



Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council

P.O. Box 7720
 Lake Balboa, CA 91353-0457
 818-779-9026 voice message
 Website: www.lakebalboanc.org
 Email: info@lakebalboanc.org

**Special Board Meeting Minutes
 Tuesday, November 01, 2018
 6:30pm-7:00PM Meet and Greet
 7:00PM – 9:26PM**

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

Board Member	Roll Call	Funding Vote Eligible*	Category
Carla Bautista	Present (Left Meeting 9:10PM)	YES	At-Large
James Brown 1 st Vice President	Present	YES	Resident
Ruth Doxsee	Present	YES	Organization
Kristen Fujitaki 2 nd Vice President	Absent	YES	At-Large
Linda Gravani President	Present	YES	Business
Byron Gutierrez	Present	YES	At-Large
James Hart Treasurer	Present	YES	Residential
Sandra Joseph	Present	YES	Residential
Cindy Kurland	Present	YES	Residential
Madeleine McKay	Present	NO	Youth
Allen Nelson Communications	Present	YES	Organization
Carol Newman Secretary	Present	YES	Business
Mary Pennomon	Present	YES	Senior
Linda Pruett	Present	YES	Organization
Thomas Riley	Present	YES	Residential
Karen Schatz	Absent**	YES	Residential
James "Jim" Stein	Present	YES	Business
TOTAL: 17	15 PRESENT, 02 ABSENT		

*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

1. Call Meeting to order- Ms. Linda Gravani called the meeting of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council to order at 7:01 PM. Ms. Gravani welcomed everyone to the meeting and notified the Stakeholders about the sign-in sheets, speaker cards, refreshments and using the microphone when speaking. There were ten stakeholders in attendance.
2. Pledge of Allegiance-The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Brown.
3. Roll Call, Quorum is 9-Roll was called by Ms. Joseph, there were 15 Boardmembers in attendance, and quorum was met.

LBNC ITEM 3 Roll Call		
Present – 15	Absent-01	Excused-01
Bautista, Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Gutierrez, Hart, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley, Stein	Fujitaki	Schatz

4. Adoption of the Agenda November 1, 2018 Agenda-With the following changes:
 - a. Move Item 9 to 8 to accommodate the speaker.

Public comment: no comment

Motion approved.

LBNC ITEM 4 Motion to adopt the Agenda for November 1, 2018 Moved: Newman Second: Brown				
Yes – 15	No – 00	Abstain – 00	Not Eligible –00	Absent – 02
Bautista, Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Gutierrez, Hart, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley, Stein	NONE	NONE	NONE	Fujitaki, Schatz

5. Approval of Minutes for: September 5, 2018

Public comment: no comment

Motion approved.

LBNC ITEM 5 Motion to approve the minutes of September 5, 2018 General Board Meeting 2018 Moved: Newman Second: Brown				
Yes – 15	No – 00	Abstain – 00	Not Eligible –00	Absent – 02
Bautista, Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Gutierrez, Hart, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley, Stein	NONE	NONE	NONE	Fujitaki, Schatz

6. Approval of Minutes for: October 3, 2018- Item postponed because minutes had not been reviewed by Ms. Newman due to time constraints as Ms. Newman’s focus was on the reports for the Budget Advocate White Paper.

