



Building A Better Community



**Minutes**  
**Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Regular Monthly Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday October 25, 2023, 7:00 P.M.**

NAME	BOARD SEAT	Present	Absent
Barcohana, Elizabeth	Private Schools Grades K-6 (Selected 09/27/2023)	X	
Bayliss, Shawn	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)	X	
Evans, Ellen	Community Interest At-Large (2025) / VP – Legislative Affairs	X	
Garfield, Robert DDS	Casiano Estates Association	X	
Levinson for Goodman	Bel-Air Association	X	
Greenberg, Robin	Faith-Based Institutions (Re-selected 07/2023) / VP – Operations	Zoom	
Gros, Mirco	Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association	X	
Hall, Jamie	Laurel Canyon Association (arrived at 7:20 pm.)	X	
Holmes, Kristie	Public Educational Institutions (2025)	Zoom	
Kadin, David Scott	Benedict Canyon Association	Zoom	
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 (Re-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	Zoom	
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	Zoom	
Savage, Stephanie	Laurel Canyon Association	Zoom	
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	Zoom	
Steele, Timothy Ph.D.	Bel Air Glen District (2025) / Assistant Secretary	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 Schools Grades 7-12 (Re-selected 07/2023)	X	
<b>Total:</b>		<b>30</b>	<b>6</b>

BABCNC President, Travis Longcore, Ph.D., noted that we have members present physically and virtually. Dr. Longcore related that while driving here, he just heard about a mass shooting that just took place on this day in his home state of Maine, and, as there was a lot going on in the world right now, asked us to all have a little extra patience. He noted that we come together as a community, and that he does this because he believes in getting along with our neighbors, getting to know each other, sharing positions and respecting the diversity of people that makes up our community.

Dr. Longcore called the meeting to order at 7:10 pm. Following the flag salute, Dr. Steele, Assistant to the Secretary, called the roll. Maureen Levinson stood in for Dr. Mark Goodman. Member Hall arrived at 7:20 pm for a total of 30 members present, 7 virtually.

1. Approval of the Agenda was moved by Members Levinson and Steele.

Discussion was held in which Members Schlesinger and Loze of Benedict Canyon Association (BCA) moved to halt approval of the agenda until postponing item #14 regarding the Hillside Construction Regulations (HCR) to next month. Member Loze provided background for this request, including but not limited to that a meeting with CD5 will be happening between now and our next NC Board meeting.

Member Kadin, also of Benedict Canyon Association, spoke on behalf of the BCA, that in light of recent events (*as to the proposed hotel project*) and as a meeting has been set up between “Save our Canyon” and CD5, that is premature to consider #14 at this time. He noted appreciation of the work of Member Evans on the draft, however, agreed that item #14 should be continued.

While pausing to hear from the Parliamentarian, Member Evans explained how we got here, noting that at the last PLU Committee meeting, it was discussed the manner in which we would approach our council district offices to get some revisions of the HCR. She noted that we decided together and it was voted on that we would approach CD4 & CD5 to talk about public safety issues related to construction in our area that weren’t addressed by the original HCR. That was voted on by the PLUC.

Member Evans added that that it was also decided that a group get together to work on such a letter; so the letter went through several drafts, and we discussed it... to keep the public safety focus as it was represented in the letter. However, she noted that it seemed a decision was made to bring this to you, to put this on the agenda, to have this conversation. She doesn’t think there was an authorization at the PLU Committee to schedule a meeting with the NC, given that we hadn’t told the CD offices our priority. She noted that now we need to decide our priorities are, to consider Item #14, to decide what our priorities are with respect to revision to the HCR.

Member Mann of BCA noted that several concerns were not addressed in the letter.

Parliamentarian Alonzo Wickers provided comments from Roberts Rules of Order, to which he and Dr. Longcore surmised that it would be best to continue this conversation and the motion to remove the item was dropped to be brought back to #14. The motion to approve the agenda **passed** by unanimous consent.

