

FINAL

Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, October 3, 2012, 6:30 pm  
Van Nuys Golf Course, Billingsley Room  
6550 Odessa Ave. – Lake Balboa, California 91406

1. Meeting called to order by Cynthia Weichelt, President, at 7:04pm.

Roll Call

Linda Schwering	Residential Rep, Treasurer	P
Cynthia Weichelt	Residential Rep., President	P
Jack Baird	Residential Rep.	P
Linda Pruet	Residential Rep., EP Committee Chair	P
Allen Nelson	Residential Rep., Communications Officer	P
	Residential Rep.	Vacant
Roxan Hartstein	Business Rep., Beautification Chair	Excused
	Business Rep.	Vacant
Linda Gravani	Business Rep., 1 <sup>st</sup> V.P.	P
Steve Leffert	Organizational Rep., P. & L.U. Chair	P
Ruth Doxsee	Organizational Rep., Secretary	P
	Organizational Rep.	Vacant
Carl Schwering	Senior Rep.	P
Christopher Bower	Youth Rep.	P
	At-Large Elected Rep.	Vacant
	At-Large Appointed Rep.	Vacant
	At-Large Appointed Rep.	Vacant

2. ADOPTED Agenda by unanimous vote - Linda Pruet brought a motion to approve the agenda for the October 3, 2012 meeting, seconded by Ruth Doxsee. Vote (9-0-0). Motion passes.

APPROVED amendment to agenda by unanimous vote - Vote (9-0-0) - Motion passes.

3. APPROVED Minutes of the September 5, 2012 meeting - Steve Leffert brought a motion to approve the September 5, 2012 Meeting Minutes, seconded by Allen Nelson. Vote (9-0-0) Motion passes

4. RECEIVED Announcements and Reports by LAPD, Local, City, State and Federal Representatives, Board Members, Committees

A. Michael Tou, from Congressman Brad Sherman's Office (818) 501-9200 - Contact the office if you are having any issues with Federal government agencies and they want to stay in touch with what is happening in our community. He has worked with Lynda Levitan extensively on Graffiti problem

in Bull Creek and the Orange Line. Congratulations to all re-elected and newly elected board members. He worked on the certification of West Hills NC For more information see the website: [www.bradsherman.house.gov](http://www.bradsherman.house.gov), Email: [brad.sherman@mai.house.gov](mailto:brad.sherman@mai.house.gov)

- B. Lynda Levitan, Field Deputy, CD 6, Council Member Tony Cardenas' Office (818) 778-4999 - Health & Safety Fair Saturday, Oct. 27, 9am-1pm, on 14700 block of Blythe Street, Panorama City. Shuttle Bus leaving Birmingham HS at 8:30am & 10am. Flu Shot Clinic 9am. No booth available for LBNC this year. She will distribute LBNC info. at Councilman Cardena' booth if we wish. (15 booths available for 2012 due to diminished budget, as compared to 50 booths in 2011. Booths predominantly for medical/health related entities.)

Clean up in Bull Creek - Saturday, November 10, 8am -noon. Meet at Lake Balboa, 6300 Balboa Blvd., sponsored by Greater SFV Chamber of Commerce.

Consolidated Planning Commission Meeting - Wed. Oct. 17, 6:30-8:30pm Marvin Braude Constituent Services Center, downtown Van Nuys.

Access to Capital - Thursday, Oct. 18 at Westin Bonaventure Hotel

Plastic Bag phase out by July 1, 2013- you can get re-useable at many events

Paddle LA River program- 8 week program ended recently-outreach and education to schools-kayaks used this year. [www.paddlethelariver.com](http://www.paddlethelariver.com) for info.

Michael Tou and L.L. worked together to get brush cleared from Sepulveda Basir

- C. Alisa Smith, Region 3 Independent Election Administrator (IEA), Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Congrats to those who were elected. Go to [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org), link to LBNC to see election results, there is also direct link to Department website on [www.lakebalbonc.org](http://www.lakebalbonc.org). No challenges so far. Grayce Liu, Department Interim General Manager was happy with Team Lake Balboa's efforts to reach community members. Keep up the good work. 2010 Elections were held by the City Clerk's Office and this election the process was returned to Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, so we are doing best we can with this gargantuan effort. There are upcoming elections next Saturday until mid-November for the remainder of L.A. We are halfway through. It's exciting to be part of one of the largest grass roots systems in one of the largest cities in one of the world's most prosperous countries. If interested in volunteering, go to EmpowerLA's website.

