

Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 3rd, 2011, 7pm
 Lake Balboa Studios
 7412 Balboa Boulevard
 Lake Balboa, California 91406

1. Meeting called to order by President Lisa Reveen at 7:03 P.M.

Roll Call

David Bernardoni	Residential Rep., 1 st V.P.	Absent, Excused
Linda Schwering	Residential Rep., Treasurer	P
Cynthia Weichelt	Residential Rep.	P
Jack Baird	Residential Rep.	P
Linda Pruett	Residential Rep., EP Committee Chair	P
Allen Nelson	Residential Rep., Communications Officer	P
Steve Leffert	Organizational Rep.	P
Ruth Doxsee	Organizational Rep.	P arrived at 7:10
Lisa Reveen	Organizational Rep., President	P
Roxan Hartstein	Business Rep.	P
Bahman Mojallal	Business Rep.	Absent, Excused
Teresa Pollock	Business Rep.	Absent
Carl Schwering	Senior Rep.	P
Evan Doxsee	Youth Rep.	P arrived at 7:10
Sylvia Silva	At-Large Elected Rep.	P left at 7:55, after resignation
Roger Ortiz	At-Large Appointed Rep., 2 nd V.P.	P left at 8:30pm
Frank Ahn	At-Large Appointed Rep., Secretary	P arrived at 7:50

2. ADOPTED Agenda by a unanimous vote – Agenda Item #9 was moved up to Agenda Item #7 in order to address sooner to allow speaker to leave as early as possible. Roger Ortiz brought a motion to adopt the Agenda, seconded by Allen Nelson. Vote: (10-0). Motion passes.

3. APPROVED Minutes of the July 21, 2011 Special Meeting – Allen Nelson brought a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Roxan Hartstein. Vote: (10-0). Motion passes.

APPROVED Minutes of the July 6, 2011 Meeting – Steve Leffert brought a motion to approve the Minutes, seconded by Roger Ortiz. Vote: (11-0). Motion passes.

4. RECEIVED Treasurer’s Report – Linda Schwering

Review and approval of financial report for period ending July 31, 2011 and Bank Purchase Card Report

APPROVED Treasurer’s Report - Linda Pruett brought a motion to approve the Treasurer’s Report, seconded by Roger Ortiz (Vote: 9-0-1). Motion passes.

Since no bills were presented to the Treasurer in regards to \$100 in funds voted for and approved to provide refreshments for the July 17th Community Clean Up, these funds will be taken out of "Committed" and returned back into the Budget for future use.

5. RECEIVED Announcements and Reports - LAPD, Local, City, State and Federal Representatives

A. LAPD – Senior Lead Officer thanks the Council for their donation and support for National Night Out; Senior Lead Officer Supervisor Sergeant Frank Avila will be transferring to Topanga Division, and thanks the Council for their support; A warning for residents to keep their cars locked and windows up while getting gas, to avoid theft of personal belongings like cell phones, wallets, etc.; Area between the 405 South onramp and Haskell Ave. at Sherman Way, and all throughout the community, to be kept free of encampments.

B. Lynda Levitan, Field Deputy, CD 6, Council Member Tony Cardenas' Office (818) 778-4999

Community Events Flyers distributed: Olvera Street event on September 15th; Health and Safety Fair on October 29th with car seat inspections, Mc Donald's speaking about healthy choices, Walgreens, Whole Foods, Kaiser are each bringing their mobile van, and all the main hospitals participating, an amazing event not to be missed; Dept. of Sanitation will be taking on a few jobs from another department, one being the white trash baskets that businesses can adopt (bags provided) and if there are any areas in need of baskets or if anyone happens to see them overflowing or not being picked up just notify Lynda and they will take care of it; Also urges the community to show up and help out with the Community Clean Ups going on in our area.

C. Erik Richardson, Field Deputy Council Member Mitchell Englander - erik.richardson@lacity.org (818) 756-8501

The motion introduced to show transparency with regard to the DWP prior to the Rate Hike was passed unanimously; Flyers distributed on the Weatherization Assistance Program from the DWP; Update to come on the LA Dept. of Sanitation Rate Hike

D. Amber McDonald, Field Representative, Assembly Member Bob Blumenfield – (818) 904-3840

Upcoming Events: August 20th & 27th Back to School Back Pack Giveaway, one in Van Nuys and one in Canoga Park, and all are welcome to attend; Also Assembly Member Bob Blumenfield is present to speak.