2. The 09/27/23 Board Meeting Minutes (**Attach A**) **passed** with 1 abstention from Levinson.

### 3. **General Public Comment**

**Rita Ortiz** related that she is a single mother who lives in Beverly Canyon, in Benedict Canyon. She reported that eight neighbors have trespassed and destroyed her property. She spoke at City Hall about it with no action taken on her behalf, and is here looking for help to know where to go. She feels the eight neighbors don't talk to her because of the way she looks as a Latina woman.

**Dr. Pamela Pierson** reported good news about insurance: FAIR Plan was willing to acknowledge that people in our neighborhoods have made great efforts to harden their homes against fire and we now have an opportunity to declare that we have qualified for two reductions in our premiums. She hopes that the other insurers will extend the same considerations and help everybody out. She provided referenced a letter entitled "INTRODUCTION OF DISCOUNTS FOR HARDENING DWELLING PROPERTIES AGAINST WILDFIRE RISK" which notes that the California FAIR Plan in conjunction with the California Department of Insurance is offering two new discounts on all policies effective August 2, 2023, and later to residential property owners whose premium is higher due to risk of wildfire and who take action to protect their property from wildfire. The letter asks you to contact your insurance broker if you'd like your property to be considered for these discounts.

**Dr. Pierson** later provided additional public comment to let us know that Mulholland is looking like an RV Park with upscale "celebrity" RVs illegally parked on the shoulder.

### 4. **Comments of Elected Officials & Agencies**

**Marian Ensley, from the Office of Mayor Bass**, introduced herself virtually, as the new West Area Rep, having been with the Mayor's office for six weeks. She noted that she has spent some time with President Longcore and looks forward to meeting us all.

**Walker King, Office of Councilmember Nithya Raman** gave a brief update:

- 1) The Los Angeles Home-Sharing Records Portal has launched. It allows users to review Home-Sharing registration and complaints/enforcement records. To see individual addresses and properties that have had complaints go to: [bit.ly/homesharingportal](https://bit.ly/homesharingportal)
- 2) He noted that has been some concern about the Mulholland Tennis Club building an outdoor bar. He will check if that is within bounds of the CUP, and noted that there will be an opportunity for appeals. Member Hall noted that the original CUP said they could have that community room and that community benefits should be considered as it is evaluated.
- 3) Sunset Plaza Drive should be reopened now.

**Amanda Laflen, from the Office of Supervisor Horvath:**

- 1) Tomorrow evening, Supervisor Horvath's Office & LA County Partners are hosting a community resiliency & EP event at Lindero Canyon Middle School.
- 2) Motions put forth by the Supervisor included asking for transparency for Metro, and that construction materials for infrastructure should be produced in the US.
- 3) There will be a Sepulveda Transit Corridor meeting Saturday in Van Nuys and a Traffic Study is being done. She noted that they may be having toll roads.

- 4) October is considered “**Oaktober**” in LA County; 11/03 is “**California Oak Day.**”
- 5) On 10/17, Supervisor Horvath’s resolution for solidarity with people of Israel & for humanitarian aid into Gaza passed.
- 6) Member Hall asked about motion to increase appeal fees for CEQA to over \$10,000 that was voted down in the environmental community and hopes the Supervisor opposed it.

**Josh Marin-Mora, from the Office of Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur:** Some legislative wins for the Assemblymember which were signed by the Governor include AB 3, AB 1484, and AB 1620. Asm. Zbur asked to have a select committee for the Assembly to find solutions on retail theft, and will chair that committee.

**Octaviano Rios, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment** was present to answer questions.

**Haley Martinez, Office of Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky** sent an email that she was sorry that she could not be present this evening.

## 5. Committee Chair Reports:

**Ellen Evans** noted that the Ad Hoc Committee on Home Sharing and Party Houses will meet pm 11/07 to craft their response to the report back that came in.

**Mindy Mann** reported that the NC Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) committee wrote a letter responding to trees that will be removed as part of the expansion of the La Brea Tar Pits. She related that the NCSA wants to preserve as many trees as possible, and noted that the trees that will be replanted will *not* all be native trees. The letter is also in response to the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR).

