

FINAL

LBNC Special Board Meeting Minutes
Sunday, August 19, 2018, 10 am
Van Nuys Flyaway, Second Floor Conference Room
7610 Woodley Avenue, Lake Balboa, California 91406

Meeting called to order by Linda Gravani, President, at 10:02 a.m.

- 1. Roll Call, 10 board members satisfied quorum of 9. Two stakeholders (Lydia Grant, Sharon Brewer) were present at the beginning of the meeting.**
- 2. Roll Call Quorum is 9**

Carla Bautista	At-Large Appointed SR	P; arrived 10:06 a.m.
James Brown	Residential Stakeholder Representative (RSR); 1 st Vice President	P
Ruth Doxsee	Organizational Stakeholder Representative (OSR)	E
Kristen Fujitaki	At-Large Appointed, Second Vice President	P
Linda Gravani	Business Stakeholder Representative (BSR); President	P
Byron Gutierrez	At-Large Elected CISR	E
James Hart	RSR; Treasurer	E
Sandy Joseph	RSR	P
Cindy Kurland	RSR	P
Madeleine McKay	Youth Stakeholder Representative	P
Allen Nelson	OSR	P
Carol Newman	BSR; Secretary	P
Mary L Pennomon	Senior Stakeholder Representative	P
Linda Pruett	OSR	P
Tom Riley	RSR	P; arrived at 10:17 a.m.
Karen Schatz	RSR	E
Jim Stein	BSR; 2 nd signer	E

Carla Bautista arrived at 10:06 a.m., just after the roll call was taken.

President Linda Gravani explained some of the context and history of Item 5 on the Agenda. The Plan for Neighborhood Councils was originally approved May 30, 2001 and last amended in 2013. Years ago, the Neighborhood Council Review Commission began reviewing the function and operation of Neighborhood Councils. It completed its work in 2007. Some of the recommendations were never put into operation, and some are similar to what Councilman Ryu has now recommended. Ms. Gravani handed out the Executive Summary of that Commission's recommendations. The Council File for that project was CF05-0894-S3.

Tom Riley arrived at 10:17 a.m.

3. Adoption of the Agenda August 19, 2018

James Brown brought a motion to adopt the Agenda for August 19, 2018, seconded by Cindy Kurland

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley

VOTE: (12-0-0-1-0) MOTION PASSES

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

Linda Pruet stated that on August 25, 2018, from 4 to 7 p.m., at the Del Taco on Balboa at Vanowen, 20% of purchases will be given to the SoCal Preparedness Foundation, which is behind on funding this year. She urged everyone to support the Foundation by participating in that fundraising activity.

5. Discussion and possible action regarding CF18-0467 – Neighborhood Council System Reforms – Reconsidering 5.1, 5.2 from 8.1.18 (#24.1 #24.2) LBNC Meeting¹ - Gravani

- (1) Recommendations and next steps for amending City Charter Article IX to change the name of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to the Neighborhood Councils Department (NCD), the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) to the Neighborhood Councils Commission (NCC), and phasing out the use of the term/branding ‘Empower LA’ due to the confusion reported by the public and the perception of Neighborhood Council members that DONE’s role should be primarily to support Neighborhood Councils, which the name Neighborhood Councils Department would better reflect.

This item, which was voted on at the August 1, 2018 Board Meeting, was reconsidered.

Carol Newman brought a motion to amend the City Charter Article IX as proposed, seconded by James Brown.

10 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley.

2 OPPOSED: Fujitaki, Gravani.

VOTE: (10-2-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (2) Recommendations and next steps for amending the Los Angeles Administrative Code to remove the “Community Impact Stakeholder,”² which has caused substantial confusion and disputed elections, and recommendations and next steps for including specific additional definitions by ordinance of eligible voters and board members of Neighborhood Councils, such as student or parent/guardian of a student.

This item, which was voted on at the August 1, 2018 Board Meeting, was reconsidered.

Carol Newman brought a motion in favor of the proposal to remove “Community Impact [Interest] Stakeholder,” seconded by James Brown. Considerable discussion followed.

1 AYE: Kurland.

¹ Attached to and incorporated in the Agenda was the Motion by Councilmember Ryu setting forth 12 proposals for Neighborhood Council System Reforms. The descriptions in these Minutes are from that incorporated document.

² Should be “Community Interest Stakeholder.”

11 OPPOSED: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

VOTE: (1-11-0-0-0) MOTION FAILS

Carol Newman then brought a motion in favor of the proposal to remove "Community Impact [Interest] Stakeholder," but to retain a Neighborhood Council's right to determine who its stakeholders should be, seconded by Kristen Fujitaki.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (3) Recommendations and next steps for amending City Charter Article IX Section 901.d and 904.f to remove any reference to "selections" and clarify that Neighborhood Council board members will be elected. Neighborhood Council "selection" processes are utilized by a limited and decreasing number of councils and are not viewed by the public as being as democratic as elections as they do not provide for a secret ballot or equitable participation. *Linda Gravani brought a motion to OPPOSE amending City Charter Article IX to remove any reference to "selections," seconded by James Brown.*

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (4) Recommendations and next steps for creating a one-time review process, overseen by the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, to evaluate Neighborhood Council bylaws to determine if board seats are equitably allocated amongst stakeholder types and provide formal suggestions to Neighborhood Councils on ways to adjust board seats as needed to create equity.