7. Announcements and Reports: Representatives of LAPD, Local, City, County, State and Federal Government Offices.

- a. West Valley LAPD Captain Ernest Eskridge - Senior Lead Officers (SLOs) - 1-877-ASK-LAPD Officer Smith -818-374-7631 <mailto:34488@lapd.online> Officer (open) - [mailto: 34728@lapd.online](mailto:34728@lapd.online) SLO-Smith, West Valley Division –Senior Lead Officer Smith discussed the issues at the intersection of Balboa/Victory where there are ongoing issues with truancy and drug sales. Some arrests have been made.
- b. Councilmember Nury Martinez’s Office (CD 6) 818-778-4999, Field Deputy, Lauren.Padick@lacity.org There will be a Public Safety Town Hall at Van Nuys City Hall on November 7, 2018. Councilmember Nury Martinez, Police Chief Michel Moore, Commander Lewis, and Officers from the Valley Bureau will be in attendance.
- c. Mayor Garcetti’s Valley Office, East Valley Area Representative, Jaqueline.Serrano@lacity.org 213-910-9104-Absent
- d. City Attorney’s Office 213-978-8100-Neighborhood Prosecutor, Raffy Astvasadoorian raffy.a@lacity.org 818-374-6842- Works with LAPD and the Council office. –Absent
- e. LAUSD Scott Schmerelson’s Office (District 3) 818-654-3785 Dir of Parent & Community Engagement Jeannie.Kamm@lausd.net -Absent
- f. LAUSD Director of Communication & Community Affairs Ambrosia.Solis@lausd.net - Absent
- g. LAUSD Kelly Gonez office (District 6) 818-389-9216 - Dir of Community Engagement & Advocacy Cara.Onofre@lausd.net – Absent
- h. LAUSD Northwest District Administrator Parent/Community Engagement-Gonsalo Garay ggg9445@lausd.net 818-654-360 - Absent

- i. Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's Office (District 3) 213-974-3333 Dist. Dir. Benita Trujillo btrujillo@bos.lacounty.gov –Absent
- j. California Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian's Office (District 46) 818-376-4246_ Emma.Taylor@asm.ca.gov –Absent
- k. California State Senator Robert Hertzberg's Office (District 18) - 818-901-5588 Samatha.Stafford@sen.ca.gov -Absent
- l. California State Senator Henry Stern's Office (District 27) 818-876-3352 Kevin.Taylor@sen.ca.gov – Absent
- m. US Representative Tony Cardenas (District 29) 818-782-7407 Nigel.Sanchez@mail.house.gov –Absent
- n. US Representative Brad Sherman (District 30) 818-501-9200 Mary.Chakerian@mail.house.gov –Absent
- o. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) 818-374-9898 Betty Wong Oyama betty.wong@lacity.org - Ms. Wong gave updates on changes to assignments. City Attorney Darren Martinez has transferred to another assignment. (Administrative Citations) Now City Attorneys Carmen Hawkins and Elise Ruden will continue working with Neighborhood Councils, and 2 additional City Attorneys will be assigned to help. Leyla in Funding has transferred to a new position. Janet Hernandez has moved up to Supervisor. Paola Posada will be your new Funding Representative. Lake Balboa Board Members are in compliance but ethics training needs to be taken every 2 years. There are upcoming ethics and funding trainings available. Please contact DONE to RSVP. <http://www.empowerla.org> The Department has sent out a survey asking for Board Member input as to why they became a part of the Neighborhood Council System. This will help with outreach for the elections.
- p. Renee McDade, City Election Administrator 213-978-0378 renee.mcdade@lacity.org. – She will be serving our election needs, such as how we will validate students and board members. She suggested that we create an ad hoc election committee to identify the schools. We would partner together to identify the students. They must provide documentation, but we can do that ahead of time, and the Neighborhood Council can do that outreach so that students know what they need to do. Linda Gravani said that the election will be a huge task and asked if the City Clerk can help. We can partner with the City, and we would need to let youth know what documentation they would need to run or vote. Ms. McDade provided a list of qualifying documents. It's just suggestions but it's a guide. We can give youth ideas of different ways to qualify. You have to prove who you are, and stakeholder status and age. Going to an educational institution would qualify. The student can get a California student ID. It's tied to your bylaws. A report card can satisfy all of the requirements. Linda Gravani said that the committee will work on it.

Ms. Gravani moved the meeting to Item 9.

