



Building A Better Community



DRAFT MINUTES

**Special Virtual Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Board Meeting
Friday April 10, 2020 12:00 PM**

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council meeting was conducted via Zoom.

Present: 23 (Quorum 15)

Attachment "A"

2019/2020 Stakeholder Groups / Representatives	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
Bel Air Crest Master Homeowner Association		
<i>Irene Sandler</i>	X	
Bel Air District		
<i>Mark Goodman, M.D. (had to work with patients online)</i>		X
<i>Gail Sroloff</i>	X	
Bel Air Glen District		
<i>Larry Leisten</i>	X	
Bel Air Hills Association (BAHA)		
<i>Robin Greenberg, President</i>	X	
<i>Wendy Morris</i>		X
Bel Air Ridge HOA (Alternate, Ed Cain)		
<i>André Stojka</i>		X
Benedict Canyon Association (BCA)		
<i>Robert (Bob) Schlesinger</i>	X	
<i>Donald Loze</i>		X
<i>Nickie Miner, Vice President</i>	X	
<i>Mindy Rothstein Mann</i>	X	

2019/2020 Stakeholder Groups / Representatives	Present	Not Present
Casiano Estates Association		
<i>Robert Garfield, DDS</i>		X
Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts (<i>Alternate Rob Farber as of 08/04/19</i>)		
<i>Jacqueline Le Kennedy</i>	X	
Custodians of Open Space		
<i>Travis Longcore, Ph.D.</i>	X	
Faith-Based Organizations		
<i>Jackie DeFede</i>		X
Franklin-Coldwater District		
<i>Maureen Smith</i>	X	
K-6 Private Schools		
<i>Teresa Lee</i>		X
7-12 Private Schools		
<i>Jon Wimbish</i>		X
Public Educational Institutions (K-12)		
<i>Kristie Holmes</i>	X	
Holmby Hills Association		
<i>Jason Spradlin</i>	X	
Laurel Canyon Association (LCA) (<i>Anne Alexander, Kris Le Fan, Alternates as of 06/19/2019</i>)		
<i>Jamie Hall</i>	X	
<i>Stephanie Savage, PLUC Vice Chair</i>	X	
<i>Cathy Wayne</i>	X	
<i>Heather Roy</i>	X	
Members-at-Large		
<i>Chuck Maginnis</i>	X	
<i>Marcia Hobbs</i>	X	

2019/2020 Stakeholder Groups / Representatives	<u>Present</u>	<u>Not Present</u>
<i>Shawn Bayliss</i>	X	
Member-at-Large / Youth Seat		
<i>Philip Enderwood</i>	X	
North of Sunset District (<i>Patricia Murphy & Stella Grey, Alternates as of 06/19/2019</i>)		
<i>Ellen Evans</i>	X	
<i>Stella Grey, Alternate for Yves Mieszala</i>	X	
Residents of Beverly Glen (RoBG)		
<i>Robert A. Ringler</i>	X	
<i>Dan Palmer</i>		X
Total:	23	9

1. Call to Order & Roll Call (Quorum 15) Robin Greenberg called the meeting to order at 12:03 pm.
 - Robert Ringler called roll with 22 members present, quorum met; Shawn arrived thereafter w/ 23 total.
 - Guests included Rob Farber, Caroline Labiner Moser, Maureen Levinson, Conrad Starr, and Glenn Bailey, as well as representatives of our elected officials, Madelynn Taras, Deputy Representative of CD4 Councilmember David Ryu, and Jarrett Thompson, Deputy Representative of CD5 Councilmember Paul Koretz, as well as Eli Lipmen, President of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC).
2. **Motion:** Approval of April 10, 2020 AGENDA: **moved** by Marcia; **seconded** by Gail; **22/0/0; approved.**
3. **Motion:** Approval of February 26, 2020 Meeting MINUTES (**Attachment A**) **moved** by Cathy; **seconded** by Larry; **20 yes; 0 no; 2 abstentions;** Ellen & Maureen; **approved.**
4. **Public Comment:**

Bob Schlesinger is working with eight people with Planning on the Ridgeline Ordinance. He has been asked for boundaries, and noted that Larry has identified those of districts. Larry noted that it is not our position to provide same as to associations nor as to numbers of residents, and that Ellen is going to do this. Cathy Wayne volunteered to help with this. Those interested email Robin.