- D. Linda Pruett, Emergency Preparedness Committee Chair -

- 1) Emergency Preparedness Fair Saturday, Oct.6, 11am-3pm at Firestation 87, 10124 Balboa Blvd, just south of Devonshire, on east side of street, park free behind shopping center next door. 11 participating NCs, 400 EP starter kits will be given out with leather gloves, goggles, cold packs,

breathing devices, etc. Get a free hot dog or hamburger, experience the Shakey Quakey Schoolhouse, puppet show, video game bus, Jaws of Life demonstration, etc. Help from other Board Members is needed.

2) Saturday, Oct. 13, 9am Emergency Preparedness/Communications Committee Meeting NOT at Fly Away, but at Incident Command Center at Woodley Lake Golf Course Emergency Preparedness Bin. From Victory Blvd, take Woodley Blvd south, 2<sup>nd</sup> driveway on right, left at stop sign, see 8x20' cargo container. We will be changing out supplies in kits that have expired

3) CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) classes from LAFD- Free- 7 Wednesday evenings in a row beginning Oct. 17 at Knollwood Country Club in Granada Hills, see [www.cert-la.com](http://www.cert-la.com) for details.

4) Dr. Lucy Jones, Earthquake scientist, recently stated that the San Andreas Fault is capable of an 8.2 earthquake, bigger than was previously thought! Get ready! We are working on a 3<sup>rd</sup> EP bin, as the EP committee wants each quadrant of LBNC to have one.

5) CPAB (Community Police Advisory Board) meeting- Wednesday, October 10 at WVLAPD station, 19020 Vanowen at Wilbur, 7-8:30pm.

6) Thursday, October 18, Shakeout Day, 10:18am. Join 8.4 million people as they practice earthquake safety and Drop, Cover and Hold On wherever you are.

E. Ruth Doxsee- For the record, Board Members Matt Coles and Frank Ahn both resigned prior to the election; in attendance this evening are 24 stakeholders plus 10 board members; greetings from Dave Bernardoni, past president of LBNC.

F. Allen Nelson - Balboa Music Festival on Saturday, Oct. 13 was a big disappointment. He and Roxan arrived in the morning, but didn't get chairs until 3pm. Event was grossly disorganized and began long after scheduled start time. LBNC banner was not on the stage, but only at booth, ticket booth and entrance. Temperature 107 ° F, 80 people sent to the hospital. 10,000 attendees created a parking nightmare, yet made much money for promoters. Headliner, Gladys Knight, left due to show running 2 ½ hours late. Lake Balboa got the blame for resulting traffic tie ups. On stage they didn't thank Lake Balboa, but Encino. It's not an event we want to support in future.

G. Linda Schwering - Oct. 4-5, 9am-4pm, Operation Gratitude looking for volunteers at National Guard Armory on Victory at Louise to verify Battalion Buddy kits are complete and of uniform quality. A battalion buddy is a doll or stuffed animal dressed like military mom or dad for the children of those military who have recently been deployed.

H. Cynthia Weichelt - Oct. 27 & 28, California Native Plant Sale, at the Sepulveda Garden Center, on Magnolia near Hayvenhurst.

