



Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council

P.O. Box 7720
 Lake Balboa, CA 91409-7720
 818-779-9026

Website: www.lakebalboanc.org
 Email: info@lakebalboanc.org

**Board Meeting Minutes
 Wednesday March 2, 2022
 Zoom Meeting
 6:30PM –8:58PM Meeting
 (DRAFT V1)**

Regular Meeting Location:
[Gault Street Elementary School](#)
[17000 Gault Street](#)
[Lake Balboa CA 91406](#)
 (MAIL NOT ACCEPTED AT THIS ADDRESS)

Boardmember	Roll Call	Funding Vote Eligible*	Category
James Brown 1 st Vice President	Present	YES	Residential
Michael Cortez	(Joined the Board at 7:49PM)	NO	Residential
Katie Cronin	Excused	YES	Organization
Ruth Doxsee	Present	YES	Residential
Jasmine Garcia	Present	NO	Youth
Linda Gravani President	Present	YES	Business
Sandra Joseph 2 nd Vice President	Excused	YES	Residential
Gary Kay	Present	YES	At-Large***
Danica Middleton Secretary	Present	YES	Residential
Miguel Miguel	Present	YES	Organization
Allen Nelson	Present	NO	At-Large***
Carol Newman	Excused	YES	Business
Mary Pennomon	Absent	NO	Senior
Jeremy Pisanic	Present	YES	Residential
Thomas Riley	Absent (Joined at 8:04PM)	YES	Organization
Linda Schwering Treasurer	Present	YES	At-Large
Vacant			Business
TOTAL: 15	PRESENT 10, ABSENT 05		

*Funding vote eligibility key: **A**=age less than 18 yrs.; **E**=Ethics training; **F**=Funding training; **N**=not taken; **X**=expired ** Advance notice given for absence ***At Large Appointed

(VOTE KEY: Yes, No, Abstain, Ineligible, Recuse, Absent)

In conformity with the Governor’s Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the Board of Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically.

1. Call meeting to order WELCOME to our STAKEHOLDERS -**The Meeting was called to order at 6:30PM by President Linda Gravani.**

L.A. City Charter Sec 900. Purpose (Of Neighborhood Councils)

To promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs, a citywide system of neighborhood councils, and a Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is created. Neighborhood councils shall include representatives of the many diverse interests in communities and shall have an advisory role on issues of concern to the neighborhood.

Our Mission is to bring forward our concerns to the elected officials,

We are a department within the city of Los Angeles. We are required to follow city and state laws. The Brown Act does not allow us to discuss anything that is NOT on tonight's agenda. There is an item called PUBLIC COMMENT where you can address items NOT on the agenda. The President (Ms. Gravani) will identify the suggested time limits for each item so that the meeting will end around 9:30pm. Time allocations are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the President. The time keeper is James Brown.

2. Pledge of Allegiance –**The Pledge of Allegiance was led by James Brown**
3. Poll board members for completion of mandatory NC training: Mary Pennomon, Allen Nelson, **Mr. Nelson has not completed the Funding Training**
4. Roll Call **Katie Cronin, Sandy Joseph, and Carol Newman are excused. A quorum of nine was reached.**

LBNC ITEM 4. Roll Call		
Present -10	Absent-02	Excused-03
Brown, Doxsee, Garcia, Gravani, Kay, Middleton, Miguel, Nelson, Pisanic, Schwering	Pennomon, Riley,	Cronin Joseph, Newman

5. Adoption of the Agenda for March 2, 2022

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (6:35PM)

LBNC ITEM 5. Motion for the Adoption of the Agenda for March 2, 2022 Moved: Schwering Second: Doxsee				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-05
Brown, Doxsee, Garcia, Gravani, Kay, Middleton, Miguel, Nelson, Pisanic, Schwering	None	None	None	Cronin, Joseph, Newman, Pennomon, Riley

6. Discussion and possible action for the Approval of Minutes for the February 2, 2022 meeting

Public Comment: No comment
Motion Passed (6:37PM)

LBNC ITEM. Motion for the Approval of Minutes for the February 2, 2022 meeting Moved: Middleton Second: Brown				
Yes-08	No-00	Abstain-02	Ineligible-00	Absent-05
Brown, Garcia, Gravani, Middleton, Miguel, Nelson, Pisanic, Schwering	None	Doxsee, Kay	None	Cronin, Joseph. Newman, Pennomon, Riley

Ms. Gravani moved the meeting to Item 8.