Rob Farber related that he believes stay-at-home orders are illegal and tyrannical and does not believe there is any discernible pattern among countries with different lockdown policies showing they are effective at limiting the number of cases and deaths: look at Korea and Japan if interested. He does not believe there is a choice between liberty and public health; it is a falsehood presented to us; that public health depends on liberty.

Mindy Mann: Tree People has launched an online teaching platform that they asked that we spread the word about, "Learn at Home with Tree People." Tell people within your community; it is for all ages. If not a conflict, she would like Ellen to put it out there on web or newsletter. It's a great way for kids and teens to keep busy and at the same time learn about what's going on with trees and nature, etc.

Madelynn Taras, CD4 CM Ryu's office: Madelynn is available for questions via email.

Glen Bailey, an officer of LANC Coalition (LANCC), invited BABCNC to participate in their meetings which are now virtual starting first Saturday of month @ 10:00 am, following DWP MOU oversight meeting, also now virtual. He'd like all 99 NCs to participate. He sent an email to Robin asking for our support to make NC Support distribute agendas, cancellation notices, etc., through Early Notification System (ENS) (*which they have currently stopped doing*). He'd like us to urge NC Support to respect that it is a BONC agenda-posting policy, and while we have to submit agenda, it does no do for subscribers if not posted by ENS in a timely manner.

Public comments are completed.

5. **President's Report:** Robin Greenberg related that we should be thinking of doing good for others. She has been thinking about coming up with a project. She heard from Linc Gasking, with "Feeding Folks" where volunteers deliver food from local farms to neighbors. Please let Robin know if interested in this.
6. **Vice President's Report** – Nickie Miner related that she is capable of hosting a Zoom meeting and thanked Ellen for conducting this one. Robin noted that this is our Neighborhood Council's Zoom, which we have purchased (See Treasurer's report, #11.a.ii).
7. **Secretary's Report** – Robert Ringler related that Community-Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) is having a virtual meeting April 28th, time to be determined.
8. **Treasurer's Report** – Jacqueline Le Kennedy **(Update, Discussion & Possible Action)**
 - a. **Update/Report from Treasurer**
 - i. **Motion:** Approval of Feb. & March 2020 Monthly Expenditure Reports (MERs) (**Attachment B&C**) **Moved** by Jacqueline; **seconded** by Robert; **19 yes; 0 no; 2 abstentions:** Philip and Stella; **1 ineligible:** Jamie; **Passed.**
 - ii. **Motion:** Approval of Zoom Standard Pro \$149.90 04/04/2020 to 04/03/2021 (**Attachment D**) **Moved** and **seconded** by Jacqueline & Robert S. respectively.
- Jacqueline noted that we purchased this subscription to Zoom on an emergent-basis, prior to DONE having issued a letter regarding their updated Governing Procedures and Platform.
19 yes; 0 no; 1 abstention: Jacqueline; **1 ineligible:** Jamie; **passed.**
 - iii. **Motion:** Approval of EP Door Hangers either from: a) Superfast Copying & Binding 3.75 x 8.5 EP Card w/ 5 MI lamination @ \$0.79 x 1,200 = **\$1,034.17** or b) Magnets.com 3 x 8 Rectangle-Shaped Door Hanger 14 pt thickness @ \$0.400x1,200 = **\$480.00 (Attachment E)**
- Robin related that she obtained one bid from a laminator in Santa Monica, Superfast, and Ellen got a bid, much better, and therefore we will go with the \$480.00. Extensive discussion was held, initiated by Chuck regarding whether door hangers would accommodate the text if we did not use the two holes punched as done previously.
Moved and **seconded** by Jacqueline & Robert S. respectively.
Amendment: Based on a review of what the final product looks like, it would be approved **moved** by Chuck, **seconded** by Bob; **3 abstentions:** Ellen, Cathy & Marcia; **passed.**
Motion as Amended: **Moved** by Jacqueline; **seconded** by Robert S. **15 yes; 2 no:** Marcia & Philip; **4 abstentions:** Gail, Cathy, Ellen & Stella; **1 ineligible:** Jamie; **motion passed as amended.** (*Stephanie was briefly out of meeting.*)

