

FINAL

Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, December 5, 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 7:00pm.

Roll Call

Linda Schwering	Residential Rep., Treasurer	P
Cynthia Weichelt	Residential Rep., President	P
Jack Baird	Residential Rep.	P
Linda Pruett	Residential Rep., Emergency Preparedness Chair	P
Allen Nelson	Residential Rep., Communications Officer	P
Brian Tessier	Residential Rep., General Outreach Chair	P
Linda Gravani	Business Rep., 2 nd VP	P
Clay McFarland	Business Rep., 1 st VP	P
Michael Rosa	Business Rep., Business Chair	P
Steve Leffert	Organizational Rep., Planning & Land Use Chair	P
Ruth Doxsee	Organizational Rep.	P
Bethany Harris	Organizational Rep., Secretary	P
Carl Schwering	Senior Rep	P
Christopher Bower	Youth Rep.	P
Patricia Davidovich	At-Large Elected Rep.	P
Leslie (Leela) Woods	At-Large Appointed Rep.	A
Roxan Hartstein	At-Large Appointed Rep., Community Improvement Chair	P

2. **ADOPTED Agenda by unanimous vote** - Allen Nelson brought a motion to approve the agenda for the December 5, 2012 meeting, seconded by Pat Davidovich. Vote: (15-0-0). Motion passes.
It was noted that 37 people were in attendance.
3. **APPROVED Minutes of the November 7, 2012 meeting** - Roxan Hartstein brought a motion to approve the November 7, 2012 Meeting Minutes as corrected, seconded by Bethany Harris. Vote: (13-0-0) Motion passes.
4. **Swearing in of Elected Board Members:** Swearing in of Steve Leffert, re-elected board member. Steve Leffert was sworn in by Lynda Levitan.

5. **Election of Officers** - Board members will vote to elect officers to one year terms: President, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and Communications Officers. Board Resolution to certify the election of officers

Cynthia Weichelt was re-elected president. Vote: (10-0-0)

Clay McFarland was elected 1st Vice President. Vote: (15-0-0)

Linda Gravani was elected 2nd Vice President . Vote: (16-0-0)

Linda Schwering was re-elected Treasurer. Vote: (16-0-0)

Bethany Harris was elected Secretary. Vote: (14-0-0)

Allen Nelson was re-elected Communications Officer. Vote: (16-0-0)

APPROVED Board Resolution as amended. Vote: (15-0-0) Motion passes

6. **RECEIVED Announcements and Reports by LAPD, Local, City, State and Federal Representatives, Board Members, Committee**

A. Lynda Levitan, Senior Field Deputy, CD 6, Council Member Tony Cardenas' Office (818) 778-4999 - Officer/Staff Appreciation for West Valley Police Station was extremely successful and appreciated by all the officers and staff members; Metro Project is on the list to be considered; Japanese Garden Calendars were provided; Councilman Tony Cardenas's last day is December 14, 2012. Councilman will be honored at the Council meeting at 10:00 am; The office will still be functioning; Call 311 for issues you may have in your community; Aquatics Project is still on the list to be considered.

B. Greg Bartz - Department of Water and Power.

Mr. Bartz covers 30 neighborhood councils, 4 City Council Offices, Council District 6, 7, 2, 4. He is available for anything concerning water and power. DWP is willing to participate in the Senior Symposium, the General Manager is available to Neighborhood Councils; Anyone can interact with the General Manager and Executive Team when attending workshops; outlined the resource sheet he handed out; an update on rate increases and San Fernando recycling draft was given.

C. Linda Pruett - Emergency Preparedness

Regular Emergency Preparedness Meeting December 8, 2012 at the Flyaway Bus Terminal second floor, Map Your Neighborhood Program will be presented at the meeting. Brian Tessier volunteered his block to be first one mapped; want to bring together CERT, Neighborhood Watches and other emergency preparedness groups; emergency preparedness gifts are great Christmas presents; lists of putting together a back pack, pet kit, roadside kit for car were presented; when shopping at SOS Lake Balboa Board Members or a CERT member gets a 10% discount; starting to prepare in January for next Disaster Preparedness Fair.

D. Patricia Davidovich - Emergency Preparedness

Emergency Preparedness presentation held by the L.A. County of Emergency Management is December 11, 2012 - 3-4 pm or 5:30 held at New Horizons on the corner of Parthenia and Haskell Streets. It is a free community event.

E. Brian Tessier - Emergency Preparedness

A list of emergency kits is available.

F. Linda Schwering - Treasurer

A Certificate of Congressional Recognition from Congressman Brad Sherman to Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council for participation in the 5th Annual Disaster Fair was shared; DONE is holding Ethics Training December 12, 2012 at the main Fire Department Building downtown 6:30 to 9:30 pm.

G. Cynthia Weichelt - Contact her and she will direct you to the Ethics Training; Goal is to have everyone compliant by the February 2013 meeting.

H. Linda Gravani - Attended the meeting regarding the Aquatics Center and voiced that Lake Balboa Council is in favor of the Aquatics Center.

I. Brian Tessier - Emergency Preparedness Committee

He met with the principal of Lemay Elementary who was ecstatic about working with the Emergency Preparedness Committee; They would love for Linda Pruett to come over and take a look at supplies bin; Requested CERT classes there for their staff members; they are coming up with their top five to seven things to work with the committee on; They are willing to assist in figuring out ways to engage and better serve our Spanish speaking population.

J. Roxan Hartstein - The Keep LA Beautiful or KLAB Grant was submitted by the deadline for project along the L.A. River for projects as a garden, bike path, benches.

K. Clay McFarland - He attended Mayor's Budget Meeting; Discussion regarding a huge tax increase; Mayor's Budget Survey is important to submit; Lake Balboa region was not well represented.