### Old Business

## 6. Appointment of Reps & Liaisons of Non-BABCNC Committees & Alliances

- Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) Appoint Alternate for the Homelessness Committee (HOC) Alternate (*Mann is currently primary*). No one volunteered for this.
- Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) (*currently Weinberg*) meets first Saturday of the month at 10:00 a.m., via Zoom. Ellen Evans & Steve Twining, President Emeritus of this body, volunteered, Steve noting that he has been attending these meetings for many years along with the DWP meetings.
- Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) (*currently Mann & Evans*) Mindy Mann volunteered to continue and Ellen Evans volunteered to be Alternate for NCSA.

### New Business

## 7. December 2023 Meeting Location

**Motion** to approve having committee and Board meetings in December at TreePeople in Coldwater Canyon Park, **passed** as **moved** by Evans and Kamin [*Member Mann had recused herself for this, being on the board of TreePeople.*]

**8. Monthly Expenditure Report**

**Motion** Approve September 2023 Monthly Expenditure Report (**Attachment B**) **passed** by 26-0-0 with 6 absences & 4 ineligible, as moved by Levotman.

[The issue of the high rate for our Google Workspace account was raised, with Dr. Longcore noting that we are already researching this with Member Kamin working on it. Hall opined that the time has come for the City to provide the G-mail service to every NC; he'd agendize this and find a council member to form a motion to support it. Asked again about this, Octaviano Rios noted that the City was interested in this but he had no update on it. He recommended placing this on the agenda.]

**9. Amended Budget**

**Discussion and Possible Motion** to approve the Amended Budget for FY 2023-2024 to include additional rollover funds of \$205.57 ~~& the B&H Photo refund of \$97.48, totaling \$303.05, to be applied to Board Administrative Services.~~ (**Attachment C**) Moved by Levotman/Kamin.

Following an explanation by Treasurer Levotman, including but not limited to the recommendation to *not* pursue the refund for \$97.48 that would involve a City Council motion, the **motion was amended** to approve the Amended Budget for FY 2023-2024 to include additional rollover funds of \$205.57, for a total of **\$41,205.57**, which **passed** by 26-0-0, with 6 absences & 4 ineligible, as moved by Levotman.

**10. Protection of Urban Forest Canopy:**

**Council File # 15-0499-S2: Biodiversity Protection / Urban Forest / Tree Canopy Coverage / Sustainable Built Environment / Tree Placement / Tree Removal / Land Use Environmental Review**

At our August Board Meeting, BABCNC VP of Legislative Affairs Evans introduced a motion to create a workgroup (*Evans, Hall & Mann*) to prepare a motion in response to the July 28<sup>th</sup> report [https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2015/15-0499-s2\\_rpt\\_plan\\_07-27-23.pdf](https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2015/15-0499-s2_rpt_plan_07-27-23.pdf) that had come into Council File #15-0499-S2.

**Discussion and Possible Motion:** To approve BABCNC's detailed response to the motion recently passed to improve protection of native trees and tree canopy. (**Attachment D**)

Dr. Longcore introduced this, which was moved by Evans and Stojka. Discussion was held, as initiated by Member Templeton. Dr. Longcore noted that we need to stop the cutting down of trees as a first step. As to the fire question, Member Evans might add language acknowledging trees in the Very High Fire VHFHSZs, to which Evans noted that this letter is to get the ball rolling.

**Amendment:** ~~Strike "all" in the second bullet at the bottom and add "consistent with life-safety considerations"~~ was **approved unanimously** by all 30 members present & voting, as moved by Longcore and Evans. Following further discussion with regard to equity issues, heat island effect of neighborhoods, and need for further education as to native trees including for those who do our brush clearance, the **motion as amended** was **approved unanimously** by all 30 members present & voting.

**11. 9595 W LIME ORCHARD ROAD**

DIR-2023-4312-DRB-SPP-MSP-HCA ENV-2023-4313-EAF. Lot Area 40,315.4. Filed 06/26/2023 / Assigned 07/05/2023 & Staff: Katie Knudson

**Project Description:** Demolition of existing SFD. A new 8,912 sf. SFD with attached 525 sf. 2-car garage & new ADU, retaining wall, a new pool, deck and removal of 1 native tree (CA Juniper). 1,352 cy of cut and 140 cy of fill for export of 1,212 cy. **Sensitive Uses:** Franklin Canyon Park directly west.

