



Building A Better Community



Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Monthly Board Meeting (Virtual)

Wednesday February 23, 2022 7:00 P.M.

MINUTES

NAME	BOARD SEAT	Present	Absent
Barondes, Asher	At-Large Youth Rep (2023) <i>(arr. 8:30 P.M.)</i>	X	
Bayliss, Shawn	Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts (2023)	X	
Cobb, Bradford	North of Sunset District (2023) <i>(as of 01/26/22)</i>	X	
Evans, Ellen	Community Interest At-Large (2023)	X	
Garfield, DDS, Robert	Casiano Estates Association	X	
Goodman, MD, Mark	Bel-Air District (2023)	X	
Greenberg, Robin	Bel Air Hills Association	X	
Hall, Jamie	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Holmes, Kristie	Public Educational Institutions (2023)	X	
Kadin, David Scott	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Kennedy, Jacqueline Le	Faith-Based Institutions (2023)		X
Kwan, Robert (Bobby)	Laurel Canyon Association <i>(as of 01/26/22)</i>	X	
Levotman, Vadim	Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Assn.	X	
Longcore, Travis	Custodian of Open Space (2023)	X	
Loze, Donald	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Mann, Mindy Rothstein	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2023)	X	
Miner, Nickie	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Morris, Wendy	Bel Air Hills Association	X	
Murphy, Patricia	North of Sunset District (2023)		X
Palmer, Dan	Residents of Beverly Glen	X	
Prothro, Steven	Private K-6 Schools (2023)	X	
Ringler, Robert	Residents of Beverly Glen		X
Sandler, Irene	Bel Air Crest Master Association	X	
Savage, Stephanie	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Schlesinger, Robert	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Spradlin, Jason	Holmby Hills HOA		X
Sroloff, Gail	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2023)	X	
Steele, Tim	Bel Air Glen District (2023)	X	
Stojka, André	Bel Air Ridge HOA	X	
M. Levinson for Tanner	Bel-Air Association	X	
Wayne, Cathy	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Weinberg, Steven	Franklin-Coldwater District (2023)	X	
Wimbish, Jon	Private 7-12 Schools (2023)	X	
Total:		29	4

Chair Longcore called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. He announced that Blair Tanner has designated Maureen Levinson his alternate for the Bel Air Association; she has done all her trainings. He noted that every position on the Board can designate an alternate. He called the roll with 25 people present initially; Member Sandler arrived by 7:10 P.M., followed by Members Loze and Holmes shortly thereafter, and Member Palmer by 7:50 P.M., for a total of 29 present. *Members Bayliss & Hall reported that they would be recusing themselves from item #11 and #13 respectively.*

1. The agenda was approved unanimously upon a motion by Savage.
2. The January 26, 2022 meeting minutes (Attachment A) were approved as moved by Miner.

3. **General Public Comment**

Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin representing the 44th District since 2014 noted that she had previously served on the City Council of Thousand Oaks for 10 years. Since redistricting, she has gained Bel Air to Malibu and now represents this district. She has just been appointed Chair of the Committee on Revenue and Taxation.

Stephanie Clements introduced herself as a candidate for LA City Controller, with 25 years of work in the City. www.clements4controller.com info@clements4controller.com

4. **Comments of Representatives of Elected Officials & City Agencies**

Vishesh Anand, New West Area Rep from the Mayor's Office Vishesh.anand@lacity.org

Vishesh introduced himself, noting that he has spoken with President Longcore. He has two meetings at this time monthly and will submit written reports prior to meetings in the future.

The LA City Youth Council is accepting applications; www.youthcouncil.lacity.org.

Free tax prep services for eligible individuals for the 6th year now www.freetaxprepla.com

AAPI LA podcast faces challenges of Asian & Pacific Islander people in LA, especially on hate crimes www.Aapila.org

Minimum wage raised from \$15.00 to go up in July 1, 2022, will be \$16.04 and will continue to increase according to the Consumer Price Index year after year.

City Council is taking up ending oil and gas drilling in the city, with the City Attorney and Planning drafting an ordinance, which puts us close to the city's Green New Deal goals.

