



MINUTES
Virtual Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Board Meeting on Zoom
Wednesday June 24, 2020 7:00pm – 9:00pm

Present: 24 (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.</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 is 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
Casiano Estates Association		
<i>Robert Garfield, DDS</i>	X	

Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts <i>(Alternate is Rob Farber)</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>(Alternates: Anne Alexander, Kris Le Fan)</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	
<i>Shawn Bayliss</i>	X	
Member-at-Large / Youth Seat		
<i>Philip Enderwood</i>	X	

North of Sunset District (Alternates: Patricia Murphy & Stella Grey)		
<i>Ellen Evans</i>	X	
<i>Yves Mieszala</i>	X	
Residents of Beverly Glen (RoBG)		
<i>Robert A. Ringler</i>	X	
<i>Dan Palmer</i>		X
Total:	24	8

1. Call to Order & Roll Call (Quorum 15)

Robin Greenberg called the meeting to order at 7:03p.m. Jacqueline called the roll with 22 present initially, followed by two for a total of 24 present and 8 absent.

2. Motion: Approval of June 24, 2020 AGENDA (per Bylaws, Article VIII, Section 2)

Moved by Robert S.; **seconded** by Marcia; **22/0/0; approved**

3. Motion: Approval of May 22, 2020 Meeting MINUTES (**Attachment A**)

Moved by Robert R.; **seconded** by Marcia; **19/0/3** abstentions: Don, Ellen & Cathy; **approved**

4. Public Comments:

Terry Krekorian, M.D. introduced himself; he lives here and is building a home on Stradella.

Steven Weinberg introduced himself as a resident of Coldwater Canyon for two decades, greatly concerned about impending construction of two hotel-sized residences by Mohammed Hadid. On behalf of Coldwater Canyon Residents, they would like council oversight, to work with city officials, to provide public comment on the developments.

Hannah Murphy introduced herself as a volunteer with Nithya Raman campaign for City Council CD4.

Representatives of Elected Officials & City Agencies

Commanding Officer of West Area, Captain Jonathan Tom, West Los Angeles Community Police Station

- Questions were sent to Captain Tom, which he answered, including but not limited to impacts of the budget cuts on LAPD and WLA station. He noted that the City’s Budget & Finance Committee was presented with a document by Chief Legislative Analyst and Chief Administrative Officer (sent to the board by Robert Ringler) and the committee agreed to 7 of 12 recommended reductions of up to 150 million dollars to be cut from the LAPD budget. He listed the recommended reductions and noted that these will have impacts including but not limited to reduced deployment of 350 sworn positions by June 2021. http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-0692_rpt_CLA_06-19-2020.pdf

Senior Lead Officer, Pete Ojeda, West Los Angeles Community Police Station

- Senior Lead Officer, Pete Ojeda, replacing SLO Chris Ragsdale, introduced himself. He noted that we are looking good on year-to-date total crime stats, down on all but GTA – grand theft auto.

- Officer Ojeda answered some of the questions sent to Captain Tom in advance of the meeting including but not limited to what the police are doing about dangerous homeless encamped in the hills, walkways and sidewalks, to which he noted that homelessness is a very big hot topic issue in the city of Los Angeles, and is not a crime, but if there were a crime to be handled, they would take care of it. The LAPD has outreach services, they are meeting the people who are homeless, offering them mental health, medical health services and housing; housing mostly through LAHSA, Los Angeles Housing Services Authority. This entails using a CARE Team, who goes out to meet with them and tries to provide assistance. He noted that progress is at a standstill due to COVID.

Don Loze asked about speeding in the canyons nights and weekends, e.g., road racers/high speed exhibitionists, about noise modified mufflers and enforcement of Hillside Construction Regulation (HCR) conditions. Officer Ojeda noted that they have been able to stop, ticket and identify the racers on canyon roads. As to hillside construction regulations (HCR) Officer Ojeda noted that this is mostly enforced by LADBS; they can disseminate flyers to their officers.

Deputy Chief Armando Hogan, LAFD related that priorities of West Bureau include: 1) Brush Clearance program; now have two dozers, suppression repair; 2) Alert Wildfire Camera Program with cameras in an elevated position; to have assistance of CERT and community. He's doing a survey regarding placement of cameras; would start with location of bad cell service. 3) Patrols July 1st through 4th. They will have community patrol, e.g., CERT folks out and use their brush control. He'll increase deployment on high fire days.