**Applicant/Property Owner:** Lindsey Anne Branca **Reps:** Chris J. Parker [Chris@PCCLA.com](mailto:Chris@PCCLA.com) Chloe Parker [Chloe@PCCLA.com](mailto:Chloe@PCCLA.com) **Permanent Link:** <https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/caseid/MjY4MzIx0>

**PLU Committee Motion** to support the project with recommendations to request that an Urban Forestry tree clearance and staging plan be developed for construction. Motion was moved by PLU Committee Chair Schlesinger. Brief discussion was held. *[Stephanie Savage recused herself because the MDRB would be seeing this.]* The motion was **approved unanimously** by all 30 members present and voting.

## 12. 13442 W JAVA DR.

ZA-2023-5467-ZAD-DRB-SPP-MSP-HCA ENV-2023-5468-EAF Filed 08/09/2023 / Assigned Date: 08/16/2023 Staff Assigned: Katie Knudson

**New Project Description:** Construction of a new 8,455 sq ft 2-story Single Family Dwelling on two vacant lots with a max height of 25', with garage, 1 replacement retaining wall, new pool and water features, associate grading, landscaping, hardscapes and decks. Project requires a Mulholland Design Review Board (MDRB) approval due to location within specific plan, a Zoning Administrators Determination to allow for a Continuous Paved Roadway & street frontage of less than 20', & Haul Route for export of 2,310 CY of earth. **Applicant/Property Owner:** The Aubrey Trust **Rep:** Beth Cowan Project Management [bcowan@bcprojectmanagement.com](mailto:bcowan@bcprojectmanagement.com) **Consultant:** Isaac Lemus [isaac@crestrelastate.com](mailto:isaac@crestrelastate.com) 775.690.2230 **Permanent Link:** <https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/caseid/MjY5NTEw0>

**PLU Committee Motion** was to deny the project based upon the width of the road, the windows which are inconsistent with benefitting wildlife, the planting plans which are inconsistent with concerns about wildfires in the areas, and requested alleviation of the frontage and the rest of the continuous paved roadway (CPR). The motion was moved by Schlesinger/Committee. *[Stephanie Savage recused herself.]* Discussion was held. Project representative with Crest Real Estate, Isaac Lemus, spoke briefly online, noting that they are comfortable with the determination made by the BABCNC PLU Committee, and going forward with Planning. The motion was **approved** by 29 yeses, 0 noes, and one abstention from Member Barcohana.

## 13. Rezoning of R1 Neighborhoods

**Council File # 21-1230:** Housing Element / General Plan / 2021–2029.

**Discussion and Possible Motion:** The Housing Element and Community Plan Updates have plenty of zoning opportunities in commercial corridors, **previously developed** public lands, and through adaptive reuse to meet State mandates. There is no need to rezone, through overlays or other zoning devices, R1 zones or sensitive, rent stabilized multi-family housing. The Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council opposes the Housing Element's proposed rezoning and densification of R1 and multi-family neighborhoods beyond what SB9 and ADU laws allow.

**Rationale from United Neighbors:** While there is no doubt that Los Angeles needs more affordable housing, there is also no doubt that the LA City Planning

Department is currently proposing the rezoning of our single-family and sensitive multi-family neighborhoods to allow 4-5 story apartments. This is not acceptable! Many of these neighborhoods are home to people who have struggled and saved to create a place for their families. With zero guardrails, Planning is handing these residential communities over to developers.

Instead of destroying residential neighborhoods, we've worked with neighborhoods across Los Angeles and created community maps that locate enough housing to meet the state's housing mandate. These community-based maps rezone underutilized commercial corridors, public lands, and create places for mixed income housing that would revitalize ALL our communities and make them more walkable, sustainable, and livable. While being mindful of Affirmatively Furthering Fair Housing, we can meet the need of our city without ruining our existing neighborhoods.

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=21-1230>

Member Miner introduced and moved this motion, seconded by Stojka. Discussion was held. Hall would add Public Lands outside Mountain Zones – or previously developed in front of “public lands.”

