater Canyon Park 12601 Mulholland Drive Los Angeles, CA 90210 plus Zoom

NAME	BOARD SEAT	Present	Absent
Bayliss, Shawn	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)		X
Evans, Ellen	Community Interest At-Large (2025) / VP - Legislative Affairs	X	
Garfield, DDS, Robert	Casiano Estates Association	X	
Levinson for Goodman	Bel-Air Association	X	
Greenberg, Robin	Faith-Based Institutions / VP - Operations	X	
Gros, Mirco	Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association		X
Hall, Jamie	Laurel Canyon Association		X
Holmes, Kristie	Public Educational Institutions (2025)		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) / Treasurer	X	
Longcore, Travis Ph.D.	Custodians of Open Space (Selected 07/2023) / President	X	
Loze, Donald	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Mann, Mindy Rothstein	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)	X	
Miner, Nickie	Benedict Canyon Association / 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	
Sroloff, Gail	Bel-Air Association	X	
Steele, Timothy Ph.D.	Bel Air Glen District (2025)	X	
Stojka, André	Bel Air Ridge HOA	X	
Morris for Templeton	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
Vacant	Private K-6 Schools		(X)
Total:		25	10(+1)

President Longcore called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM, and led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag. Secretary Miner called the roll with 25 present. President Longcore led Maureen Smith in the

oath of office. A motion to accept the remote participation of Wendy Morris & Alonzo Wickers for “just cause” was approved, as moved by Savage.

1. The Agenda was approved by unanimous consent, as moved by Levinson.
2. Selection of Board Seat for Private Schools K-6 was tabled.
3. The July 26, 2023 Meeting Minutes (**Attachment A**) were approved by 21 yeses, and 4 abstentions from Smith, Spradlin, Sroloff and Morris, as moved by Schlesinger.

4. General Public Comment:

Donald Loze asked if anyone had a serious consequence of the storm to share that and how they fared with the City departments. He thought we came out well and suggested that we thank the Mayor and all of the departments of the City that prepared so well, and noted that we escaped whereas a lot of people did not despite being organized.

Steve Twining noted that a neighbor cut a tree for emergency vehicles to get through.

5. Comments of Elected Officials & Agencies

Walker King, Deputy District Director, Council District 4, gave updates on management of the storm, acknowledging the good work of LA Sanitation, Urban Forestry, Building & Safety and Emergency Management. He noted that they are still monitoring sites on Sunset Plaza Drive, Apian Way, and Crescent, and that GeoTech has been going out. He asked that we let him know of any other areas needing attention. As to party houses, Walker noted that the City is taking legal action against the NightFall Group which caused 250 LAPD calls from across the City and is working with Planning & other departments to identify these companies for legal action to be taken. Regarding their past home-sharing motion, the data portal will be launched in September. Member Loze asked him to request CD5 let us know how they’ll respond to the Hillside Construction Regulations (HCR) ordinance amendments.

Haley Martinez, Council District 5 also responded to the request for further information on the HRC amendments, and noted the City’s response to the storms, the cooperation they had from departments and that thankfully they didn’t have a lot of calls. She noted that the City Council reversed approval of the Bulgari Hotel motion and discussed work with LAFD to see about brush clearance including new helicopter spots in Mission Canyon. She noted that the LAPD MOU passed in Council today. She will get back to us as to timelines on the reversal of the hotel and progress of the Wildlife Ordinance.

Member Sandler related that the LAFD has built a helicopter spot in CD11 which other councils were aware of and wanted to know how we could learn about these efforts, to which Haley noted that she’d help connect us. Member Spradlin expressed concern about parking on both sides of his street as a result of multiple construction projects. Haley offered to get LADBS on it. She noted that Jarrett now handles transportation issues as to the flying taxis.

Amanda Laflen, Field Deputy for Supervisor Lesley Horvath, noted that the opening for the helispot tomorrow has been in the works for some time. Updates included that the Supervisor is Chair of LAHSA and they are launching “Pathway Home,” County’s version of “Inside Safe,” and have an advanced a motion for “Vision Zero” on Mulholland. She noted that August is “Clear the Shelters” (*animal shelters*) Month. For issues with mosquitos, contact Vector Control for free assessment and treatment. <https://www.glamosquito.org/>

Octaviano Rios, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Per Dr. Longcore, Octaviano related to him that he couldn’t be here this evening but will continue to communicate with us via the emailed Monthly Profile Reports.