- 7. Guest Speaker from Birmingham Charter High School, Dean Nick Halic. LBNC’s past Communications Officer, Kristen Fujitaki, saw an LA Times article about Nick and others who graduated from local schools and returned to inspire current students. **Item Tabled**
- 8. Special Topic: Safety on our school campuses by Board Member James Brown, Co-Chair Community-Police Advisory Board (C-PAB) **California has the toughest gun laws in the nation. Even with tough gun laws, California leads in the number of active shootings and school shootings. School shootings are counted as those around, and on school campuses regardless if there are injuries or death. Last year there were 47 school shootings on campus in California. In January this committee started holding meetings to discuss gun issues and if parents have been held accountable. In most school shootings the guns are brought from home. The State of California has Penal codes for crimes committed with guns. Gun Safety Laws violations were discussed with LAUSD representatives. Each year a letter is sent home reminding parents of gun safety laws. Firearms are the leading deaths of children and teens. 65 School Police Officers due to LAUSD defunding the LAUSD Police Departments.**
- 9. Announcements and Reports: Representatives of LAPD, Local, City, County, State all reports all in **BOLD**. Those that are not in **Bold** did not attend the Meeting or give a report.
 - a. LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl’s office (District 3) 818-902-3831 District Director Jessica Orellana jorellana@bos.lacounty.gov and Brenda Yanez, Field Deputy BYanez@bos.lacounty.gov- **The mask orders are still in effect for indoor places. Businesses can let people go without a mask with proof of vaccination. Workers still have to wear masks. The outdoor mask mandate has been lifted. Masks are still recommended. They are still hosting Vaccine Clinics. Any group can partner with their office to host a vaccine clinic. There has been a lot of talk about Whiteman Airport. The county has been hosting Community Advisory Committee Meetings. All of the meetings have been held virtually. www.reenvisionwhitemanairport.com.**
 - b. West Valley LAPD Captain Paul Espinosa 30820@lapd.online – 818-374-7640 Senior Lead Officers (SLOs) - 1-877-ASK-LAPD 1. Officer Sam Park office 818-374- 7635 – 35234@LAPD.online
 - c. Vacant · Councilwoman’s Martinez’s office (CD 6) 818-778-4999 Field Deputy – Viana.Parra@lacity.org **Urban Forestry has been very active in Lake Balboa. If you need work done contact here. Residents around the Haines Bridge are trying to get it reopened. There will be another meeting at the end of the month. She will contact the board with information on a clean-up.**
 - d. LA Mayor Garcetti’s office– Erin.Seinfeld@lacity.org 213-422-0815

- e. LA City Attorney's Office – 213-978-8100 1. Neighborhood Prosecutor – Michael.Liu@lacity.org 818-374-6837 2. Community Resource Specialist – Cynthia.Hernandez@lacity.org 818-374-6839 LA City Planning Liaison Ariel.Jones@lacity.org 213-820-4255
- f. LAUSD Scott Schmerelson's office (District 3) 818-654-3785 Deputy Director of School and Community Engagement Tammy.Ramirez@lausd.net 213-241-8333- **Lake Balboa College Prep received a grant for a Parent Center. She named the schools within the Lake Balboa Boundaries. The new Superintendent has started his job. He launched his 100-day plan.**

Outdoor masking is now optional, indoor masking is still required. On March 10, 2022, the Special Education Committee will start Meeting again. The Community Advisory Committee window is now open for applicants. The Webinar is March 12, 2021. She will be leaving for Maternity Leave at the end of the month. The Student Advisory Council is going to create a policy memo for gun violence.