**Amendment** to add “previously developed” in front of “public lands” was moved by Hall/Weinberg. Public Comment was given by Dr. Pamela Pierson regarding concern about going down a rabbit hole as to type of development. There was no objection to the amendment. Member Evans noted that it is important that we do this.

**Motion as amended** was **approved** by 29 yeases, 0 noes, & 1 abstention by Gros.

#### **14. Public Safety Risks from Construction**

**Discussion and Possible Motion:** To send a letter to Councilmembers Raman and Yaroslavsky requesting actions to protect public safety by addressing loopholes and oversights in the Hillside Construction Regulations (HCRs) (**Attachment E**).

**Motion** to postpone to this item to next month was **moved** by Member Loze and **seconded** by Weinberg. Member Loze explained his rationale to postpone this in order to find the best way to present proposed modifications to the current HCRs, which was passed in 2017, and are now stale, to Councilmember Yaroslavsky. He noted that this is the most important work that the NC has done since its inception and that this requires a long complicated discussion; local discussions in Benedict Canyon have included “Save Our Canyon” (SOC) who finally found relief having the proposed hotel knocked out of its application...and that the purpose of this motion to postpone to next month is to get a meeting with Katy Yaroslavsky. Since our PLU meeting, we got commitment from the Land Use Deputy at CD5 to have a group from our NC and SOC meet with them.

He noted that he has great respect for Evans and her draft letter but that the current letter describes results and he would like it to describe policy.

He would like to have a special committee with Land Use so we can accept an invitation with Dylan; however, Dr. Longcore noted that we cannot do that this evening as it is *not* on the agenda.

Dr. Longcore responded that we have two Councilmembers *not* one. We have people in areas of our community who are being impacted daily by construction and safety issues. The purpose is not just to meet with Katy but to have a refined view to allow us to meet with *both* Council offices, and we cannot go to them to address the underlying issue about grading... because we have a pending Wildlife Ordinance that needs to be resolved before we know what the issues are. Dr. Longcore would like to know why it is politically inexpedient or ridiculous to approach both Councilmembers whom he noted need to start thinking about this, and thinks if we go back to underlying root causes we get nowhere, based on his past experience.

Member Loze provided a detailed response as to why he'd start with CD5. Member Bayliss noted that recommended modifications have been discussed for years, that nothing has happened with those and agreed with the need to get the ball rolling. He doesn't think the draft letter boxes us into a set of regulations. Evans noted under Item #1, that we should discuss our HCR priorities, and that this agenda item provided an opportunity to do so.

The question was called for a vote, with 5 nays, & 2/3rds in favor of taking the vote. Dr. Longcore noted that no one has authorized this NC to have the meeting with SOC and CD5. A roll call vote was taken and **the motion to postpone passed** by 16 yeses, 11 noes and 3 abstentions from Members Kwan, Longcore & Steele.

#### 15. Expansion of Hillside Construction Regulations

**Council File # 23-1019:** Interim Control Ordinance (ICO) / Hillside Construction Regulation Supplemental Use District / Northeast Community Plan Area / Single-Family Residences / New Construction / Building Permit Prohibition

**Discussion and Possible Motion:** To support expansion of Hillside Construction Regulations to Northeast Los Angeles, ~~including the adoption of 2,500 square feet as the threshold~~ for site plan review as appropriate for the lot size and development patterns of that area, particularly noting that this threshold should be tailored to each area included in HCR restrictions.

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-1019>

Moved by Evans/Weinberg. Discussion was held as to the 2,500 square feet threshold not being applicable to all areas, and as we do not know the needs of that neighborhood, to defer to their community.

**Amended Motion** was moved by Dr. Longcore *to take out "including the adoption of the 2500 threshold," so that the motions reads:*

*To support expansion of Hillside Construction Regulations to Northeast Los Angeles, and note that the establishment of the site plan review threshold should be tailored to each area and put in the HCR restrictions.* The motion was seconded and **approved unanimously** by all 28 members present and voting.