L. Michael Rosa - He attended Mayor's Budget Meeting -Discussion of a hiring decrease, wants to move retirement to 65 from 55, retirement benefits are being cut from 100% to 75%; want everyone to pay 10% towards healthcare; focusing on trying to grow revenue; wants to maintain police department's size, 37 new parks in Los Angeles. Certain programs should not be running. The Valley Alliance for Neighborhood Councils was attended by Lake Balboa, 10 Year Anniversary is March 14, 2013. Key note speakers will attend.

M. Cynthia Weichelt - Applications are being accepted for volunteers to monitor the surveillance cameras at the police station; FlyAway stop near Woodley on Victory is a drop off point only; Patricia Davidovich obtained copies of the Orientation packet for newly elected or appointed Board Members.

N. Allen Nelson - High schools were contacted regarding the mural project. The deadline they set was December 14, 2012. There are two schools participating, Magnolia Science and Daniel Pearl. They want emergency preparation training, CERT classes and want to provide every student with their own emergency backpack. Designs will be approved at the February meeting.

O. **LAPD Officer Parra** - She introduced her partner, Officer Santisa. This is his first day out of the Academy; CPAB meeting December 19, 2012 at 7pm West Valley Station 19020 Vanowen Street. She thanked Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council for the Officer Appreciation Day; An update on the Camera project was given. Officer Royal Barber, Senior Lead for North Reseda is in charge of the camera project. Phone number is 818-374-7620

7. Public Comment - Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Items, Issues, Announcements and Complaints within the jurisdiction of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council.

A. **Gerardo Mariano and Luche** - Owner of property located Sherman Way and Balboa received a letter from a management company stating palm tree leaves on their property have been causing problems for the residents of multi unit directly behind them. Advice was given that they cannot be forced legally to trim their trees.

B. **Angel Alvin - St. Bridget's** - St. Bridget of Sweden is a Catholic Church and school; outreach focusing on the entire community, a large Latino representation is willing to lend services to Lake Balboa in terms of communication, writing and talking to people in Spanish. New pastor Farther Paul has done fantastic things at the school; they are completing \$125,000 improvement on part of the old convent which is being converted for Pre K. Ages four and five years old to open on January 7, 2013; 25 red t-shirts were made up for cleanup event, 12 kids and teachers participated in the cleanup; I-pads and Mac laptops are part of the curriculum; after school programs include football, golf, chess club, volleyball; parent involvement is improving; plan on opening programs to kids in the community; 150 kids attend Bible study every Saturday; meeting rooms are available to Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council.

8. National Park Service - Rim of the Valley Project

MOTION PASSED: Steve Leffert brought a motion to have Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council submit a comment letter to the National Park Service in reference to the Rim of the Valley Corridor Special Resource Study. Our support would be for Alternative C, connecting Urban Communities plus the western portion of the Connecting Natural Habitat in Alternative D that surrounds Simi Valley and the Conejo Valley as we feel this would be the best combination of management strategies that would cost-effectively enhance the protection of resources. The letter should mention that we would like to see our position included in the draft study report, seconded by Linda Pruett. Vote: (13-0-0) Motion passes

9. Community Care Ordinance

MOTION PASSED: Allen Nelson brought a motion that Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council send a letter of support for increased regulations on community care facilities to all council members and the mayor seconded by Roxan Hartstein. Vote: (12-0-0) Motion passes

10. Homeowner Responsibility for Cost of Sidewalk Repair:

Allen Nelson brought a motion for a comment letter to be sent to Bob Blumenfield regarding potential legislation prohibiting making homeowners pay for sidewalk repair. seconded by Roxan Hartstein.

AMENDMENT – To remove the words *regarding potential* and add in its place “supporting.” seconded by Roxan Hartstein. Vote: (15-0-0) Amendment passes.

Motion as amended: Move that a comment letter to be sent to Bob Blumenfield *supporting* legislation prohibiting making homeowners pay for sidewalk repair. Seconded by Roxan Hartstein. Vote: (15-0-0) Motion passes.

11. RECEIVED Treasurer’s Report - Review and request for approval of expenditure reports for November 2012 - Clay McFarland brought a motion to approve the financial and credit card reports, seconded by Allen Nelson. Vote (14-0-0) Motion passes

MOTION PASSED: A motion was brought by Linda Schwering that Clay McFarland be appointed as an alternative second signatory for Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council, seconded by Patricia Davidovich. Vote: (12-0-0) Motion passes.

12. Senior Symposium: A presentation was made by Phil Merlin that included a request for LBNC outreach participation in the amount of \$750.

Motion brought by Linda Schwering to allocate up to \$750 for Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council’s participation in the May 18, 2013 Senior Symposium seconded by Linda Pruett.

Clay McFarland suggested that the motion be withdrawn and presented at the next meeting. Linda Schwering withdrew the motion to be presented in February.

13. School Reading Program:

MOTION FAILED - Motion brought by Steve Leffert to appropriate \$1000 towards the Accelerated Reader program from Valley Alternative Magnet School seconded by Roxan Hartstein.

Vote: (6-7-0) Motion failed.

14. EP Bins - Motion to allocate \$1110.78 for supplies to refill the EP bins.

Item #16 was tabled.

15. Committees - Cynthia Weichelt

Land Use Committee - Steve Leffert to continue Chairing

EP Committee - Linda Pruett to continue Chairing

Animal Welfare Committee - Need Chair

Community Improvement Committee - Roxan Hartstein to Chair

General Outreach - Brian Tessier to Chair

Business Committee - Mike Rosa to Chair

16. Adjournment - Chris Bower brought a motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Linda Pruett.

Motion passes by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.