Linda Pruett brought a motion to OPPOSE creating this one-time review process, seconded by Sandy Joseph.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (5) Recommendations and next steps for adopting regulations to provide a uniform minimum voting age and board member age to allow consistent participation across the City, and what that age should be.

Linda Gravani brought a motion to OPPOSE adopting regulations to provide a uniform minimum voting age and board member age, seconded by Carol Newman.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (6) Recommendations and next steps for developing and adopting a planning and land use training required for all Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Neighborhood Council planning and land use committees.

Carol Newman brought a motion in support of this proposal for developing and adopting a planning and land use training required for all Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Neighborhood Council planning and land use committees, seconded by James Brown.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (7) Recommendations and next steps on a process for Neighborhood Councils to be able to roll-over a non-cumulative maximum of \$10,000 in any given fiscal year.

Sandy Joseph brought a motion in support of a process for Neighborhood Councils to be able to roll over UNLIMITED funds to the next fiscal year, seconded by Linda Gravani.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (8) Recommendations and next steps for removing Section 5.485.h of Chapter 88 of Division 5 of the Los Angeles Administrative Code (Ordinance 179545; see Council File 03-1260), and recommendations for other amendments to that Chapter, in order to remove the expiration of the ability for Neighborhood Councils to accept in-kind or monetary donations.

Sandy Joseph brought a motion to support the proposal to remove the expiration of the ability for Neighborhood Councils to accept in-kind or monetary donations (in order to allow Neighborhood Councils to accept in-kind or monetary donations), seconded by Linda Gravani.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

The Council took a break from 11:58 a.m. to 12:03 p.m.

- (9) On the costs and other implications of holding all Neighborhood Council elections on the same day in order to provide for a uniform citywide advertising and outreach campaign.

Linda Gravani brought a motion to OPPOSE the proposal for holding all Neighborhood Council elections on the same day, seconded by Tom Riley.

10 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley.

2 OPPOSED: Fujitaki, Newman.

VOTE: (10-2-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (10) Develop a process, with the assistance of GSD and the City Clerk, to assist Neighborhood Councils with accessing shared space in City facilities, as envisioned in Council File 16-0298.

Carol Newman brought a motion to approve the proposal to assist Neighborhood Councils with accessing shared space in City facilities, seconded by Linda Pruet.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (11) Develop an ongoing compendium of best practices generated from Neighborhood Councils and share those on a periodic basis with all Neighborhood Councils and include 'how-to guides' for accomplishing those best practices.

Carol Newman brought a motion to approve the proposal to develop an ongoing compendium of best practices generated from Neighborhood Councils and share those on a periodic basis with all Neighborhood Councils and include 'how-to guides' for accomplishing those best practices, seconded by Cindy Kurland.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- (12) Develop point of contact lists for key city departments and agencies, including DCP, DOT, Public Works' Bureaus, Aging, Disability, HCID, DCA, LADWP, Port, Airport, Cannabis Regulation, Emergency Management, Animal Services, LAPD, LAFD, Recreation and Parks, Zoo, Finance, Library, Economic and Workforce Development and BIDs, with assistance from those listed departments and agencies, and share those lists with Neighborhood Councils, facilitate the training of those points of contact at those relevant departments on the most fruitful ways to assist and communicate with Neighborhood Council members, and coordinate with Neighborhood Councils to formally appoint a point of contact at each NC to communicate between each NC and the point of contact at each department, thus creating a single line of communication.

Sandy Joseph brought a motion to support this proposal, seconded by James Brown.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

6. Discussion and possible action regarding **CF15-1022-S3** Whereas the City Council motion requests the city clerk to select 10 NCs for a pilot online voting program for 2019 at no additional charge to the NC, whereas LBNC has a Youth Representative seat, whereas LBNC has 5 High Schools within its boundaries, I move that LBNC request to be one of the online voting pilot locations for 2019 election - Gravani

Linda Gravani brought a motion that LBNC request to be one of the online voting pilot locations for the 2019 election, seconded by Sandy Joseph.

12 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

VOTE: (12-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

7. Discussion and possible action regarding **more time allocated for committee reports during LBNC meeting – Brown**

James Brown brought a motion that more time be allocated for committee reports during LBNC Board meetings, seconded by Cindy Kurland.

5 AYES: Brown, Kurland, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley.

7 OPPOSED: Bautista, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, McKay, Nelson, Newman.
VOTE: (5-7-0-0-0) MOTION FAILS

Madeleine McKay left the meeting at 12:44 p.m.

- 8. FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action regarding contributing \$250 each from the Outreach budget for the VANC Election Forum on October 11, 2018 and the March 2019 VANC Mixer – Gravani

Linda Gravani moved that LBNC contribute \$250 each from the Outreach budget for the VANC Election Forum on October 11, 2018 and the March 2019 VANC Mixer, seconded by Sandy Joseph.

11 AYES: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Kurland, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley

VOTE: (11-0-0-0-0) MOTION PASSES

- 9. FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action regarding contributing \$500 NPG for Making the Arts Real for Youth Foundation (M.A.R.Y.) 501C3 – Nelson

Allen Nelson moved that LBNC contribute \$500 NPG for Making the Arts Real for Youth Foundation (M.A.R.Y.) 501C3, seconded by James Brown

0 AYES

7 OPPOSED: Bautista, Brown, Fujitaki, Gravani, Joseph, Newman, Riley

4 ABSTAIN: Kurland, Nelson, Pennomon, Pruett

VOTE: (0-7-4-0-0) MOTION FAILS

- 10. ADJOURNMENT** – The meeting adjourned at about 1 p.m.