

Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 7, 2008
Lake Balboa Studios
7412 Balboa Blvd.
Lake Balboa, CA 91406

Evan Doxsee ¹	Youth Representative	P
Teresa Pollock	Residential Representative	P
Sylvia Silva	Residential Representative	P
Amber Savastio ²	Business Representative	P
Linda Pruett	Second Vice-President	P
David Bernardoni ³	President, Residential Representative	P
Bill McRae	Outreach and Marketing Committee Chairperson	A
Clay McFarland	Treasurer, Business Representative	P
Elmer Jespersen	Senior Representative	P ⁴
Shawn Moradian	Business Representative	A
Lisa Reveen	Organizational Representative	P
Joyce MacKinnon	Organizational Representative	P
Steve Leffert	Secretary, Organizational Representative	P
Ivan Tjoe	First Vice President, Residential Representative	A
Nancy Kane ⁵		A
Dylan McRae ⁵		A
Gwen Wright ⁵		A

1. Welcome, Please Sign In
 - Steve Leffert opens the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

2. Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes of the April 2, 2008 Meeting
 - a. MOTION: Clay McFarland introduces a motion to adopt the agenda. Linda Pruett seconds.
VOTE TAKEN: 7-0-0 -- MOTION PASSES.

 - b. MOTION: Joyce MacKinnon introduces a motion to approve the minutes of April 02.
Lisa Reveen seconds.
VOTE TAKEN: 6-0-0 – MOTION PASSES.
 - Steve Leffert calls a recess on the regular meeting. The board moves to the special meeting agenda.

¹ Evan Doxsee is a new member of the board. He is sworn in during item 4.

² Amber Savastio is a new member of the board. He is sworn in during item 4.

³ David Bernardoni is a new member of the board. He is sworn in during item 4.

⁴ Elmer Jespersen arrived at 8:02 p.m.

⁵ Outgoing Board members

3. Presentation of Certificates of Appreciation to members of the Board whose terms are up and are leaving/left the Board – City Councilmember Tony Cardenas
 - None of the retiring members are present to receive their awards.
4. Swearing in of the newly elected Board members by City Councilmember Tony Cárdenas
 - Tony Cárdenas swears in the new board. The returning board members take the oaths again, and new members Evan Doxsee, Amber Savastio, and David Bernardoni take their oaths for the first time.
5. Election of new Officers of the Board
 - a. President: Teresa Pollock nominates David Bernardoni. He accepts the nomination.
VOTE TAKEN: 9-0-1. Steve Leffert abstains.
 - b. First Vice-President: Linda Pruett nominates Ivan Tjoe. He is not present, but Steve Leffert says that he received word from Ivan Tjoe saying that he would accept any nomination.
VOTE TAKEN: 9-0-1. Steve Leffert abstains.
 - c. Second Vice-President: Amber Savastio nominates Linda Pruett. She accepts the nomination.
VOTE TAKEN: 9-0-1. Steve Leffert abstains.
 - d. Communications officer: Clay McFarland nominates Amber Savastio. She accepts.
VOTE TAKEN: 9-0-1. Steve Leffert abstains.
 - e. Secretary: Clay McFarland nominates Steve Leffert. Linda Pruett seconds the nomination.He accepts.
VOTE TAKEN: 9-0-1. Steve Leffert abstains.
 - f. Treasurer: Linda Pruett nominates Clay McFarland. He accepts.
VOTE TAKEN: 8-0-2. Steve Leffert and Clay McFarland abstain.
6. Announcements and Reports
 - a. LAPD – The Senior Lead Officer could not make a report because he received an urgent dispatch.
 - b. Local – Lynda Levitan, field deputy for Councilman Tony Cárdenas: There are new signs installed in industrial area around Woodley saying no overnight parking from 2 to 6 am. The Emergency Preparedness Fair is coming on June 7; the office will be sending postcards to Lake Balboa residents. On May 24, there will be a pet care fair in Woodley Park. They are planning a Children and Family Summer Festival. On May 31, from 10 am to 2 pm, there will be an event at Van Nuys airport about the new air operations being used to fight fires. Van Nuys LAPD and Community Beautification (formerly Operation Clean Sweep) will be gathering volunteers for clean-ups all around the Van Nuys LAPD area.
 - c. Local –Megan Cottier, field deputy for Councilman Greg Smith’s office (CD12): Please call Councilman Smith’s office for information about the budget. The councilman introduced a piece of legislation calling for regulations on sober living homes. At the Sepulveda dog park, some people have been bitten. Ms. Cottier is working with General Services to improve safety conditions there. Both General

Services and Animal Services will have a stronger presence at the dog park. On May 30 and 31, there will be a Salute to Recreation event. On June 8 at 2 pm. There will be an event at the new swimming pool opening in the Valley. For more information on all events, go to www.cd12.org.