- He is taking recommendations for locations where you believe cameras (Alert Wildfire) would assist with pre fire monitoring. He welcomes any and all suggestions.

- Asked how much does the LAFD depend on LAPD for hillside and structural fires in general, and for planned fires during civil unrest from vandals starting the fires, for the firemen's safety, Chief Hogan noted that the LAFD partners with LAPD; referring to Captain Tom and SLO Ojeda. During periods of unrest, they have Rescue Taskforces. LAPD is with LAFD for possible evacuation. They work in tandem with Arson folks.

Additional Q&A to above speakers:

Asked how they will make determination as to LAPD cuts of 350 officers, will it be a fair process? Captain Tom noted that as officers quit they will not be replaced. They won't be hiring following attrition.

Cathy Wayne asked both Captain Hogan and Captain Tom how LAPD & LAFD working to evaluate and look after encampments in fire season. Captain Tom: They try to lead with services. Someone in the hillside would have to call and let them know where an encampment is; if they get a phone call, they'll go out and try to contact people; offer services, cite people cooking, however noted that "it is very limited in terms of what we are allowed to do."

Chief Hogan noted that they don't know where those encampments are. He strongly encourages going to LAFD.org, <https://www.lafd.org/> -- fire prevention/brush <https://www.lafd.org/fire-prevention/brush>, and drop down box. Give a general idea of homeless encampments, notifications are made; they will go. They also use drones for fire prevention; looking for embers especially in the HFSZ. Cathy noted our concern that encampments are found after fires begin, concerning within the hillsides.

Asked, what is the current morale at the LAPD & what can we expect as to reduced response times in WLA, Captain Tom noted this is the most difficult time in his career as an officer, and with the negative portrayals of the police and discussion of cutting the budget, morale is down. Expressions of support from the community helps their morale, e.g., Brentwood and Bel Air contributed to lunch by John Hu food truck, and they received cards. These kinds of expressions help morale.

Nickie thanked Captain Tom and Chief Hogan and asked regarding cut in budget, plan to substitute other workers, who also need to be paid and trained to do what the police are already doing. She noted the great community policing at the WLA station. Captain Tom recommends not throwing away the shoes you are wearing until you buy new ones; if there's a grand plan, have the new system in place before dismantling the system in place now. Robin thanked our guest speakers who came tonight. Robert noted that C-PAB's Nickie Segal & Company got the food for the station provided food.

Janet Turner, Representative for Congressman Ted Lieu, 33rd Congressional District related that WLA VA Federal has 31 tents on Federal. She noted that Michele Bisnoff talks to them; that there is resistance to services; 50% of the vets have warmed up to the VA and put them up in shelters. The Bridge Home did open but had to cut from 100 to 50. Larry Leisten will email Janet.

County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's Representatives, Erin Seinfeld & Zachary Gaidzik noted that they are available if we anything from them. Zac is the Bel Air Representative.

Madelyn Taras, Representative for Council Member David Ryu, CD4: Madelyn noted an effort to make Slow Streets permanent.

Jarrett Thompson, Representative for Council Member Paul Koretz, CD5: Jarrett informed attendees section of Sepulveda from Getty Center Drive to Mountaingate would be resurfaced beginning July 28. Bel-Air Crested residents would be assured access during project. Larry asked Jarrett if he would be providing official notice to inform public & cycling community. Jarrett responded he would get notice out shortly.

- Jarrett thanked SLO Ojeda; he gets texts almost nightly re speeders and they are very aware of it. Asked about firecrackers, Jarrett noted that they are working with LAPD, LAFD & County: "Fireworks are a 911 call in the hillsides."

- Don Loze representing BCA thanked Jarrett Thompson and Daniel Skolnick from CD5 regarding the help they gave with regard to a person grading without permits.

5. **President's Report** – Robin Greenberg noted recent passing of Gary's wife Nancy & Nickie's husband, Larry.

6. **Vice President's Report** – Nickie Miner thanked us for recognizing her husband, Larry.