Old Business

6. Meeting Location

Discussion and Possible Motion. The Board will consider the meeting location for committee and Board meetings in October 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. *[Member Mann, a board member of TreePeople, recused herself.]*

Motion to have the October meeting in this location was unanimously **approved** as **moved** by Levotman. **Motion** to investigate suitability of Belmont for the winter and find out if it is feasible to switch back & forth, based on the season, was **approved**, as **moved** by Evans. Treasurer Levotman noted that we can purchase portable lights, as an option. *[Member Mann returned following her recusal.]*

7. Democracy Vouchers Program / City Elections / Representative Decision-Making

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

Council File:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-0359>

CF Motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0359_misc_3-24-23.pdf

Member Evans **moved** this motion, explained it, noting that the main thing is to support this.

~~**Amendment** to change the bill, where it says voting age, say American citizens of voting age; basically support this with the advice that it be amended to indicate it be American citizens of voting age **moved** by Stojka, **seconded** by Schlesinger.~~ Following discussion, Member Stojka asked to withdraw his amending motion and **this amending motion was withdrawn** by unanimous consent.

Amendment to recommend that the democracy vouchers be limited to US citizens who are residents of the City of Los Angeles, of voting age, was **moved** by Stojka, **seconded** by Schlesinger. Following discussion, the **amendment was approved** by all but Wickers, Morris, Kamin and Levinson who opposed. At that point, we had a motion supporting the idea of a report back on the feasibility of democracy vouchers with a recommendation that they be limited to those who are citizens and residents of Los Angeles. **Motion as amended** was **approved** by 23 yeases, 0 noes and 2 abstentions from Sandler & Levinson.

New Business

8. Monthly Expenditure Report

Motion to approve the July 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (**Attachment B**) was **moved** by Levotman, **seconded** by Loze, and **passed** by 21 yeases, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, 10 absences, 4 ineligible, & 1 vacancy.

9. Funding Request

Motion to approve expenditure of \$295 for Nastec International, was *not* considered.

10. Appointment of Budget Representatives

Member Evans introduced this; Member Levotman **nominated** **Evans & Weisberg**, to continue as Budget Reps, which was **seconded** by Savage, & **approved** unanimously.

11. Appointment of Reps & Liaisons of Non-BABCNC Committees & Alliances

- Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) meets online 3rd Monday 6:30 pm
Appoint Primary & Alternate for each of the following:
- WRAC Board Reps: **Robin Greenberg & Nickie Miner** were **approved** to continue, by unanimous consent, as **nominated** by Member Spradlin.

- WRAC Land Use & Planning Committee (LUPC): **Steve Twining & Dr. Longcore** were **approved** to continue, by unanimous consent, as moved by Greenberg.
- WRAC Homelessness Committee (HOC): **Mindy Mann** was **approved** by unanimous consent, as nominated by Greenberg. We will revisit appointing an Alternate in September.
- WRAC Mobility & Transportation Committee (MTC): **Nickie Miner & Irene Sandler**, were **approved** to continue, by unanimous consent, as nominated by Greenberg.
- DWP MOU Oversight Committee meets virtually 1st Sat. 8:30 am (even months) & DWP Advocacy Committee meets virtually 1st Sat. 8:30 am (odd months): **Dr. Timothy Steele** was **approved** to continue, by unanimous consent, as nominated by Member Rogovin.
- Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) (*currently Weinberg*) meets first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m., via Zoom *Deferred to next month*.
- Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) (*currently Mann & Evans*) – *Deferred*

12. Franklin Canyon Development Report

Update, Discussion & Possible Action on status of the proposed 72,000 s.f. development at 9650 Cedarbrook near Franklin Canyon Park –