- d. Melvin Canas, DONE project coordinator: DONE is conducting an orientation and training session for new board members. It will be on Saturday, May 31, at the Sunland-Tujunga municipal building, and it will go from 8 am until the early afternoon. The first regional DONE Congress will be on May 17 in South L.A. It will address gang violence and community planning/development. The second DONE Congress will be city-wide in October.
- e. Linda Pruett – Emergency Preparedness Committee Report: She got a round trip flight to Virginia for \$237 for the Neighborhoods USA conference. She is looking forward to the conference. The committee is looking for a second location for a bin for storage and use as a command center. The Committee is looking at a location at the Anatola School, and they are working with the school's PTA. On May 8 at 7 pm, the first meeting of the Communications Committee will be held. They will be educating people about the use of ham radios during emergencies. SOS is having a sale on emergency supplies on the same weekend as the Emergency Preparedness fair. There are print-outs available at this meeting with lists of recommended items for emergency preparedness kits.
- f. Steve Leffert – Beautiful Homes Contest: He distributes the prizes to the winners of the Beautiful Homes Contest. Monica Celcito won grand prize, a \$50 gift certificate to Target. Evelyn Nichols won first place and a \$40 gift card to Target. Second place winner is not in attendance, and third place winner did not sign the release form necessary to publicize their names and addresses.
- g. Clay McFarland – Financial Report: The quarterly financial report is not ready. Initially, there was \$135,000 in the budget. There is \$58,000 left at the end of the year. Since January, LBNC has spent \$5,000 on outreach, and they have encumbered \$9,000 for the Birmingham school benches. In order to prepare a new budget, the LBNC board must place the creation of a budget ad hoc committee on next month's agenda.
- h. Steve Leffert- LANCC meeting – The meeting was on the building and safety code. The neighborhood councils would like the building code to be properly enforced. Those who would like to provide input on the building code can contact LBNC. The LBNC has a new phone number; it is 818-779-9026. The legislation on the prohibition of building mansions on small lots has passed.
- i. Clay McFarland: The LBNC needs to choose a delegate for the LANCC. **Linda Pruett nominates Clay McFarland to serve as representative for LBNC at LANCC. Lisa Reveen seconds.**

VOTE TAKEN: 10-0-1

David Bernardoni nominates himself to serve as the alternate representative for LBNC at LANCC. Lisa Reveen seconds.

VOTE TAKEN: 10-0-1.

7. Public Comment

- a. Ken Finney stresses the importance of communication during emergencies. He would like to see the Communications Committee set up a hierarchy of communications, a command center, and liaisons with other centers. He would like the board to disseminate emergency information at the monthly board meetings.
- b. Sharon Brewer: Baby ducks found in pools can be saved by calling the California Wildlife Organization at 818-591-WILD. Sharon would like the board to form an ad hoc committee dealing with the issues around Lake Balboa.
- c. Clay McFarland reads a letter from stakeholder (Gunther Laurent) who would like to see signs saying "Lake Balboa" posted at the freeway exits leading into Lake Balboa and at all the borderlines. He would like to see Gaviota Avenue improved.
- d. Mo: He would like the board to disseminate emergency information at the monthly board meetings.

8. Brief Response of Board to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights.

- a. In response to the stakeholder's letter, Steve Leffert says that they are working with Assemblyman Lloyd Levine's office on setting up signs at the freeway offramps. We are waiting for the placement of the other Lake Balboa signs.
- b. In response to the stakeholder's letter, Amber Savastio asks what the board can do to improve the conditions of the streets. Megan Cottier says that the street service budget was not cut, and the LBNC can submit its opinion of the streets most in need of repair. The councilman can keep the board's opinion in mind, but he does not have the authority to decide which street will be repaired.
- c. In response to Sharon Brewer, Lisa Reveen invites Ms. Brewer to join the Animal Welfare Committee. Ms. Brewer accepts.
- d. In response to Mo and Ken Finney, Linda Pruettt says that the Emergency Preparedness Committee has a DVD that they can show before meetings, and the committee hopes that the communication centers will become hubs for the dissemination of information on emergency preparation.