*[Bayliss left at 9:04 pm, and Levinson stepped out with him leaving 28 present.]*

#### 16. Resolution Authorizing Virtual Meeting by Neighborhood Councils

**Council File # 23-1114:** Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils / SB 411 / Teleconferencing / Remote Meetings / Brown Act Modification / California Government Code / COVID-19 Pandemic



**Discussion and Possible Motion:** Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council supports the resolution allowing Neighborhood Councils to meet virtually, having found during the pandemic that virtual meetings increase public participation and eliminate barriers to participation, especially for those who would otherwise need to drive on winding mountain roads after dark. We encourage adoption of the resolution as soon as feasibly possible.

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-1114>

Motion was moved by Members Gros & Roessel. There was no discussion and the motion was **approved unanimously** by all 28 members present and voting.

#### 17. **Technology Needed for Virtual Meetings of Neighborhood Councils**

**Council File # 23-1113:** Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils / Remote Meetings / SB 411 / Teleconferencing Provisions / Ralph M. Brown Act

**Discussion and Possible Motion:** Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council supports the authorization of virtual meetings for Neighborhood Councils.

Equipment necessary to run hybrid meetings that should be supported by the City include Zoom licenses, and specialized camera/microphone devices designed for videoconferencing. Cost for such technology needs should be covered by the City.

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-1113>

Motion was moved by Members Roessel & Gros and was **approved unanimously** by all 24 members present and voting.

#### 18. **War in the Middle East**

**Discussion and Possible Motion:** The Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council is horrified by the acts of terrorism against Israel on October 7th. Los Angeles is home to over half a million Jews, and many have close ties to people in harm's way. We are standing in solidarity with the nation of Israel, and our Jewish and Palestinian neighbors in LA who are pursuing peace. Moved by Gros/Kamin.

Following discussion, Evans **moved to amend** the motion, by taking out “Los Angeles is home to over half a million Jews” and adding “we mourn the loss of life on both sides.” Following discussion, including on public safety, it was suggested to add “we mourn the loss of innocent lives.” Evans **withdrew her amending motion** to allow a new amendment.

**Amended Main Motion:** The Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council is horrified by the acts of terrorism against Israel on October 7th 2023. Los Angeles is home to over half a million Jews and the Neighborhood Council recognizes the threats to their public safety as a result of the ongoing terrorism. We urge the Mayor’s office to ensure that all Angelenos are safe during this time of heightened public threat. We are standing in solidarity with the nation of Israel, and our Jewish and Palestinian neighbors in LA who are pursuing peace. We mourn the loss of innocent lives.

Moved by Barcohana and seconded by Weinstein. The motion passed with 20 yeses, 1 no from Templeton, 1 abstention from Wimbish.

*[Member Hall had left the meeting at 9:22 pm and Member Roessel stepped out briefly a minute later, before a vote was taken.]*

## **19. Mass Littering as Hate Speech**

**Council File 23-1164: Hate Speech / Flyer Dissemination / Mass Littering / Misdemeanor**

**Discussion and Possible Motion** regarding motion by CM Blumenfield requesting that the City Attorney with support of the Police Department report on how the crime of littering in mass as a method to disseminate hate speech is currently addressed by the City along with ways to increase penalties that make it a misdemeanor for any person to litter with the intent to willfully injure, intimidate, interfere with, oppress, or threaten any other person based on their perceived characteristics.

<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=23-1164>

The motion was moved by Evans, and seconded by Kamin. Member Wickers opined that this motion has no legal integrity. He would change “with intent” with “as a means of hate speech.” Following comments on the legal merits of this, Templeton recommended letting the City Attorney sort this out.

The motion **passed** by 21 yeses, 0 noes, 1 abstention from Member Wickers.

### **Good of the Order:**

Member Smith asked board members to email her any businesses in your area and if you want her to get in touch with any businesses, to please let her know.

Member Mann spoke in commemoration of Cindy Montañez for all that she did for TreePeople and the greening the City. Evans also spoke in honor of Cindy Montañez.

The meeting adjourned at 9:35 pm. We meet again on November 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 (one week earlier than usual for Thanksgiving) at TreePeople.

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