7. **Secretary's Report** – Robert Ringler: No report

8. **Treasurer's Report** – Jacqueline Le Kennedy **(Update, Discussion & Possible Action)**

a) Update/Report from Treasurer

b) **Motion:** Approve May 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (**Attachment B**) **Moved** by Jacqueline; **seconded** by Robert; **21 yes; 1 no** Philip; **1 abstention** Larry; **8 absent; 1 ineligible** Bob G.; **approved**

Reports of Committees **(Discussion & Possible Action, Letter &/or CIS Submission)**

9. Budget & Finance Committee – **Jacqueline Kennedy, Chair** + *Robin Greenberg, Heather Roy, Cathy Wayne, Kristie Holmes, Philip Enderwood & Robinson Farber*

a. Update/Report by Chair: The B&F Committee met on Thursday June 18, 2020 on Zoom and recommends the BABCNC Board take the following action:

b. Motion: Approval of the 2020-2021 Administrative Budget Packet (Attachment C)

Moved by Jacqueline; **seconded** by Marcia; **19 yes; 1 no** Philip; **3 abstentions** Irene, Nickie & Yves; **8 absent; 1 ineligible** Bob G.; **approved**

10. **Traffic Committee – Irene Sandler, Chair** + *Robin Greenberg, Larry Leisten, Maureen Smith, André Stojka, Wendy Morris, Gail Sroloff, Maureen Levinson, Leslie Weisberg, Patricia Templeton, Patricia Murphy, Joyce Paige & Pamela Pierson, M.D.*

a. Update/Report by Chair: The Traffic Committee met on Tuesday June 9, 2020 on Zoom and recommends that the BABCNC Board take the following action:

Irene gave report on the committee meeting, noting that Tim Fremaux from LADOT was asked about wheelies & screaming traffic. One individual would like to think about using the median to force traffic to go around – Robert noted this is a creative idea which forms a curvature in the road and is probably feasible traffic calming. Irene would like to hear from LAFD on this idea.

c. Possible Motion on FAA: Prepare a joint letter with the various NCs south of the 101 in support of the 16 Task Force Recommendations and seeking urgency in getting short-term actions implemented immediately, as recommended by Encino Neighborhood Council Airport Committee (**Attachment D**) **DEFERRED**

- Wendy Morris explained reasons why there would be no motion on this today.

11. **Outreach Committee – Ellen Evans, Chair** + *Robin Greenberg, Nickie Miner, Maureen Smith, André Stojka*

a. Update/Report by Chair: The Outreach Committee met on 05/18/2020, and the following two items were agendized but not heard by the committee:

- Ellen noted there will be a meeting on July 13th and a blood drive at Tree People. Ellen gave update noting increased Mailchimp subscriptions since mailer was sent, a greater number of views of our website, FB, Nextdoor, Twitter, etc. She asked for additional board member bios for the website and content for newsletters, particularly from committees.

Two Possible Motions: (1) Create 200 custom logo 2-ply cotton washable masks with logo from Flairwear for \$1,990 + 9.5% tax @ \$180.50, free shipping = **\$2,080.50 (Attachment E)** (2) Create 100 custom logo neck gaiters for \$1,295 + \$135.33 tax, \$90.24 shipping = **\$1,520.57 (Attachment F)**

New Motion: Ellen has found 2-ply cotton stretch masks that could be used as swag & for upcoming blood drive @ Tree People priced @ 100 for \$844.75 100 or 200 for \$1,689.50 Ellen **moved** & Cathy **seconded**. Discussion was held with Robert R., Philip, Larry and Nickie not in favor; Philip felt it was a poor use of taxpayer funds. Travis asked how this fits into budget for year. Jacqueline noted that next fiscal year budget for Outreach is \$2,250. Irene recommended not spend now; Nickie recommended shopping and re-thinking this.

Moved by Ellen; **seconded** by Cathy; **8 yes; 14 no; 1 abstention** Yves; **8 absent; 1 ineligible** Bob G; **failed**.

12. Reports from Other Committees

- **Bylaws, Rules and Elections Committee** – Larry Leisten, Chair reported since last meeting, BONC approved governmental structural changes, including a 33rd seat for the board, for North of Sunset District (NOS), and conversion of one NOS District to DSPNA and one Bel Air District seat to BAA. He noted that language from Shawn Bayliss re equity may have been a factor. He is awaiting formal revisions to be received from DONE. He mentioned a citywide boilerplate for all NCs regarding censure.
- **Emergency Preparedness Committee** – Chuck Maginnis, Chair: No report. No meeting July 15th
- **Planning and Land Use Committee** – Robert Schlesinger, Chair & Stephanie Savage, Vice Chair No meeting in June. Bob read his statement regarding need to only speak on behalf of the BABCNC or its PLU Committee with approval from same. Stephanie noted Next PLU Committee meeting will be 7/14.
- **Public Works and Telecommunications Committee** – Marcia Wilson Hobbs, Chair: No report
- **Ad-Hoc Cmte. on Environmental Issues** – Mindy Rothstein Mann, Chair: Absent
- **Ad Hoc Cmte. on Home Sharing & Party House Ordinance Enforcement** – Evans & Savage: No report