Reports of Committees **(Updates, Discussion & Possible Action with possible CIS and/or letters)**

- 9. Emergency Preparedness: Chuck Maginnis, Chair:** The March 18, 2020 EP meeting was cancelled.
- Chuck sent everyone the verbiage from Commander Hogan for a letter to present to the construction people.
 - Jarrett Thompson was working on parking signs.
 - Marvin Yertz from Casiano expressed great concern about Conservancy Land below Casiano.
 - Next meeting will be hopefully May 20th, 3rd Wednesday in May.
- 10. Planning & Land Use: Bob Schlesinger, Chair; Stephanie Savage, Vice Chair:** The PLU Committee met on Tuesday March 10th @ AJU. Bob Schlesinger commended Mindy Mann & Garrett Carlson for landscaping at the Mulholland & Benedict Canyon entrance. We plan for a PLU meeting on 21st of this month. Stephanie related that everything from the last meeting was continued. Bob added that because of this and the number of projects before us, we have a backlog and may need to have more than one meeting/month, to get caught up.
- 11. ByLaws: Larry Leisten, Chair:** On March 6, 2020 the Bylaws Committee met jointly with Executive Committee prior to the shelter at home. Larry noted that DONE/EmpowerLA and City Clerk have not yet provided guidance on upcoming election and submittal of bylaws and does not see us moving forward with the bylaws until word from city. He'd work on Standing Rules in the meantime. **Larry gave detailed report of what the committee accomplished on March 6, 2020, including but not limited to discussions on:**
- Duty of representatives to provide documentation of appointment or election to the board. Requested language and that it be on group's stationery, be signed by officer with status of BABCNC reps; should describe process by which individual was chosen, add date of selection and term. He noted that this is something some of you have seen in the email Cathy has sent out. The policy is that we not only have a good handle how our non-elected representatives are chosen, but that we ensure the process be democratic – that each member have opportunity to run, and opportunity to vote for the BABCNC either directly (membership vote) or indirectly (by vote of the group's board). We met last year with CM Ryu, and the effort on the table to remove selection and only have publicly elected seats was taken off the table.
- Absences: Current language in bylaws is obligation of the board member to attend at least one meeting per quarter; exclusive of that, if alternate attends, that's not an absence, and if an excused absence, that doesn't count. It is important to define excused absence & can do so in standing rules.
- Vacancies: Current language authorizes president to nominate; can change to any member can nominate.
- Additional officer of Vice President, each with equal status. He was surprised to find that VP has supervisory status over all committees; he'd remove that and have language which splits duties.
- Obligation of board to hold at least one of its meetings at a location on the other end of the territory; preferably more than one of our meetings somewhere in the eastern portion east of Beverly Glen.
- Anyone with questions can email Larry.
- 12. Outreach: Ellen Evans, Chair:** Ellen has put out a couple more newsletters. A lot of the function of outreach is to amplify City and County public health messages, which she has been doing.
- 13. Traffic: Irene Sandler, Chair** related that she had asked Robin to send out a message to the board as the East Valley project is now getting radar for pipelines under Van Nuys Blvd. Her reaction was that if they are doing this on Van Nuys, if they plan to continue this project to our area, they'll have to do the same thing. Irene believes they haven't done all their environmental; it's very hard to get a handle on their timeline. Irene is concerned as there are 42 pipelines under Sepulveda Boulevard and would like the board to keep informed. Irene noted that the Bel Air Association had a very lively meeting concerning cross-mountain transportation through the hills of Bel Air and our hills. Shawn related that they had a teleconference call a couple of weeks ago with goal to educate and get a handle on interest. They'll follow up with a newsletter for everyone between Sunset & Mulholland and Sepulveda & Beverly Glen. *(Bob asked him to include Benedict.)*

Shawn noted that Sherman Oaks presented concern with the above-grade option that only runs through Sherman Oaks, not Sepulveda, and that Bel Air is concerned about undergrounding aspects, impacts, self-service easements, stability, the reservoir built in 1926. Shawn noted that Metro is proposing \$17-22 billion for this to run all the way to LAX with an end-date of 2045-2050 and opined that we need mass transportation sooner than that. There is currently a proposal down median of 405 by 2028 Olympics. He noted that BAA is evaluating all the options. There will be impacts. He asked, why not have the impact at much less money, built much faster and can be shared? Irene asked that when he talks about Bel Air, Sherman Oaks, to please put Bel Air Crest on that as Bel Air Crest is absolutely opposed.