9. Motion to appropriate funds for a School Children's Educational Concert by the New Valley Symphony Orchestra, Presentation by Sara Fisk, President of NVSO -- Leffert

- Sara Fisk is not at the meeting. David Bernardoni announces that the LBNC will table the item until the next meeting.

10. Los Angeles Full Public Funding Education & Feedback Project -- Presentation by California Clean Money Campaign -- Possible Motion -- McFarland

- Eric Garcetti and the president of DONE encourage neighborhood councils to work with the Clean Money Campaign on their mission to educate people and receive feedback about the possibility of setting up publicly-funded elections throughout the city level. Wayne Williams of Clean Money Campaign asks LBNC to schedule a workshop on publicly-funded elections.

● MOTION: Clay McFarland introduces a motion to form an ad hoc committee on the Clean Money Campaign and participate in the workshop. Elmer Jespersen seconds.

VOTE TAKEN: 10-0-1. Motion passes.

- Clay McFarland volunteers to chair the ad hoc committee. Linda Pruettt seconds.

VOTE TAKEN: 10-0-1. Motion passes.

11. Motion to appropriate funds towards the purchase of a replacement combination poster maker/die cut computerized machine for Lemay St. School – Leffert
- Principal Gibson was not present to make the case. Marie Barry came to the meeting and asked the board to help pay for a replacement to the poster maker/die cut machine stolen from their school. The students, parents, and faculty had raised \$18000 to pay for the machine. The school has raised \$6000 so far towards the replacement machine.

Discussion: Clay McFarland and Linda Pruett are concerned about security risks and the chance that the new machine would also be stolen. The school's representative says that the machine will be placed in a more secure location. Amber Savastio is concerned that the possible allocation of \$6600 would be too much to give to one school. Melvin Canas of DONE says that the purchase might be rejected because the machine would be for LAUSD, not the city. DONE would need to know that the machine would be useful for the community, not just the school.

MOTION: Steve Leffert introduces a motion to appropriate up to \$5000 to purchase a replacement printer.

AMENDED MOTION: Steve Leffert introduces a new motion to allocate up to \$6600 to purchase a replacement poster maker for Lemay Street School. This appropriation is subject to the school writing a letter requesting the funds and stating the benefits of the purchase to the neighborhood.

AMENDMENT: Clay McFarland makes a friendly amendment. He would like the appropriation of funds to be subject to the approval of the DONE funding department. Steve Leffert accepts the amendment.

VOTE TAKEN ON AMENDMENT: 9-0-2. Amendment passes.

VOTE ON MOTION: 6-2-3. Motion passes.

12. Motion to fund landscaping on the "median" on the east side of Balboa Blvd., south of Saticoy St. – Silva

Sylvia Silva: At the March 5, 2008 board meeting, the motion passed to approve \$5000 towards landscaping on the median on the east side of Balboa. The Garfield Landscape Design Company assisted the LBNC with the preparation of the grant. They have agreed to provide the landscaping for the amount approved by the LBNC if the city provides the trees. The company cannot do the landscaping without the provision of the trees. Lynda Levitan has to make sure that the trees are available.

- Clay McFarland asks how the trees will be maintained. Sylvia Silva says that the company would maintain the trees for \$175 a month. The trees would be low maintenance once they were established (after the end of a three-month period). The trees could also be adopted and maintained by the members of the community.

MOTION: Sylvia Silva introduces a motion to allocate \$5000 to the Garfield Landscape Design Company for the landscaping of the median on the east side of Balboa Blvd. south of Saticoy Street on the condition that appropriate free trees will be available. Amber Savastio seconds.

VOTE TAKEN: 9-0-2. Motion passes.

13. Unfinished Business

No unfinished business.

14. Adjournment

Amber Savastio introduces a motion to adjourn. Evan Doxsee seconds.

Meeting ends at 10:10 p.m.