6. Assembly Member Bob Blumenfield's Sacramento Update.

Amazon Tax discussed; Linda Pruett asks about our State's emergency funds, and there are CA emergency funds, but at times these funds are shifted and borrowed to meet the obligations of the State, but they're still there, so when the emergency does strike we will have funds and ultimately we'll have to do an emergency measure to make sure we shift the money immediately to where it's needed; Steve Leffert asks if there are any funds for signs for the 405 freeway marking the exits for Lake Balboa; Also Mr. Blumenfield thanks the LBNC on behalf of the State for all that they do for the community.

7. Presentation from Officer Susan Herold of West Valley LAPD. Possible Motion – Pruett

Asking the Board for support in donation for emergency kits for the police officers to be prepared in an emergency in order to help the community when they need help;

Linda Pruett brought a motion to earmark up to \$500 for emergency preparedness kits for the Black & Whites of the West Valley Police Department, seconded by Ruth Doxsee (Vote: 11-0-0). Motion passes.

- 8. Public Comment** – Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Items, Announcements, and Complaints within the jurisdiction of the Lake Balboa NC.
- A. Matt Margolis from Congress Member Brad Sherman’s Office** – Introduced himself and told us about Town Hall Meeting, Sunday, Aug. 28, 3-4:40pm at Reseda High.
 - B. Sylvia Silva** – Announces her resignation from the Board after four years as a member, and especially thanks Steve Leffert and Linda Pruett for all they do. Congratulations on her upcoming wedding and move.
 - C. Linda Pruett** – No Emergency Preparedness Meeting in August, but will resume with a very special meeting on Saturday, September 10, 9am at Lake Balboa Studios to learn how to get your block prepared beforehand for when an emergency strikes.
 - D. Roxan Hartstein** – As Beautification Committee Chair, she presented Peter from Starbucks with a Certificate from the City to acknowledge his help and support providing refreshments for the recent Neighborhood Clean Up; Newsletters and Tree Grant Request Forms were made available.
 - E. Allen Nelson** – Communication Committee Meeting was held, and although they received some suggestions and offers from another Web person, he spoke with their current Webmaster who has offered to redesign the LBNC website for no charge. This will include updating to Word Press program (set with expiration dates to automatically move past events to archive), creating a photo slideshow on our homepage , category tabs for each committee allowing each chairperson to enter new material and to have the ability to make changes, content management services, and an area for public comment, like a blog with approval.
 - F. Starbucks** – Interested in working with the Board on Emergency Preparedness and Community Clean Up Events, ready to serve the Board and the local community.

9. Election of Board Officers

Lisa Reveen brought a motion to nominate Roger Ortiz for the position of President, seconded by Cynthia Weichelt. Roger accepts nomination.

Steve Leffert brought a motion to nominate Lisa Reveen for the position of President, seconded by Roxan Hartstein. Lisa accepts nomination.

Vote: Roger – 5; Lisa – 7; **Lisa Reveen is elected as President.**

Linda Pruett brought a motion to nominate Roger Ortiz for the position of 1st Vice President, seconded by Frank Ahn. Roger accepts nomination.

Steve Leffert brought a motion to nominate Dave Bernardoni for the position of 1st Vice President, seconded by Cynthia Weichelt. Dave accepts nomination although he is not present, as he was not able to attend the meeting.

Vote: Dave – 3; Roger – 7; **Roger Ortiz is elected as 1st Vice President.**

Lisa Reveen brought a motion to nominate Cynthia Weichelt for the position of 2nd Vice President, seconded by Roger Ortiz. Cynthia accepts nomination.

Allen Nelson brought a motion to nominate Dave Bernardoni for the position of 2nd Vice President, seconded by Lisa Reveen. Dave accepts nomination although he is not present, as he was not able to attend the meeting.

Vote: Cynthia – 9; Dave – 2; **Cynthia Weichelt is elected as 2nd Vice President.**

Linda Pruettt brought a motion to nominate Linda Schwering for the position of Treasurer, seconded by Cynthia Weichelt. Linda asks if anyone else on the Board is interested before she accepts nomination, then Linda accepts nomination.

Vote: Linda – 10; **Linda Schwering is elected as Treasurer.**

Roger Ortiz brought a motion to nominate Roxan for the position of Secretary, seconded by Lisa Reveen. Roxan accepts nomination.