Steven Weinberg gave an informational Power Point presentation on this development by Mohamed Hadid, whom he noted is planning to build a 78,000 square foot hotel-sized mega mansion in South Coldwater Canyon, on Eastern slope of Franklin Canyon Park, and provided information on the project, also found at <https://www.hillsidesagainsthadid.org/>. **Motion** to write a letter to Osama at Building and Safety, the Mayor, City Attorney, and Deputy Mayor in charge of DBS demanding that the permits should have and should be expired, and that they should not be reactivated, was moved by Evans, seconded by Kamin and **approved** unanimously by all 24 present and voting. (*Discussion included note to re-agendize the issue of retaining walls that came up.*)

13. Wildfire Safety Public Education Event

Discussion & Possible Motion regarding hosting an open meeting on wildfire safety and wildfire insurance with resources on home insurance, fire-wise communities and other resources. Discussion was held on holding a fire safety event and naming board members responsible for organizing this in coordination with leadership here, specifically Leslie Weisberg. Member Sroloff noted that Leslie’s vision was to have the HOAs come together. Member Sandler would like to understand the ratings. Member Levinson noted that there is only one person doing enforcement for the entire City of LA.

Motion to hold an online event on insurance, with Members Weisberg & Garfield taking the lead, **passed** as moved by Levotman. **Public Comment** was given by Dr. Pamela Pierson who noted that Beverly Hills has the Fire-wise designation and may be able to give guidance.

14. Protection of Urban Forest Canopy

Discussion and Possible Motion: To prepare a detailed response to the motion recently passed to improve protection of native trees and tree canopy, potentially through creation of working group. See CF#[15-0499-S2](#) (**Attachment C**)

VP of Legislative Affairs Evans introduced this, noting that the report back came in and will probably be used to guide policy for a while. A **motion** to prepare a response to the report back with Members **Evans, Hall & Mann** as the working group, **passed**, as moved by Evans and Steele.

15. Fine Schedule / Protecting Street Trees / Administrative Citation Enforcement (ACE) Program

Discussion & Possible Motion: To support the motion in CF#**23-0801** asking that the Council

instruct the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) to report back within 30 calendar days from adoption of this motion on an administrative fine schedule for violations of LAMC 62.169(a), 62.171, or 62.174 commensurate with damages including but not limited to loss of shade, loss of carbon storage, increase to local average surface temperature of the street, decrease in local air quality, and tree species – and that the Council request the City Attorney, with the assistance of BSS, to include in the aforementioned report recommendations for the appropriate party to receive the citation and fines, payment plans or other provisions for a demonstrated inability to pay the levied fines, culturally competent education & outreach, and next steps to effectuate the proposed administrative fine schedule.

Council File:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-0801>

Council File Motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0801_misc_8-1-23.pdf

VP of Legislative Affairs Evans introduced this motion which **passed** unanimously by all 24 present as **moved** by Evans and Stojka.

16. ACA 4 (Bryan) / Repeal Constitutional Voting Provisions / Disqualified Convicted Felons / State or Federal Prisons

Discussion & Possible Motion: To oppose the resolution in **CF#23-0002-S78**, ACA 4 (Bryan) / introduced August 2, 2023 (Harris-Dawson – Hernandez – Raman – Soto-Martinez) and referred to Rules, Elections & Intergovernmental Relations Committee, requesting that the City of Los Angeles include in its 2023-2024 State Legislative Program SUPPORT of ACA 4 (Bryan), which would repeal constitutional provisions that disqualify people convicted in State or federal prison from voting.

Council File:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-0002-S78>

Council File Resolution: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0002-S78_misc_08-02-23.pdf

Moved by Levotman, **seconded** by Stojka, and **failed** by **5 Yeses** from Members Garfield, Levotman, Miner, Sandler, and Stojka, **4 Abstentions** from Members Levinson, Schlesinger, Morris, and Longcore, and **14 Noes** from Members Evans, Greenberg, Kamin, Kwan, Loze, Mann, Paden, Roessel, Rogovin, Smith, Sroloff, Steele, Weinberg, and Wickers; (*Spradlin had already left and was absent for this vote*).