14. **Public Works:** Marcia Wilson Hobbs, Chair: No report. Marcia noted that everything is calm in Bel Air; the two major projects, Fire Station and UCLA have been completed.
 - Ellen noted that DWP has suspended the work on Sunset Plaza.
 - Irene asked if there are any new reports with building in Bel Air where there are parking problems or problems with distancing on the construction lots, to which Shawn noted that the workers are not wearing masks, not social distancing; there are hoards of workers walking the streets. Bob noted that the same thing is occurring on Benedict Canyon and that the PLU Committee is addressing this.
15. **Ad Hoc Committee on Environmental:** Mindy Rothstein Mann, Chair: Mindy related that the committee did not meet in March. She'd like to have an informational Zoom meeting and will discuss date with Robin. Mindy related that following our meeting in February, a CIS was sent out on the mountain lion issue; a request came to to Jamie to send a letter to the CA Fish & Game Commission. In terms of environment, Mindy noted how wonderful it is right now that we have the cleanest air.
16. **Report from Budget Advocate – Jacqueline Le Kennedy, Budget Advocate:** Jacqueline noted that we are still planning Budget Day, though it might be cancelled.

New Business

(Updates, Discussion & Possible Action with possible CIS and/or letters)

17. **Presentation** by Ellen Evans Liaison Duties & Responsibilities She'll send presentation per request. What's so important about liaisons? To understand that we have to look at the City Charter, which says NCs should monitor the delivery of city services in their respective areas and have periodic meetings with the responsible officials of city departments, subject to their reasonable availability.

What would happen at these meetings? Information Exchange: Gather information. The department representative would tell you, the liaison, what they think the NC should know and general inquiries can be made to them, e.g., What do I need to know about your department's work in our area? Liaisons could deliver information back to the department person, deliver constituent concerns, and board members would know who the liaisons are to communicate concerns about particular departments. Then the department representative would respond and we (the NC) would give the information back to the constituents. In that way, we could fulfil our Charter obligation. Ellen noted if you find that there is a neighborhood problem that needs to be addressed by a department, you have to be a problem solver, to try to understand why the problem exists, and get groups of people talking as some departments don't talk to one another, and need to in order to solve problems. If the problem is significant, act as an advocate for NC stakeholders.

There are two types of liaisons: DONE-designated liaisons and BABCNC-designated liaisons.

DONE's statement on liaisons: Their website states: "City of Los Angeles elected officials, departments, and even other Neighborhood Councils are frequently looking for an NC contact person to work with on a particular subject matter. During the year, agencies will ask EmpowerLA for Liaison contact information for the purpose of sending invitations to meetings or events of interest, to receive feedback, or simply to request help in sharing information with NCs and stakeholders."

Do these liaisons help to pursue our charter objective? Ellen related that receiving information is great but the description for some of these liaisons, if you read the old information about them, who are tasked with advancing the Mayor's agenda, is not in our charter. We work for our stakeholders. We're not there to advance another department's agenda.

The DONE-designated liaisons that we are supposed to have:

- Animal Services
 - Budget Representative (2)
 - Department of Water and Power
 - Emergency Preparedness
 - Film Liaison
 - Grievance Panel
 - Homelessness
 - Legal
 - Neighborhood Sustainability Alliance
 - Plan Check Alliance
 - Public Works Liaison
 - Purposeful Aging
 - Resiliency
- Ellen proposed that liaisons use this form to report back on any information and we'll create a report for every meeting. <https://forms.gle/jdvjaje87j9qKTPY7>

Ellen continued that in terms of fulfilling our charter obligations, designating our own liaisons is an answer.

BABCNC-designated liaisons:

- DWP – Water
- DWP – Power
- Bureau of Street Services
- LADOT Traffic
- Parking Enforcement
- Code Enforcement & Bureau of Engineering
- Sanitation
- Street Lighting
- Public Works

Ellen asked if we should add LAPD and LAFD or if there are any other departments people think would be useful to have a liaison, to let her know. Ellen noted that you will have to find the department pair. The Council District offices can help keep track of your person and find a new one when they move on, to send yourself a schedule for touching base so you can stay current. Use the same form to generate reports. Ellen would recommend that we take an inventory of what we've got and at a future meeting, if you have ideas, we can assign again.