New Business: (Discussion & Possible Action, Letter &/or CIS Submission)

13. **Motion:** To create an Ad-Hoc Committee regarding Liaison Program – Evans: **Volunteer:** Marcia Hobbs
14. **Motion:** To create an Ad-Hoc Committee regarding Continuing Teleconference Meetings after Safer-At-Home Order. This is to encourage leaders to not disband but retain option for teleconference meetings to participate in the public process. **Volunteers:** Nickie (*Jamie was absent but had proposed this.*)
15. **Appointment of Alternate for the CLA Housing Update Element Task Force** Cathy Wayne has been appointed to the City of Los Angeles Housing Update Element Task Force for 2021-2029: **No volunteers**
16. **Update, Report & Possible Motion:** To ratify two letters submitted by Robin Greenberg to the Mayor, City Council & to Budget Proposal Fiscal Year 2020-2021 Council File #20-0600 as Communications from the Public prior to Budget & Finance Committee meeting of May 11, 2020 on the Proposed Emergency Budget and submit CISs to the respective council files:
- Letter 1 Support Restoring Emergency Budget Funding for Wildlife Connectivity Project (Attachment G)**
Wildlife Corridor / Santa Monica Mountains (Hillside Ordinance Zone)
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=14-0518> &
- Letter 2 Support Councilmember Paul Koretz’s Effort to Mitigate Climate Crisis (Attachment H)**
COVID-19 Pandemic / Emergency Management Department (EMD) / List of Essential Emergency City Services / Greenhouse Gas and Toxic Emission Reduction
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0482>
Budget Proposal Fiscal Year 2020-21
<https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0600>
- Moved** by Philip; **seconded** by Marcia; **17/0/1;** Yves **approved**

17. Discussion & Possible Motion: To support the Building Permit Appeals for 10701 Bellagio Rd., and 627 Carcassonne Rd., and reject LADBS's stated position that a Lot Line Adjustment is considered a Parcel Map, therefore allowing the grade alterations without accounting for height. This new interpretation from LADBS runs contrary to the Los Angeles Planning Code and California Subdivision Map Act. To request the City Attorney, Council Office, and Planning Department step in to address this misinterpretation before further permanent damage is done to our hillsides. (**Attachment I**) **DEFERRED**

18. Los Angeles Police Department Budget Cut / Disadvantaged and Communities of Color Reinvestment

Council File: <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0692>

Update: **Passed in City Council 06/16/2020 11 yes; 3 no;** Buscaino CD15, Koretz CD5 & Lee CD12; **1 absent**

i. Discussion & Possible Motion: To take a position on Council File 20-0692 to support or not support the motion

(**Attachment J**) **Full Motion:** http://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2020/20-0692_mot_06-03-2020.pdf

Moved by Chuck; **seconded** by Bob; Discussion began with Chuck who cited public safety and “Resiliency.”

Motion: To oppose the motion by LA City Councilmembers Nury Martinez, Herb J. Wesson, Jr., Curren Price and Monica Rodriguez that the City Council instruct the City Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst, with assistance from the Mayor, to work to identify at least \$100 -\$150 million of cuts from Los Angeles Police Dept's budget. And that the City Council instruct City Administrative Officer and Chief Legislative Analyst to provide recommendations on reinvesting these funds back into disadvantaged communities and communities of color.

Moved by Chuck; **Seconded** by Robert R.; Discussion was held beginning with Philip who opined that service of LAPD is paramount to the safety of our community. Heather said she does not believe we have the information we need to determine how the proposed cuts would affect policing. Yves opined that defunding police is idiotic.

Public Comment was given by Maureen Levinson who opined that this was a knee-jerk reaction; she cited being an EMT; as a CPAB member she has learned a lot of what the LAPD does. She would ask that you see their record including their partnerships with non-officers to provide services to those in need, and on de-escalation techniques. She asks that people slow down and debate it before making decisions.