17. Cashless Retail Business Ban / Inclusionary Economy / Anonymous Exchange / Unbanked / Low-Income / People of Color

Discussion & Possible Motion: To oppose the motion in **Council File# 23-0846** (Hutt – Hernandez – Soto-Martinez - Yaroslavsky) introduced August 15, 2023 and referred to the Trade, Travel and Tourism Committee, requesting the City Attorney to prepare and present an ordinance, similar to one enacted by San Francisco, which would ban cashless retail businesses in Los Angeles.

Council File:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-0846>

Council File Motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0846_misc_8-15-23.pdf

Moved by Levotman, **seconded** by Schlesinger, discussion was held. **Public comment** was given by Dr. Pamela Pierson and the **motion failed** by **2 Yeses:** Kwan and Levotman; **12 Noes:** Garfield, Levinson, Greenberg, Loze, Mann, Sandler, Savage, Smith, Steele, Stojka, Weinberg, Wickers; and **8 Abstentions:** Evans, Kamin, Miner, Paden, Roessel, Schlesinger, Morris, and Longcore. (*Sroloff & Rogovin had left by 9:00 pm & Spradlin earlier.*)

18. Flying Taxis

Discussion & Possible Motion: Advise City of Los Angeles regarding position on USDOT proposal to allow "flying taxis" aka Advanced Air Mobility (AAM) or Urban Air Mobility (UAM). (**Attachment D**)

Member Kwan introduced and moved to **oppose** this, and that a letter be written to the Mayor, the FCC or AAM against rushing into this program, noting that there was no time given to respond to this by 08/16.

~~**Motion** to write a letter to the City to the Mayor and City Council representatives, expressing concern that this process has happened without community input and that the community *not* support it until we have community input, moved by Kwan, and seconded by Stojka.~~ Subsequently, the **motion was dropped** by unanimous consent.

New Motion: That we oppose these electric flying taxis, moved by Kwan, seconded by Stojka, **passed** with **1 no** from Member Roessel. (Kwan will draft the letter.)

19. Parking Space Replacement Policy

Possible Motion (WRAC Mobility & Transportation Committee (MTC))

The BABCNC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, is concerned about the passage of **CF 23-0360**, which nullifies Sections 22.482(a) and 22.602 of the Administrative Code and changes the parking space replacement policy when LADOT parking facilities with spaces greater than 25 are transferred to the Housing Department for redevelopment as affordable or supportive housing.

BABCNC is sensitive to how difficult it can be to develop affordable and supportive housing in Los Angeles. We recognize there is a shortage of affordable and supportive housing and believe that Los Angeles would benefit from making it easier to build such housing.

Until now, when LADOT-managed parking facilities have been redeveloped, all the parking spaces had to be replaced, increasing the cost of the development. With the passage of CF 23-0360, the spaces will no longer be required to be replaced.

However, we believe that the needs of small businesses, including the need for parking for their customers, have not been adequately considered with the nullification of Administrative Code Sections 22.482(a) and 22.602 and establishment of the new parking space replacement policy.

Therefore, we respectfully request that Councilmembers representing WRAC member councils who are also members of the City Council Transportation Committee – Council-members Park, Yaroslavsky, Raman and/or Hutt – bring a motion in Los Angeles City Council forthwith to further amend the Administrative Code to include concessions for small businesses by replacing the new parking space development footprint. The City should determine how much parking to replace by using a sliding scale for parking replacement based on prior utilization, as well as the availability of nearby public parking, rather than never requiring any replacement.

See Council File:

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-0360> (Council Action Final on May 24, 2023.)

VP of Operations Greenberg introduced this motion, to make sure that businesses have the parking that they need, and moved to approve it. The motion was seconded by Member Stojka and it passed by 19 yeses, 1 no by Member Loze and 2 abstentions from Member Evans and Dr. Longcore.

20. How to Track City of Los Angeles City Council Motions

Informational Presentation: Short presentation by VP Legislative Affairs Evans on how to track motions introduced to Los Angeles City Council.

Good of the Order

Dr. Longcore expressed his appreciation of the ability to be in disagreement, which he noted is the hallmark of democracy. He appreciates everyone bringing these issues up.

The meeting adjourned at 9:28 pm until the next meeting on September 27th 2023.

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