Ruth Doxsee brought a motion to nominate Dave Bernardoni for the position of Secretary, seconded by Roxan Hartstein. Dave accepts nomination although he is not present, as he was not able to attend the meeting.

Steve Leffert brought a motion to nominate Ruth Doxsee for the position of Secretary, seconded by Roger Ortiz. Ruth accepts nomination.

Vote: Roxan – 1; Dave – 1; Ruth – 12; **Ruth Doxsee is elected as Secretary.**

Linda Pruettt brought a motion to nominate Allen Nelson for the position of Communications Officer, seconded by Lisa Reveen. Allen accepts nomination.

Roger Ortiz brought a motion to nominate Frank Ahn for the position of Communications Officer, seconded by Cynthia Weichelt. Frank accepts nomination.

Vote: Allen – 9; Frank – 4; **Allen Nelson is elected as Communications Officer.**

Linda Schwering notifies the Board of Directors that there is a Treasurer's Training tomorrow, with more dates to come in the future, and the information can be found on the website (www.empowerla.org). Steve Leffert adds that it's good to have this training even if you aren't the Treasurer to know about the finances and how things are handled with the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment and the City of Los Angeles, and they want all the Board Members to have this training and knowledge. Cynthia Weichelt mentions an upcoming Neighborhood Council Congress on September 24 that also would be a very important event to consider going to. Lisa Reveen reminds the Board to be current on their Ethics Training requirements.

10. Brief presentation by Diana Balistreri of Recyclebank

Free environmentally friendly incentive program available to the community based on a point system earning points by doing green actions (such as recycling electronic materials like old cell phones and dvd players, awareness quizzes on the website, etc) and redeem their points at recyclebank.com for coupons, discounts, and gift cards. Points can even be earned by recycling in blue bins at home. Lisa Reveen mentions the problem of scavengers, but Diana reminds the Board that the City of Los Angeles has the capability to recycle and measure by weight so much more than what the scavengers are looking for such as paper, detergent bottles, and even Styrofoam. Free for local businesses to sign up. Allen Nelson asks if there's a way that schools can get their students involved, and Diana speaks about the Greener School Challenge, launching in the fall.

11. Discussion regarding LADWP's proposed rate increase – Possible Motion – Nelson

No representatives from LADWP are present; They seem to be trying to avoid the public; A resolution of the Coalition of Neighborhood Councils has been signed and in circulation since the beginning of July which states, "On August 3, 2011 Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council, upon finding notification to the LADWP, pursuant to the NCDWP Memo of Understanding had been made, voted at a duly noticed regular meeting as follows: The Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council supports the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition and other Neighborhood Councils in strongly urging that the Board of Water & Power Commissioners and the City Council not consider or act upon the proposed Water & Power rate increases until the Ratepayer's Advocate is established and has thoroughly reviewed and analyzed the proposed rate increases and presented such review and analysis to the ratepayers and the public for their careful consideration. The Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council supports the motion as introduced by Council Member Englander (Council File #11-452-S4) calling for the OPA to review the current DWP rate increase. The Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council opposes any rate increases until the Ratepayers' Advocate has reviewed and analyzed these rate increases and discussed the review and analysis with the Ratepayers and the public. The Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council authorizes the filing of a Community Impact Council File (No. 11-0452-74) declaring the above. (Allen Nelson brought the motion, seconded by Linda Pruett) Vote: (9-0). Motion passes.

12. Discussion regarding removal of Board member and filling vacant Board seats – Possible Motions – Leffert

Two vacant Board seats to be filled; Steve Leffert was not aware of Sylvia's resignation until tonight; Theresa Pollock has been contacted for a letter of resignation twice, but there has been no response;

Steve Leffert brought a motion to remove Theresa Pollock from the Board, seconded by Cynthia Weichelt. Vote: (10 – 0). Motion passed.

To be on the Agenda for next meeting will be the procedure for filling the two vacant seats, one for At-Large Elected Representative and the other for Business Representative, and this will be noted in the newsletter.

13. Unfinished Business – Allen Nelson adds that Aaron wanted him to know that LBNC is the easiest Neighborhood Council he deals with, holds this Board in great esteem as the Board is always willing to work with him; Lynda Levitan agrees that he's not the only one who feels this way.

14. Adjournment – A motion is brought to the table by Ruth Doxsee to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Roxan Hartstein (Vote: 11-0); Motion passes. Meeting adjourned by unanimous decision at 9:08 pm.