Board discussion resumed. Robert Ringler cited UCLA's Luskin study. Travis Longcore opined that we need serious rethinking of how we do things. Bob noted that LAPD officers will be hired in other areas at \$90,000 versus \$60,000. Heather pointed out that we were running out of discussion time, and that it is important to continue the discussion as long as needed, and asked if we could make a motion for more time to talk about this. Marcia noted that Police have interceded in her community in many instances. LA Times has taken a negative position. Philip expressed having concerns about how cuts will impact response times. Jacqueline suggested looking at the numbers and expects that the politicians will shuffle funds. Cathy Wayne would like to ask City Council for a list of what they are going to use the funds for rather than blanket approval...Don noted that we don't we don't have a plan, asked, what is the complementary program? He noted that Paul Koretz has taken a position against this.

Public Comment Email from former board member, Michael Kemp: Robin read an email sent to her by Mike Kemp which related his opposition to this motion.

Heather expressed that we are overlooking possible positive effects of reallocating resources including addressing issues that we are regularly concerned about. She also said it's a mistake to ignore the fact that large numbers of people are protesting based on their concerns and experiences and not being treated fairly.

16 yes; 6 no: Travis, Kristie, Stephanie, Cathy, Heather & Ellen **1 abstention** from André (who said his community asked him not to vote in favor or opposition.) (*Shawn left the meeting prior to the vote.*) **Motion to oppose passed**

ii. Motion: To oppose recommendation by some NCs that each of the 99 neighborhood councils to be given \$100,000 of that 100-to-150 million dollars, seen in Council File# 20-0692, so they can distribute more funds to disadvantaged communities and communities of color in the form of Neighborhood Purpose Grants & Community Improvement Projects, etc. The first of several CISs on this is by Greater Cypress Park NC (**Attachment K**) http://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2020/20-0692_CIS_06092020112136_06-09-2020.pdf
Moved by Chuck; **seconded** by Cathy; **19 yes; 0 no; 1 abstention:** Yves. **Motion to oppose passed**

AGENDA ITEMS #19-22 DEFERRED DUE TO TIME CONSTRAINTS:

19. **Motion:** To restore NC funding in the Mayor's emergency budget to what neighborhood councils had previously received in 2020. <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=20-0600>
20. **Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC) (Discussion & Possible Action, Letter or CIS Submission)**
- **WRAC met on June 17, 2020 and recommended the BABCNC consider the following motions:**
- a) **Possible Motion:** BABCNC insists that Neighborhood Councils are not prohibited from communicating with non-City of Los Angeles government representatives and/or staff not with entities other than those within the City, regarding issues impacting their neighborhoods; and that Neighborhood Councils are free to discuss any issues of local concern. *[Motion passed unanimously in WRAC.]*
- b) **Possible Land Use Motion:** Whereas, the statewide Covid-19 emergency has reduced the action calendar time frame of the California State Legislature, and thus greatly reduced the ability of California's citizens to weigh in on legislation having to do with land use planning;
Whereas the proposed Atkins Housing Package of bills has not been sufficiently vetted for integration with previously approved Regional Housing Needs Assessment legislation, which modernized the methodology for anticipating growth in the state;
Whereas communities continue to urge greater accountability, fairness, transparency, and responsiveness from public officials in the area of land use planning;
Whereas the proposed Atkins Housing Package of bills has *not* been sufficiently vetted for growth induced impacts and substantial hidden state mandated costs upon:
- i. Local General Plans and Community Plans;
 - ii. Communities in environmentally sensitive areas such as High Fire Hazard zones; Coastal zones; Earthquake fault zones and others as listed in the California Environmental Quality Act [CEQA];
 - iii. Traditionally underserved communities and the impact on displacement in those areas;
 - iv. Critical local infrastructures for the public health, welfare and safety;
- ___NC recommends a postponement of action on this suite of housing bills until such time as the previously enacted 2018 and 2019 housing legislation has been given a chance to increase housing production as promised. *[This motion passed unanimously in WRAC, after substantive discussion and some amendment.]*
- c) **WRAC membership dues discussion and possible vote:**
Possible Motion: Resolved that each member organization contribute \$250 annually to cover WRAC expenses, including website design and hosting, event fees and other incidental operating expenses.
[This motion passed unanimously after discussion in WRAC. The Chair will discuss NC payment with Raquel Beltran in an upcoming call (and beyond) in order to ensure that NCs can pay dues to their regional alliance. If need be, NCs will be asked to send a letter in support.]
21. Reports from Board Members & Representatives: None
22. Good of the Order: None
23. Adjournment: Moved by Robin, seconded by Larry, and the meeting adjourned at **9:33pm**
Next Board Meeting Wednesday July 22, 2020 @ 7:00pm