Mehmet Berker, Field Deputy for Council District 4 mehmet.berker@lacity.org Mashael Majid was also present. Mehmet reported that Rachel Fox has left for the CAO's office; CD4 will hire a District Director; wishing Rachel the best. He is still in the same role.

New Street Sweeping Schedule – Check <https://streetsla.lacity.org/> He'll send pdf to Travis.

Lead Remediation Program is restarting for lead-based paint. Call 213-808-8935 or see:

<https://housing.lacity.org/residents/keeping-your-home-safe-from-lead-based-paint-hazards>

Metro Service: Some changes started on 02-20 that are temporary in nature.

They wrote a letter to the Planning Commission about the Marlay project, highlighting concerns and asking that they grant the appeal.

Jarrett Thompson, Field Deputy for Council District 5 jarrett.thompson@lacity.org

Jarrett reported speeding issues and accidents in the canyons, a trailer on Deep Canyon today and they're trying to get delineators in certain locations.

The hump program has been re-staffed and should reopen in the spring. If interested in certain locations, reach out to him and he'll walk you through the process.

Due to a change in law last year, speeds were lowered in 177 miles of roadways, some in canyons. Councilmember Koretz added \$65,000 for Police Divisions for overtime pay.

Planning released notice on merging Draft Ridgeline Ordinance & Draft Wildlife Pilot Study.

LA Marathon is on taking place on March 20th.

Rachel Sherrell Office of Supervisor Kuehl rsherrell@bos.lacounty.gov

The County of LA is issuing a Revised Health Officer Order (HOO) going into effect Friday midnight to allow businesses that choose to verify vaccination status in employees and customers and those vaccinated will be able to be mask free in their establishments.

Octaviano Rios, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment octaviano.rios@lacity.org
NC Core Institute They have a new webpage to house the highly-recommended trainings,
with pre-recorded sessions and links including tomorrow's training on guidelines for hosting
a candidate forum <https://empowerla.org/workshops-trainings/>
09/24/2022: Congress of Neighborhoods

ABLE: Octaviano advised the Board to complete the training and notify the department on
how you consider responding to board members who have not completed it. Do not take
action against board members until the department sends instructions. They are discussing it
with the City Attorney's office. Bylaws amendments deadline is April 1st.

New City District maps. See link in Feb monthly profile for the new web app.

2023 NC elections. They'll host a town hall to develop their strategy as a department and will
have staff like himself work with our Outreach Committee, to discuss our outreach strategies
to see how they as a department can provide support to us as a NC.

Reports of Officers

5. President – Travis Longcore

Motion to update list of authorized submitters for Community Impact Statements and remove Larry
Leisten as an authorized user of the CIS submission system was moved by Wayne and passed.

Openings on Committees: Longcore encouraged participation in committees; we have openings on
the Bylaws, Rules & Elections Committee, the Outreach Committee and the Public Works &
Telecommunications Committee. For the latter, you could also be Chair. Let him know your interest.

6. Vice President – Operations – Robin Greenberg noted next week's committees meet: Emergency
Preparedness Committee Tuesday 7:00 P.M. and Ad Hoc LADBS Committee on Wednesday 4:00 P.M.

7. Vice President – Legislative Affairs – Jamie Hall reported that 1) he spoke to City Council on this
board's opinion regarding Paul Koretz's motion to adopt an SB9 implementation memo and an SB9
implementation ordinance. The Planning Department is rolling this out, notwithstanding that we do
not yet have the ordinance. 2) He spoke on "Own a Piece of LA" which the Board voted for last
month. That unanimously passed. He'll speak on it again at Council.

8. Secretary – Nickie Miner: No report.

9. Treasurer – Vadim Levotman *shared news that Putin started to bomb Kiev in the past 15 minutes.*
He noted that in December we received a letter from the State Controller's office that they are holding
\$1,400.45 of our funds. After looking into it, we had two bank account at Wells Fargo Bank, one
savings account opened in July 2004 and a checking account opened December 29, 2015. He doesn't
know why they were opened. This information has been given to the City Clerk, who will try to
obtain the funds from the State Controller's office. Once obtained, they will be added to our budget.