End of presentation. Robin and members of the meeting thanked Ellen for her hard work.

18. **Motion:** To send a Community Impact Statement encouraging the City to move forward and update the Open Space Element of the General Plan. See attached. The City did a lot of work on it and stopped in 2017. See <https://planning.lacity.org/plans-policies/community-plan-update/general-news-item/ourla2040-open-space-working-group-summary> -- Jamie Hall (**Attachment F**)
Moved by Bob, **seconded** by Cathy Wayne. **21 yes; 0 no; 0 abstained; passed.** (*Jamie was out*)

Agenda Items #19, 20, 21 & 22 from Meeting with NC Presidents (Attachment G)

19. **Motion:** Letter to DONE, All City Council Members, Mike Feuer, Mayor: to allow all neighborhood councils to meet via teleconferencing **Moved** by Robin; **seconded** by Bob; **21/0/0; passed**
20. **Motion:** Letter to DONE, All City Council Members, Mike Feuer, Mayor: to allow neighborhood councils to roll over their funds beyond the \$10,000 restriction into the next fiscal year **Moved** by Robin; **seconded** by Bob; **21/0/0; passed**
[Following the votes on #19 & 20, Glenn Bailey from LANCC gave public comment on the two items, noting that he had sent in public comment via online and on Chat. He noted that there was a motion moved at City Council that covers both of these items, and he asked that we submit a CIS in Council File #20-0416. Robin agreed to do so and expressed our appreciation of his help and support.]
21. **Motion:** Letter to DONE, All City Council Members, Mike Feuer, Mayor: to put on hold approval of discretionary development projects **Moved** by Robin; **seconded** by Chuck; **21/0/0; passed**
22. **Motion:** Letter to DONE, All City Council Members, Mike Feuer, Mayor: to extend deadline for neighborhood councils to finalize and ratify their bylaws changes **Moved** by Robin; **seconded** by Bob; **21/0/0; passed**

Agenda Items #23 & 24 from Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC)

23. **Motion:** Letter to DONE, all City Council Members, Mike Feuer, Mayor: to support repurposing recreation centers into temporary shelters for the un-housed **Moved** by Robin; **seconded** by Bob; **21/0/0; passed**
24. **Motion:** Letter to Sheila Kuehl, all county board members, Mike Feuer, all city council members, Mayor: to consider using county parking lots as a place to set up appropriately-distanced living for those who find to comfort staying in tents **Moved** by Robin; **seconded** by Bob. Irene noted concern that there are some county lots left over from work on the 405; she would not want a problem for high fire in the pass; if there is a county lot that's safe, not in the high fire areas, she would prefer to put that into the motion.
10 Yes: Robin, Mindy, Maureen, Jason, Jamie, Stephanie, Cathy, Shawn, Ellen, Stella (Heather & Philip left; Jamie was out);
7 No Irene, Gail, Larry, Bob, Nickie, Marcia, Travis;
3 Abstentions: Jacqueline, Robert Ringler, Chuck. Motion passed.
25. Good of the Order & Reports of Board Representatives
- Jamie related that he had been kicked off and couldn't get back on; however, as to the Open Space item we approved, before the shelter at home, he discussed with lead planner to discuss this. He will endeavor to reschedule and see about doing this on Zoom. If interested, contact Jamie offline to discuss where are you at with the Open Space element, ... how are you implementing the OS Element into the Hollywood Community Plan.
- Jamie noted that Center for Biological Diversity Staff Attorney, JP Rose, has been following our support of CM Koretz's wildlife corridor efforts; and requests NC send a letter to Fish and Game Commission supporting Mountain Lion population as a threatened species. If your HOAs want to do that, he'll send the information. If BCA and other HOAs want to write a letter that would be fantastic. Need to send this today.
26. Adjournment: Moved by Gail, seconded and meeting adjourned at 1:32pm. Robin expressed he wish that for those celebrating, have the happiest holiday and value each and every second we have with those we love.

Next Board Meeting TBD

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