- g. LAUSD Dr. Eric Maxey Administrator, Community of Schools-Reseda ejm9800@lausd.net 818-668-1051
- h. LAUSD Board President Kelly Gonez office (District 6) 818-212-6687 - Dir of Community Engagement & Advocacy Michael.Menjivar@lausd.net
- i. LAUSD Northwest District Administrator Parent/Community Engagement-Gonsalo Garay - ggg9445@lausd.net 818-654-3600

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- j. CA Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian's office (District 46) 818-376-4246 Sophia.Soudani@asm.ca.gov -**New Bill Package is focused on Seniors and the Disabled AB 2547. They are helping people with EDD, DMV, and Renters Assistance. A Women's Self Defense class will be held in May.**
- k. CA State Senator Robert Hertzberg's Office (District 18) - 818-901-5588 Edwin.Amaya@sen.ca.gov
- l. CA State Senator Henry Stern's Office (District 27) - 818-876-3352 -Jeremy.Wolf@sen.ca.gov and SFV representative Denise.Kniter@sen.ca.gov
- m. US Representative Tony Cardenas (District 29) 818-221-3718 Oswaldo.Ramirez@mail.house.gov US Representative Brad Sherman – (District 30) - 818-501-9200 Mary.Chakerian@mail.house.gov
- n. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) Daniel.D.Johnson@lacity.org 818-374-9889 **Daniel Johnson- the monthly profile shows Boardmembers that are missing their trainings. Planning 101 is mandatory for Land Use Committee Members. Only three people have done the training. An ADA checklist has been submitted for the last location where you met and the new Location will also be looked at. Funding issues should be submitted to the City Clerk. The BONC Commission met and discussed the Digital Media Policy.**
- o. West Valley Neighborhood Alliance of Homelessness Stakeholder Erich Eilenberger reporting back to LBNC

NOTE: Presiding Officer: Please prompt the public to either dial *9 if on the phone AND *6 to unmute yourself or "raise your hand" if on the website to address the board on non-agenda items

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS: PLEASE ADVISE US IF YOU ARE A REGISTERED LOBBIST. Comments from Public on Non-Agenda items, Issues, Announcements and Complaints within the jurisdiction of the Lake Balboa NC. The Brown Act, prevents the board from commenting on your comments. We are making note of them. 2 minutes per speaker.
 - a. **Stacy Rotter- the emailed Zoom link does not work. Would love to get updates on projects that have approved.**
 - b. **Stephanie Clements- is a Candidate for City Controller, Website: clements4controller.com**
 - c. **Ms. Coella- Religious Exemptions**
 - d. **Aaron Devandry- response for Stacy Rotter, the email blast Zoom Link has been fixed.**

11. BOARD COMMENTS: 2 minutes per board member
 - a. **James Brown-Wednesday, March 9, 2022 at 6:00PM is the West Valley CPAB Meeting, Chief Girmala will be the guest speaker. She is the highest-ranking female officer in LAPD. She is in charge of all seven LAPD Bureaus.**
 - b. **Danica Middleton- is trying to get an update on the Welcome Lake Balboa Sign from CD6.**

L.A. City Charter Sec. 909. Annual City Budget Priorities.

Each neighborhood council may present to the Mayor and Council an annual list of priorities for the City budget. The Mayor shall inform certified neighborhood councils of the deadline for submission so that the input may be considered in a timely fashion. (See www.budgetadvocates.ORG for 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 White Paper recommendations)

12. Budget Advocate – Region 3 - Updates, (budgetadvocates.org) - Budget Advocate Carol Newman
Budget Rep Linda Gravani Newman- **Budget Advocate Budget Day June 18, 2022 9:30AM.**

13. Discussion and possible action regarding LBNC’s open board seats Gravani

BYLAWS - Section 6: Vacancies – Vacancies on the Board shall be filled using the following procedure:

- a. Any “Stakeholder” interested in filling a vacancy on the Board shall submit a written application to the Board, providing that Community Stakeholder is qualified for that particular seat. The Board shall cause the matter to be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the Board.
- b. The Board shall vote on the application at the meeting. If multiple applications for one (1) seat have been submitted, the candidate with the most votes wins. In the event of a tie, a coin toss between the candidates with the most votes shall determine the seat appointment.