Motion to approve the January 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (Attachment B) **passed** as
moved by Levotman, by a vote of 27 yeses; 0 noes; 0 abstentions; 1 ineligible (Youth) and 5 absent.

Motion to approve the updated Inventory Log (Attachment C) **passed** as moved by Levotman, by a
vote of 27 yeses; 0 noes; 0 abstentions; 1 ineligible (Youth) and 5 absent.

Reports of Standing Committees

Planning & Land Use

Robert Schlesinger, Chair & Stephanie Savage, Vice Chair

10. Report of the Planning & Land Use Committee

Dept. of City Planning Fee Schedule adopted 12/27/2021

<https://planning.lacity.org/development-services/comprehensive-fee-update>

Vice Chair Savage noted that this is a reminder to take a look at the new fee schedule from Planning.

11. ZA-2020-5987-ZV, ENV-2016-4327-MND (ND) - 1830 Blue Heights 90069

Project Description: Zone variance to allow total non-exempt grading of 5,989 cubic yards (before expansion), in lieu of a maximum 2100 cubic yards in the RE11-1-HCR zone, on a substandard hillside limited street

Applicant: Avi Lerner [A&T Development LLC]

Representatives: Chris Parker [Pacific Crest Consultants]

Stacey Brenner [Brenner Consulting Group]

<https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/search/encoded/MjQxMDk30>

Motion That BABCNC recommend denial of this project because it fails to comply with CEQA on the basis of impacts to removal of sensitive tree species, adverse impacts on evacuation and emergency vehicle access during and after construction, impacts to wildlife connectivity based on wildlife blocks mapped by the MRCA, findings for reduction in side yard setback, location on a private street and associated easement issues, and increased runoff, site drainage and resulting slope instability, and because the project does not comply with limit on grading under the Baseline Hillside Ordinance, and because the lack of required findings for deviation from code such as excess grading and reduced side yard setback cannot be made given the out-of-scale character of the residence (3–4 times larger than surrounding homes) and adverse impacts arising therefrom including the house RFA has actually been reduced in size based on the minimal change in footprint from the original proposal, the related grading has been reduced by 1/3 and RFA includes areas that do not qualify as basement.

Vice Chair Savage introduced and moved this motion by the Committee. Chris Parker presented briefly. He noted that he raised his hand on multiple occasions and was not called upon to answer the committee's issues at the PLU meeting. He is here tonight to answer questions. No questions were asked. Public hearing was opened, and was closed when no one called in to speak. Member Hall spoke in favor of the motion. Vice Chair Savage noted that there is a hearing on March 22nd.

Amendment: To include providing a letter based on these issues in the motion moved by Savage.

Motion as amended passed as moved by Schlesinger, with 26 yeses; 0 noes; and 2 abstentions by Goodman and Longcore. 1 recusal: Bayliss. [Dan Palmer was present at 7:50 P.M.]

12. ZA-2021-7856-ZV- 9422 W. Sierra Mar 90069

Project Description: Proposed construction of a 780 sq ft addition, a retaining wall and the additional parking space in the side yard to comply with parking for addition.

Applicant: Thomas Buttgenbach

Representative: John / Chloe Parker [Pacific Crest Consultants]

<https://planning.lacity.org/pdiscaseinfo/search/encoded/MjUwOTA30>

Motion: That BABCNC support the requested development.

Vice Chair Savage introduced this item. Member Evans spoke for the motion as this is in her community. She noted that this is just the matter of a parking space and they support it. Motion **passed** by 27 yeses; 0 noes; and 2 abstentions by Schlesinger & Longcore.

13. 1501 Marlay Drive

Motion: That BABCNC support the Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association (DSPNA), Stahl Family and Neighbor appeals to Zoning Administrator's Determination on CEQA exemption and over-height retaining walls was moved by Savage. Member Evans provided an update, noting that the Planning Department asked for a continuance, the hearing was yesterday, so they could do more studies. She noted that it seems to indicate a CEQA exemption was not appropriate, and that the Council District put in a terrific letter of support. She hopes the NC supports this as well. She noted that this is on the Area Planning Commission agenda and seems possible to do a CIS on this.

Amendment to not only support but file a CIS moved by Evans; seconded; 28 yeses; 0 noes; 1 abstention by Longcore; Member Hall had recused himself. The motion **passed**.