5. LBNC Elections - Ruth Doxsee, Election Committee Chair gave report on preliminary results of election on September 29. Many thanks to Linda and Carl Schwering and Linda Gravani, who put in many hours and attended numerous meetings to make this a memorable election. Thanks to Steve Leffert for his outreach help to the school community and Linda Pruett and Mike Rósá for joining the Candidates in the Corral. Outreach done at Encino Farmers' Market, Neighborhood Watch & Business Watch meetings,

Chamber of Commerce and other business meetings, Ralphs Market and by 2 ads in Daily News and 3 banners 3x5ft. posted at various locations. The election site was decorated with balloons at entrance and on major intersections as one approached the Van Nuys Golf Course. The candidate information was posted outside the polling entrance, along with a table for committee sign ups. 100 feet away was the white canopy shading the Candidate Corral, where voters could meet with candidates before hand. Two gourmet food trucks were available in case voters' or golfers' wanted to assuage their appetites. 128 ballots were cast, 92 at the polling place, 36 Vote By Mail. These residential candidates were elected: Linda Pruett, Brian Tessier, Cynthia Weichelt, Linda Schwering, Allen Nelsor and Jack Baird. Business Candidates elected were: Michael Rosá, Clay McFarland and Linda Gravani. Organizational candidates elected were: Steve Leffert and Ruth Doxsee. Senior candidate Carl Schwering, At-Large Elected candidate Patricia Davidovich and Youth candidate Chris Bower were also elected. Congratulations to all! New board will be sworn in at beginning of November meeting.

See "NC Election Outreach Encumbrance Spreadsheet Fiscal Year End Closing June 30, 2012" for details of the \$4597.40 spent out of \$4992.97 available encumbered funds, which left \$395.57 encumbered funds unexpended. Unexpended encumbered funds will go back to the city. Of the \$1000.00 set aside for election outreach from FY 2013-14, \$783.13 was expended, leaving \$216.87 for other uses of LBNC.

We have 3 seats still open to fill by appointment, 1 Organizational and 2 At-Large Appointed seats. Send an email to Ruth or Cynthia designating which seat you are interested in running for.

6. Public Comment - Comments from Public on non-agenda items, issues and announcements and complaints within the jurisdiction of the Lake Balboa NC.

A. Jose Muñoz - Coordinator at the Day Labor Hiring Site YPI, in parking lot of Home Depot, on Balboa Place south of Roscoe. He was asked by his supervisor to come and help educate people. He is funded by CDD (Community Development Dept.)- City of Los Angeles. They try to provide an alternative to Day Laborers instead of being on the street. They try to make it a safer environment for employers and improve the image of day laborers by keeping the community cleaner. If you need workers, please visit site from 6am - 2:30pm Monday through Saturday.

B. Marilyn Feldman - Realtor on Government Affairs Committee of the Southland Regional Association of Realtors, (try saying that 5 times fast) member of Van Nuys NC and Tarzana NC. She is concerned about a) Transfer tax (imposed when property is sold) that the city wants to raise in March 2013 and for which there is a meeting Nov. 1 with Councilman Cardenas; b) sidewalk repairs - due to budget crisis, city wants property owners to pay for repairs by levying a tax when property is sold Mailing will go out to homeowners soon.

C. Kenny Ortega - Sat., Oct. 13, 1pm-6pm, Councilman Tom LaBonge is sponsoring a free "Tennis Day" for all ages Van Nuys- Sherman Oaks Park. Get free tennis lessons from Tennis Pros! For more information, contact Kenny at [tennis4kenny@gmail.com](mailto:tennis4kenny@gmail.com) or 818-385-5799. Previously Paul Krekorian's district, now LaBonge's, so it is a good opportunity to meet new councilperson.

D. Steve Leffert - a) speaking as stakeholder, not board member, encourages us to learn about Propositions 30 and 32 on November 6 ballot, that are critical to schools and educators. Possibility that some schools may have to close after Mother's Day depending on outcome of election.

b) Moe Mojallal is here, please recognize him. We thank him for providing a lovely meeting place for

LBNC board meetings for several years and serving as boardmember. He is moving to Florida and we will miss him.

7. RECEIVED Treasurer's Report -Review and request for approval of expenditure reports for September 2012, including P-card for Q1 of fiscal year 2012-2013 - L. Schwering

APPROVED Treasurer's Report for September 2012- Linda Pruett brought a motion to approve the financial and credit card reports, seconded by Linda Gravani. Vote (8-0-1) Motion Passes.