LBNC has 1 residential and 1 business seat available. Michael Cortez, has submitted an application for the open residential seat.

I received 2 inquiries regarding the residential seat. One withdrew and decided to attend committee meetings first. The second is Michael Cortez who was past board member on Canoga Park NC, moved to Lake Balboa in Sept 2021, W/Metro 7 years, worked with Cindy Montanez in State Assembly.

Mr. Cortez is a homeowner near Roscoe and Balboa. Grew up in the Valley and attended Cal State Northridge. He works for Metro. He saw a lawn sign for the Holiday Parade and decided to join the Neighborhood Council. Mr. Cortez was asked what his interests were. He responded he likes to work with youth, safety is important, and community engagement.

Public Comment: Aaron Devandry mentioned that Mr. Cortez was awesome on the Canoga Park Neighborhood Council.

Motion Passed (7:49 PM)

LBNC ITEM13. Motion to approve Michael Cortez to the vacant Residential Seat. Moved: Gravani				
Second: Middleton				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-05
Brown, Doxsee, Garcia, Gravani, Kay, Middleton, Miguel, Nelson, Pisanic, Schwering	None	None	None	Cronin, Joseph. Newman, Pennomon, Riley

Mr. Cortez was sworn in by President Linda Gravani.

14. President Update Discussion and possible action on:
 - a. Google Suites-WORKSPACE. We are not using it as intended. - **We need to learn how to use it. Aaron Devandry will help to train us.**
 - b. Outreach Committee meets on March 15, 2022 7:00PM zoom info <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/99770922444> -**Reviewed**
 - i. Outreach Materials for 2022-2023- **Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council needs to start planning some outreach.**
 - ii. Possibly replace faded/peeling NW Signs- **Item skipped**
 - iii. Any earmarked funds to be returned to the budget- **We do not want to return funds**
 - c. FUNDING: Reminders -**Reviewed**
 - i. 2022 Event approvals will end mid-May
 - ii. Usually, June 1 is Final date to request 2022 check payment requests
 - iii. Mid Jun Final date to request any bank card transaction
 - iv. July 1 Budget due for fiscal year 2022-2023
 - d. DONE has been asked if NCs funds can be rolled over for elections over the \$10,000
 - e. REMINDER, ALL Committees are open to our stakeholders and are listed on the last page of the agenda- **Reviewed**
15. Discussion and possible action regarding Nov 2022 City Election, who are the candidates? **Start thinking about whether we would like to hold a candidate forum.**
16. Discussion and possible action regarding LBNC 2023 Election. Committee? **Funds, 2021 was held at beginning of the year. - Start thinking about an Election Committee and Funds needed. There will be a Town Hall on election strategies being held by the City Clerk.**
17. UPDATE: Status for the proposed LBNC Meeting Facility at 7900 Balboa Blvd. Park VNY- Ms. Schwering - **There is no update.**

Tom Riley joined the meeting at 8:04PM

- 18. UPDATE: Status of Tom Riley & Land Use Chair- **He will be moving to Newberry Park in June. He will be resigning from the Neighborhood Council. The June meeting will be his last meeting.**
- 19. LAND USE: 6740 White Oak Ave (Salsa & Beer) ZA-2021-7712-CUB & ENV-201-7714-CU. Conditional use permit.
 - a. MOTION: LBNC Land Use committee recommends the approval of this application with the condition that they maintain their current hours of operation of 11am-10pm Sunday - Thursday and 11am-11:30pm on Friday and Saturday and they do not sell any alcoholic beverage without a food order or have a bar area. **They currently have applied for a Beer and Wine License.**

Public Comment: No comment
Motion Passed (8:04 PM)