- 9. Guest Speaker - Mark Toohey, Agent & Community Liaison of California Earthquake Authority (CEA) - 877- 797-4300 Earthquake Insurance 15 min www.earthquakeauthority.com After the 6.7 Northridge earthquake, which caused an estimated \$20 Billion in residential damages alone, the CA Legislature mandated that those companies selling homeowners insurance had to offer earthquake insurance as well. This caused 93% of insurance companies to STOP offering insurance in California. The California Legislature then created the California Earthquake Authority (CEA), a not-for profit, publicly managed, privately funded entity. About 76% of California residential property insurance companies offer CEA earthquake policies. Mr. Toohey also spoke about the Earthquake Brace and Bolt program that is available in some areas.

Ms. Gravani moved the meeting to Item 8.

The Bureau of Street Services (BSS) is part of the Department of Public Works and is responsible for preserving, protecting, maintaining, and renewing LA's street network and urban forest. This includes streets, sidewalks, bikeways, trees, and medians.

8. Guest Speaker - Mark Simon, Superintendent Valley Operations for LA City Street Maintenance Division (Street Sweeper) 818-374-6844 mark.simon@lacity.org <http://www.bss.lacity.org> myla311.
Mr. Simon discussed at length many of the City's infrastructure issues especially as they apply to street services. Street sweeping was one of the most important issues. Regarding scheduling of street sweepers, when the City was having financial issues they cut back on staff. Prior to the recession, the City had 104 sweepers daily. In 1998-99 they were sweeping every 2 ½ to 3 weeks. As a result of the recession, Mr. Simon's bureau lost more than 400 employees. He currently has 900 employees. He has 69 sweepers daily. "We must prioritize. We're doing what we can with what we have to work with." Streets that were being cleaned every three weeks are now being cleaned twice a year. Now that there is more money, the City is trying to focus on the infrastructure. His bureau recommends that streets should be swept once a month. There are not enough trained Class B Street Sweeper Drivers to do the work. The city owns Street Sweepers which are not being used. Each machine costs about \$500,000. The city needs to hire 20 more Street Sweeper Drivers immediately with a goal of 50 as soon as possible to restore services. The drivers make \$70,000 per year. 45% of the city streets that are being cleaned are covered under posted routes. Of concern to the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council are the main arteries: Balboa, Victory, and Sherman Way which are not posted for cleaning and are not being cleaned. The bureau does not get any money from tickets. Its budget is primarily from Special Funds, as only 13% comes from the General Fund.

Ms. Gravani returned the meeting to Item 10.

10. PUBLIC COMMENT: a total of 10 MIN - Comments from Public on Non-Agenda items, Issues, Announcements and Complaints within the jurisdiction of the Lake Balboa NC. Please fill out a speaker card, TIME PERMITTING 1 minute limit per speaker, you may be asked to select a spokesperson. The California State Law known as the Brown Act requires PUBLIC COMMENT to be a NON-DISCUSSION PERIOD.
 - A. Lee Ann Kennedy – She has been turned down for bracing every year by CEA. Mark Simon said that 91406 is less likely to be hit.

Break 7:45PM to 7:50PM

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS and REPORTS: Committee Chairs and Board Members
 - a. **President -Update:** Sharon and Fred are doing a candy collection for Operation Interdependence which creates military care packages. www.oidelivers.org. LBNC received an NC Education Committee Award of Excellence from LAUSD and we were acknowledged for our tremendous initiative and creative volunteerism. A couple last month wanted to do signage for our NC but the City Attorney said no because it had their real estate logo on it. There will be a Safety Town Hall on November 7, 2018.
 - b. **Ad Hoc Education-Gutierrez:** Meetings TBA. Chair: Byron@lakebalboanc.org Committee: Kristen Fujitaki, Linda Gravani, and Ruth Doxsee. No report
 - c. **Emergency Preparedness -Pruett:** Emergency Preparedness meetings are held on the second Saturday of the month at the Van Nuys Fly Away. The meeting starts at 9:00AM. Committee: Doxsee, Hart, McKay, and Schatz. Amateur Radio Check-in – Every Sunday 9:00AM – Simplex 145.570. If busy, go down by 10's to 145.530 – NO FURTHER – Dan Tomlinson K16YOW@gmail.com The So. Cal. Preparedness Foundation is being recognized tomorrow night at Sportmen's Lodge. Next Saturday's Emergency Preparedness Meeting will be the second movie in a series of videos that will be shown. The movie scheduled is about pandemics.