Outreach Committee
Robin Greenberg, Chair

14. Report of the Outreach Committee: Chair Greenberg congratulated Mr. Stojka on the newsletter.

15. Website Upgrade

Motion: To approve The Webcorner’s upgrade of the BABCNC website with a setup cost of \$2,500 and a monthly maintenance fee of \$199 (Attachment D). Longcore introduced this and there was no public comment. Questions were asked and answered. Levinson suggested that each HOA submit a beauty shot of their own area and Stojka welcomed photos. Moved by Greenberg and the Outreach Committee, and **passed** by 28 yeses; 0 noes; 0 abstentions; 1 ineligible (Youth) and 4 absent.

16. Pole Banner Permit Processing for February 2023 to February 2024: *Deferred to next fiscal year*

Bylaws, Rules & Elections Committee

Cathy Wayne, Chair

17. Report of the Bylaws, Rules, and Elections Committee

Chair Wayne began by moving to limit discussion on item #18 to 20 minutes. Motion was seconded; Wayne recommended each person have one minute to ask questions. It was noted that this rule takes a 2/3rds vote to adopt. Seven spoke against limiting debate to 20 minutes, 0 abstentions. **Passed**.

18. Bylaws Revision

Board discussion on the proposed Bylaws revisions (Attachment F – redlined version) was led by President Longcore. Longcore thanked Bylaws Chair Wayne for steering the ship and getting everybody engaged in putting this forward. This item will come back next month for a vote.

Traffic Committee

Irene Sandler, Chair

19. Report of the Traffic Committee

Chair Sandler asked that anyone who represents a group that sent a public comment letter in response to the Metro’s Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project please send a copy of that letter to President Longcore so we can keep up with the wishes of our constituents. Sandler noted as to speed law change to prevent more accidents, there is a need for enforcement. She hasn’t had a meeting but had encouraged her group to attend the recent meeting on the Mission Canyon Park item below on our agenda. She asked that members send their traffic issues to her.

Reports of Ad Hoc Committees

Ad Hoc Committee on Home Sharing & Party House Ordinances

Ellen Evans, Chair

20. Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on Home Sharing and Party House Ordinances

Chair Evans gave an update on the Party House Handbook and was commended by the Board for the work she and her committee has done on this.

21. Update of Party House Handbook

The **motion** to approve the revisions to the informational Party House Handbook as a resource for stakeholders to address nuisance issues (Attachment G) **passed** by all 29 present as moved by Evans. Chair Evans encouraged distributing this and putting it on your websites.

Ad Hoc Committee on LADBS Polices

Stella Grey, Chair

22. **Report of the Ad Hoc Committee on LADBS Policies** – Chair Grey was absent

23. **Election of Committee Member**

Stakeholder Steve Ramras was nominated by Member Savage to become member of the LADBS Committee. He was elected by all 29 Board members present and voting.

New Business

24. **Hillside Construction Regulations**

Discussion & Possible Motion: That BABCNC write a letter to its councilmembers urging that they move forward revisions the Hillside Construction Regulations for the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Communities, including the addition of Coldwater Canyon and addressing the unintended consequences of slope banding. (**Attachment H**) moved by Schlesinger; seconded.

Discussion was held including Weinberg offering to provide text and Schlesinger noting that he has a lot of documentation of support from Councilmembers. Also discussed was the possibility that there may be a technical issue behind this not moving forward as Council voted to include Coldwater, e.g., it may not have been registered by the Clerk.

Amy Adelson gave public comment, urging that we concentrate on the expansion of the HCR. She noted that while there are details and tweaks that you want to address in the overall HCR and begged us to push for the expansion. She confirmed that it has been approved by PLUM and City Council but is languishing. She asked that we please urge them to expand it before working on amendments on the original HCR. A vote was taken on the motion which covers revisions to HCR including addition to the Coldwater & addressing consequences of slope banding. Member Miner would like to include Amy in the committee to draft the letter. **Passed by all 28 present and voting.**

25. **Mission Canyon Park MND**

Discussion & Possible Motion to consider taking a position and providing public comment on the Mission Canyon Park project. (**Attachment I**)

<https://www.missioncanyonpark.com/>

Member Sandler introduced and provided background on this item. An initial motion to write a letter opposing the park at the landfill was moved by Member Miner and seconded. Following discussion, Miner withdrew her motion and it was no longer on the table.