LBNC ITEM 19. Motion for the approval of this application with the condition that they maintain their current hours of operation of 11am-10pm Sunday -Thursday and 11am-11:30pm on Friday and Saturday and they do not sell any alcoholic beverage without a food order or have a bar area. Moved: Riley Second: Pisanic				
Yes-11	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-04
Brown, Doxsee, Garcia, Gravani, Kay, Middleton, Miguel, Nelson, Pisanic, Riley, Schwering	None	None	Cortez	Cronin, Joseph, Newman, Pennomon,

Tom Riley left the meeting at 8:13PM

- 20. BYLAWS: Discussion and possible action regarding RECOMMENDED BYLAWS change. **Mr. Pisanic presented issues with meetings that have inappropriate language and ways to try to word changes for the Bylaws. He did speak with Elise Ruden and she mentioned it could be an issue with free speech.**

Public comment- John Hales said, if they file a lawsuit against you the City will not defend you. Stacy Rotter asked to table the item. This is a huge liability if it violates first amendment rights.

Motion: In order to improve the quality, decency and expediency of all meetings, whether General Board, Special Meetings or Committee Meetings, I move that Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council adopt, add and or amend our existing bylaws to include the proposed verbiage as stated above. - **Item Tabled**

- 21. BUDGET: Discussion and possible Action regarding the January 2022 Monthly Expense Report **Linda Schwering Treasurer’s Report-The report is posted on the website.**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (8:38 PM)

LBNC ITEM 21. Motion to approve the January 2022 Monthly Expense Report (MER) Moved: Schwering, Second: Doxsee				
Yes-07	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-03	Absent-05
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Kay, Middleton, Pisanic, Schwering	None	Nelson	Garcia, Miguel, Cortez	Cronin Joseph, Newman, Pennomon, Riley

22. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action regarding Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) for ONEgeneration. Motion: I move LBNC approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) expenditure in the amount of \$1,000 in support of the 13th Annual Senior Symposium, an open-air outdoor walk-thru health fair event for older adults to be held on May 14, 2022, at the ONEgeneration Adult Daycare Campus in Lake Balboa (Van Nuys) on Victory Blvd. Director Niambi Cooper invited the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council to participate in the event. **Volunteers for the event- Mr. Cortez, Mr. Pisanic, and Mr. Brown**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (8:43 PM)

LBNC ITEM 22. Motion for LBNC to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) expenditure in the amount of \$1,000 in support of the 13th Annual Senior Symposium, an open-air outdoor walk-thru health fair event for older adults to be held on May 14, 2022, at the ONEgeneration Adult Daycare Campus in Lake Balboa (Van Nuys) on Victory Blvd. Moved: Schwering Second: Doxsee				
Yes-07	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-03	Absent-05
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Kay, Middleton, Pisanic, Schwering	None	Nelson	Garcia, Miguel, Cortez	Cronin Joseph, Newman, Pennomon, Riley

23. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action regarding funds for Encino's Academy for Enriched Sciences. There was no NPG submitted and it is not in the Lake Balboa boundaries. - **Item Tabled**
24. **FUNDING:** Friends of the LA River (FoLAR) Clean-up/funds. No NPG was submitted. - **Item Tabled**
25. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action to authorize up to \$125 expenditure to purchase an external hard drive for LBNC treasurer

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (8:56 PM)

LBNC ITEM 25. Motion to authorize up to \$125 expenditure to purchase an external hard drive for LBNC treasurer Moved: Gravani Second: Doxsee				
Yes-07	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-03	Absent-05
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Kay, Middleton, Pisanic, Schwering	None	Nelson	Garcia, Miguel, Cortez	Cronin, Joseph, Newman, Pennomon, Riley

26. THANK YOU LBNC Board Members AND Stakeholders for all YOU do for our community
27. Adjourn meeting- **The Meeting was adjourned at 8:58 PM.**

**Next Regular Meeting of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
Wednesday April 6, 2022 at 6:30PM unless in person**