- d. **Health & Public Safety-Brown:** 3rd Saturday, 10:00AM Flyaway Bus Terminal, 2nd floor meeting room. Chair: jamesb@lakebalboanc.org Committee: Carla Bautista, Mary Pennomon, and Jim Stein. Officer Appreciation Day will take place for lunch and dinner on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018 at the West Valley Station. The committee has trained over 1,000 residents who are now CPR Trained in the community. The new LB Neighborhood Watch street signs are finished. Linda Gravani: It was supposed to say NC on it. Betty Wong Oyama of DONE said that if the NC is paying for them, the signs are not in compliance with NC Funding rules as they do not have Lake Balboa NC on them or the NC logo, nor do they have the NC's contact information. However, Jim Stein said that the signs were approved by Funding.
- e. **Land Use –Riley:** 3rd Monday of the month 7:00PM, Flyaway Bus Terminal 2nd Floor meeting room Chair: Thomas@lakebalboanc.org Committee: Jordan Reid, Jim Stein, Linda Pruett, and Mary Pennomon. Tom presented a map of zip code 91406. Lake Balboa has a portion of zip code 91406, and the other part is in Van Nuys. The Planning Department says that Lake Balboa does not include the area of Saticoy west to Woodley; that is still “West Van Nuys.” The tan area that is shown on the map as part of Northridge can only be made part of Lake Balboa if DONE approves. We’re trying to make the LBNC boundaries what we want them to be. We’re working with the Community Plan.
- f. **Newsletter-Fujitaki:** No report
- g. **Outreach-Nelson:** 4th Tuesday of the month 7:00PM, Flyaway Bus Terminal 2nd Floor meeting room Chair: allen@lakebalboanc.com Vice-Chair: clara@lakebalboanc.org Committee: Jim Stein, James Brown, Lorna Paisley, Linda Pruett, Kristen Fujitaki, and Mary Pennomon. Lauren Padick and Allen received complaints about issues at the Lake, including dead fish and dead birds, but also that homeless people are bathing in the Lake and that there is shaving cream in the Lake. A biologist and Rec & Parks came. All the water is recycled. The levels need to be maintained to keep the water healthy.
- h. **Ad Hoc Recreation & Park-Stein:** Meetings TBA, Chair: jimstein@lakebalboanc.org : no report, did not have a meeting
- i. **Local Volunteer Neighborhood Oversight Committee (LVNOC)-Prop K- Doxsee/Stein/Gravani:** no report, nothing new
- j. **Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee (SBWASC) - Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee-Ruth Doxsee/ Cindy Kurland:** Meets 4th Tuesday of odd numbered months at Balboa Sports Complex 6:30PM. Doxsee/Kurland. If you find a wild injured bird or animal, contact the California Wildlife Center. 310 458-9453 cawildlife.org10. There was a meeting on Oct. 30, 2018. The Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) has hired two rangers for their properties in LA County. Nate Figueroa and Allen Aguas are already on patrol, but their area is the entire county. They are unarmed, but may issue citations for infractions such as illegal fishing, hunting, dogs off leash, etc. They will be in close communication with LAPD, and if any City law is violated on ACOE land, there will be consequences. The Donald C. Tillman Water Reclamation Plant has applied for an easement to the ACOE. Next year an advanced water filtration plant will be constructed. Homeless encampments continue to be a problem for the bird walks, as 4th graders did not feel safe with people watching them from the other side of Haskell Creek. There has also been more vandalism of the bathrooms adjacent to the amphitheater. Family nature walks continue on the 2nd Saturday of the month at 9 am, and bird walks for adults continue on the 1st Sunday of the month at 8 am.
- k. **Youth Affairs-McKay:** Ms. McKay raised concerns about the Youth Position and the upcoming elections. How will the students be able to vote? What will they need? Ms. Gravani will assist. Also, Ms. McKay was in contact with the President of Birmingham High to host an outreach and resource fair there. She has contacted him several times but he hasn't responded yet. He's

overwhelmed. She also reached out to Daniel Pearl to do the same thing, and she has more faith she will hear from them soon.