A motion to submit a letter that expresses concerns about traffic impacts and potentially traffic issues was then moved by Miner, seconded and **approved unanimously** by all 24 members present and voting. Letter to be drafted by March 7th.

26. **BONC Digital Communications Policy**

Discussion & Possible Motion: Review of draft policy from BONC governing the use of digital communications by Neighborhood Councils. See draft policy here:

- <https://drive.google.com/file/d/1RJknEt6v64EKaxBakDdAv9R2TxI9bRmC/view> (**Attachment J**)

- <https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/GM-Commission-Memo-1.4.2022-Digital-Comm.-Policy.docx-1.pdf> (**Attachment K**)

Motion to create a written document in relation to some of these items that are too controlling was moved by Cathy Wayne and seconded. Motion was **amended** to note that Member Evans will lead that draft and Member Wayne will work with her to echo previous concerns and update them according to the draft. The motion was **approved as amended** by 23 present and voting.

27. **Request for Revisions to SB 330** – This agenda item was skipped as we have learned it is moot.

28. Housing Element Addendum / SB 9 (Atkins) / Adequate Sites for Housing (Council File 21-0002-S186; Koretz)

Motion: That BABCNC support the motion in Council File 21-0002-S186 which seeks to support any Sacramento legislative or administrative action that will allow the City to include SB 9 sites in an addendum to the Housing Element thus allowing for the inclusion of these SB 9 sites in the Adequate Sites for Housing inventory and file a CIS reflecting this position.

https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0002-s186_reso_11-02-21.pdf

<https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/support-for-council-file-21-0002-s186-koretz/>

Longcore introduced this item from WRAC. It was moved by Wayne and seconded, followed by brief discussion. Savage asked if we could take this to committee. Wayne noted that they are required to supply 500,000+ units and it is almost impossible and that it is imperative that they include units from SB9 within that in order to get our funding from Sacramento. Motion **passed** by 16 yeses; 4 noes by Members Miner, Kadin, Loze and Schlesinger, and 2 abstentions by Members Prothro and Longcore.

29. Regulation of Vehicle Dwelling

Motion: That BABCNC support the motion in Council File 14-1057-S9 (Buscaino/Koretz) that would create a permit system for dwelling in vehicles on City streets and adopt an ordinance that would otherwise prohibit the use of vehicles for lodging on City streets.

<https://westsidecouncils.com/motion/support-for-cf-14-1057-s9-vehicle-dwelling/>

Moved by Greenberg and seconded. Brief discussion was held followed by a vote with 8 yeses, 13 noes and 2 abstentions by Levinson & Longcore, and the **motion did not carry**.

30. DISCLOSE Act to List Ballot Measure Supporters and Opponents (CF 21-0002-S198; Bonin/Koretz)

Motion: That BABCNC support the resolution in Council File 21-002-S198, which would add to the City of Los Angeles Legislative Program support of SB 90 (Stern) and AB 1416 (Santiago), also known as the Ballot DISCLOSE ACT, which would add additional characters to list the supporters and opponents from the official arguments for and against each state ballot measure in the final voter information guide to the ballot label.

https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2021/21-0002-S198_misc_12-8-21.pdf

The motion was moved by Greenberg, seconded, and **passed** by 17 yeses, 0 noes and 4 abstentions by Kadin, Schlesinger, Sandler and Longcore.

31. Good of the Order

Alternate Member Levinson related that the Sawtelle-Japantown Celebration is taking place this weekend, honoring first responders with fire fighters and other frontline people Sunday at 12:30 and other festivities and food throughout the entire weekend. She encouraged participation in this event.

Vice President of Operations Greenberg gave update on our neighborhood council's task force working with Bel Air Ridge and Bel Air Glen associations, noting that they are talking.

The meeting adjourned at 9:46 P.M., to March 23rd, with thoughts of peace and comfort to those whose lives are being upended as we speak.

www.babcnc.org
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