8. Anniversary of Lake Balboa, California - Beautification project - West side of Haskell between Haynes and Victory. Proposal to reallocate the funding for one monthly newsletter, up to \$1500, for the purpose of jointly-funding a mural in celebration of 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of renaming of our community, Lake Balboa. Nelson

Nelson: Along this stretch of Haskell is a wall composed of concrete block and wood fences. To unify the wall and beautify Lake Balboa, we would like to paint a mural. We are proposing that funding intended for a monthly newsletter be used for supplies for the mural and having a two month newsletter instead. Last year A. Nelson approached the high schools in LBNC and initiated a design contest. Magnolia Science Academy was the sole school to submit a design. The schools (Birmingham, Daniel Pearl Magnet, Independence & Magnolia Science Academy) will need to be contacted again for design and volunteers, except High Tech LA, which has no art department and is not interested.

B. Harris: Starbucks wants to partner with LBNC by providing volunteers, making in kind donations and applying for a community grant.

L. Schwering: as a stakeholder expressed concern regarding the poor condition of portions of existing wood fencing.

Nelson: Homeowners have been contacted once and permission received from them all to paint the fence. They will be contacted again in hopes of convincing them to repair those fences in poor condition and to let them know one of the rules the city has for murals is a 5 year agreement between the artist and homeowners for maintenance: joint responsibility or just the homeowners or just the artist

Since the wall is one and a half football fields long, we want to tackle one-third of the wall at a time. The city permit is \$60.00.

MOTION PASSED: Allen Nelson brought the motion to reallocate the funding for one monthly newsletter, up to \$1500, for the purpose of jointly-funding a mural on the west side of Haskell between Haynes and Victory in celebration of the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of renaming our community -

Lake Balboa. Seconded by Steve Leffert. Vote (7-1-1). Motion passes.

9. Webhosting Services - Discussion of current webhosting contract term and potential for addition of new fee of \$25 per email blast.

Currently Aaron DeVandry, our webmaster, sends an email blast every 2 weeks. Any additional email blasts over 2 per month will be a charge of \$25.00.

We pay \$125/month. Other NCs pay more, such as \$200 or \$250/month, and get free email blasts.

Cynthia Weichelt requested that we get a copy of the email database from Aaron DeVandry so that we may send email blasts ourselves. Others concurred.

MOTION PASSED - Cynthia Weichelt called the question. Allen Nelson brought the motion to pay webmaster Aaron DeVandry \$25.00 per special email blast over and above the current 2 per month. Jack Baird seconded the motion. (Vote 7-0-2) Motion passes.

10. Empower LA - Request for board approval to retain Empower LA logo on Lake Balboa NC website with a link to the Empower LA website. Additional board approval is required to request correction of email address on Empower LA website.

MOTION PASSED: Steve Leffert made the motion that the LBNC send a letter to Stephen Box, that the board approved the request that our email address be changed on the Empower LA website from LBNC@un.att.com to board@lakebalboanc.org. Linda Pruet seconded. Vote (9-0-0).

Motion passes.

MOTION PASSED: Allen Nelson made the motion for LBNC to send a letter to Stephen Box that we have board approval to retain the Empower LA logo on the Lake Balboa NC website with a link to the Empower LA website. Ruth Doxsee seconded. Vote (7-1-1) Nelson opposed.

11. Newsletter- Discussion and possible action regarding frequency and funding.

Linda Schwering reported there is \$16,300 budgeted for newsletters for FY 2012-2013. Since 2 newsletters were paid for from encumbered funds and we combined Sept and Oct newsletters, adequate funding for future newsletters is not an issue. We don't need a motion to change the frequency of the newsletter.

Cynthia Weichelt requested we have items submitted to Roxan for November newsletter by the end of next week and that we have a Newsletter Committee to produce it, instead of just one person.

Steve Leffert added that copy should be sent to the printer by Oct. 29 for November, and Nov. 26 for Dec/Jan newsletter.

12. Valley Pediatric Trauma Center - Request for support of the "Festival of Lights," an annual fundraiser in support of the pediatric trauma center at Northridge Hospital, the only pediatric trauma center in the Valley. Request for support up to \$500. Nelson

Item Tabled- to be put on November agenda

13. Adjournment - Chris Bower brought a motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Steve Leffert. Motion passes by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:07 pm.