- I. **Ad Hoc Election Committee –Schatz:** Meeting TBA, Chair: Karen@lakebalboanc.org Committee: Cindy Kurland and Mary Pennomon. No report.
 - m. **Liaisons:**
 - i. **Homeless-Kurland/Schatz:** At the NC Congress Ms. Kurland heard about the Clean Streets, Clean Starts Program for the homeless. Don Larsen goes into communities. You direct him to streets to be cleaned and he and 10 homeless people will clean the streets. The homeless get money and vouchers. Other NC's highly recommend him. Homeless people in the park have a huge effect on the community. She asked that a presentation be agendized next month for Mr. Larsen to explain his program. He wants \$3,000-\$5,000.
 - ii. **Resilient Los Angeles-Pruett:** Lydia Grant reported that they had a meeting a few nights ago. The speakers were from an earthquake organization. Everyone with Go Kits should have toilet paper and earplugs. All the NC's will give input to a master plan. The goal is how we can be more sustainable, to get us on a better track.
 - n. **Boardmembers: Mr. Stein-** The 5th Annual Movie in the Park will be held around June 14, 2019. Mr. Stein has spoken with Guy Lehman (sp?) and we've narrowed it down to 4 movies.
 - o. **Mary Pennomon:** There are 26 members of the Volunteer Community Patrol currently, of whom 5 are from Lake Balboa. In the last 2 days the patrol members did a truancy patrol at the strip mall on Balboa at Victory. There were 9 kids in front of the donut shop. The patrol has also been assisting with directing traffic.
12. **Budget Advocate-Updates:** (<http://ncbala.com/>) Newman 5 min (Budget Reps/Advocates, Carol Newman/Dan Burttt)- See 13 below.
 13. **Budget Advocates** Budget Advocates - Discussion and possible action regarding the state of LA's City Budget i.e. \$100 million shortfall 1st quarter. Carol Newman: The Budget Advocates are currently writing up the reports for the White Paper book and are trying to get the book finished by the end of 2018, which would be several months earlier than the completion of the last book. The City is running about \$100 million in expenses over and above where it planned to be at the end of the first quarter of the fiscal year. Mr. Burttt has resigned as a Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Budget Representative and as a Budget Advocate. LBNC needs to assign a replacement for him for LBNC Budget Representative. Ms. Joseph nominated Linda Gravani who accepted the position as Budget Representative for LBNC.
 14. Discussion and possible action regarding **a proposed plan for future LBNC meetings** and outreach ideas - Gravani. According to the City Charter, Section 900, the purpose of NC's is "[t]o promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs. . . 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." We're here to get the City to do its job, not to get us to do it for them. While the City had a \$1.4 billion increase this year in tax revenues, it is also giving hotels \$1.3 billion in subsidies. We're not reaping the benefits. Ms. Gravani wants speakers from City departments – whom do we want to hear from? We may videotape the speaker and put it on our website. We need equipment to video and post. Please send Ms. Gravani the list of City services you would like to see restored. Examples are park ranger, park bathrooms.
Public comment: no public comment
 15. REMINDER - **Safety Town Hall with Chief Moore November 7, 2018 630p-830- Van Nuys City Hall Council Chambers 14410 Sylvan Street 2nd Floor** - Gravani 2 min. Ms. Gravani reminded everyone of the Safety Town Hall.

16. Discussion and possible action regarding **2019 LBNC Election date/time change** - Schatz 5 min. In Ms. Schatz's absence, Ms. Gravani stated that we were originally told that the election would be on a Thursday night, but she told the City Clerk that we want it on a Sunday. Ms. Schatz had recommended June 23, 2019, from 10-4.

Public comment: no comment

Motion passed

LBNC ITEM 16 Motion to change the Election date/ time to June 23, 2019 10AM-4PM Moved: Kurland Second: Gravani				
Yes –15	No – 00	Abstain– 00	Not Eligible-00	Absent-02
Bautista, Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Gutierrez, Hart, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley, Stein	NONE	NONE	NONE	Fujitaki, Schatz

Ms. Bautista left the meeting at 9:10 pm.

17. Discussion and possible action regarding the **storage CLEANUP**, anyone have anything at home that belongs in the storage unit? Gravani – 2 min. Ms. Gravani reminded the board to take any items they may have at home to the storage unit if the items belong to the NC. We want to tidy it up.

18. Discussion and possible action regarding a new Storage Facility 6847-6863 Woodley - **CPC-2018-4246-ZC-HDBL-CU-SPR & ENV-2018-4247-EAF** - Land Use vote 4 approval 0 opposed 2 abstentions-Riley – 10 min.

Mr. Gutierrez left the room during the vote because he has a conflict. Mr. Riley: This property is at Woodley and Vanowen and is owned by a tree service company. The proposal is for a storage facility and truck rental company. There is a great need for storage facilities. The property will have 37 parking spaces. The trucks will not be on the property (there will be only 3 spaces for trucks). The proposal stipulates that the noise level will not exceed 45 decibels, and the 1% cultural affairs/builder fee will be assigned to LBNC for the beautification of Lake Balboa.

Public comment: no comment

Motion passed

LBNC ITEM 18 Motion to support application for new storage facility. Moved: Riley Second: Kurland				
Yes – 12	No-01	Recuse– 01	Not Eligible-00	Absent-03
Brown, Gravani, Hart, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley, Stein	Doxsee	Gutierrez	NONE	Fujitaki, Schatz, Bautista

19. FUNDING: Discussion and possible action regarding expenditure **up to \$750 for LBNC 2019 Retreat** for new LBNC Board on **Saturday June 29, 2019** location to be announced - Gravani 5 min

Public comment: no comment

Motion passed

LBNC ITEM 19. Motion to spend up to \$750.00 for the LBNC Retreat, which would include the venue, refreshments, printing and other associated expenses, planned for June 29, 2019 Moved: Gravani Second: Doxsee				
Yes – 13	No – 00	Abstain– 00	Not Eligible-01	Absent-03
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Gutierrez, Hart, Joseph, Kurland, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruet, Riley, Stein	NONE	NONE	McKay	Fujitaki, Schatz, Bautista

20. FUNDING: Discussion and possible action regarding September Monthly Expense Report (MER)- Hart

Public Comment: no comment

Motion passed

LBNC ITEM 20 Motion to approve September 2018 MERS Moved: Hart Second: Gravani				
Yes – 13	No – 00	Abstain– 00	Not Eligible-01	Absent-03
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Gutierrez, Hart, Joseph, Kurland, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley, Stein	NONE	NONE	McKay	Fujitaki, Schatz, Bautista

21. Discussion and possible action regarding **year end expenditures** – Gravani

Ms. Gravani mentioned that everyone needs to consider the purchases and decisions that need to be made as the fiscal year will be ending.

Public comment: no comment

22. Adjourn

LBNC ITEM 22 Motion to Adjourn Moved: Gravani Second: Joseph 9:26 PM				
Yes – 14	No – 00	Abstain– 00	Not Eligible-00	Absent-03
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Gutierrez, Hart, Joseph, Kurland, McKay, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pruett, Riley, Stein	NONE	NONE	NONE	Fujitaki, Schatz, Bautista

**Next Regular Meeting of the
 Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
 Wednesday December 5, 2018 at 7:00 PM**