



Neighborhood Council



Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council

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**Special Board Meeting Minutes
Friday, October 9, 2020
Zoom Meeting
7:00PM – 9:38PM Meeting
(APPROVED)**

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

Boardmember	Roll Call	Funding Vote Eligible*	Category
Carla Bautista 2 nd Vice President	Absent	NO	Residential
James Brown 1 st Vice President	Present	YES	Residential
Katie Cronin New Boardmember	Absent	YES	Organization
Ruth Doxsee	Present	YES	Residential
Linda Gravani President	Present	YES	Business
Sandra Joseph	Present	YES	Residential
Gary Kay	Present	YES	At-Large***
Danica Middleton Secretary	Present	YES	Residential
Allen Nelson	Present (Arrived at 7:04PM)	NO	At-Large***
Carol Newman	Present	YES	Business
Mary Pennomon	Present	NO	Senior
Jeremy Pisanic	Present	YES	Residential
Linda Pruett	Present (Arrived at 7:09PM)	NO	Organization
Thomas Riley	Present	YES	Organization
Linda Schwering	Present	YES	At-Large
Emma Scott	Absent	NO	Youth
James "Jim" Stein Treasurer	Present	YES	Business
TOTAL: 17	PRESENT 14, Absent 3		

*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 ***At Large Appointed

1. Call meeting to order- **The Meeting was called to Order at 7:00PM. Ms. Gravani welcomed the Stakeholders and read section 900.**

L.A. City Charter Sec 900. Purpose (Of Neighborhood Councils)

To promote more citizen participation in government and make government more responsive to local needs, a citywide system of Neighborhood Councils and a Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is created. 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 are a department within the city of Los Angeles. We are required to follow city and state laws. The Brown Act does not allow us to discuss anything that is NOT on tonight's agenda. Items are on time limits so that the meeting will end

around 9:30PM. Time allocations are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the President. The time keeper is James Brown

2. Pledge of Allegiance, **The Pledge of Allegiance: was led by James Brown**

3. Roll Call, **Quorum of 9 was reached. Carla Bautista, Allen Nelson, Mary Pennomon, and Linda Pruett are not up to date on trainings and are ineligible to vote.**

LBNC ITEM 3. Roll Call (7:01PM)		
Present –12	Absent-04	Excused-01
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman, Pennomon, Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	Bautista, Nelson, Pruett, Scott,	Cronin,

4. Adoption of the Agenda for October 9, 2020

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (7:02PM)

LBNC ITEM 4. Motion to adopt the Agenda for October 9, 2020 Moved: Brown Second: Doxsee			
Yes –11	No-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-5
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman, Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Pennomon	Bautista, Cronin, Nelson, Pruett, Scott

5. A Discussion and possible action for the Approval of Minutes for September 5, 2020 meeting

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (7:04PM)

LBNC ITEM 5. Motion to Approve the Minutes for September 5, 2020 meeting Moved: Pisanic Second: Middleton			
Yes –11	No-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-5
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Pennomon	Bautista, Cronin, Nelson, Pruett, Scott

6. Discussion and possible action for the Approval of Minutes for Special September 30, 2020 meeting- **Item Postponed**

Allen Nelson joined the meeting at 7:04PM

7. Announcements and Reports: 12 minutes if present, PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF Representatives of LAPD, Local, City, County, State 2-minute limit per speaker.
 - a. West Valley LAPD Captain David Grimes 31168@lapd.online –Senior Lead Officers (SLOs) - 1- 877-ASK-LAPD Officer (Para) Smith - 34488@lapd.online 2. Officer Fuentes - 40093@lapd.online – **The officers were in attendance but will allow Chief Grimes to give the report. Make sure to lock vehicles.**
 - b. LA Councilwoman’s Martinez’s office (CD 6) 818-778-4999 Field Deputy – Jonah.Glickman@lacity.org **The following was read by Ms. Gravani-There will be a pop-up Covid-19 Testing Site at Ralphs on October 23, and 24, 2020. There will also be a testing site**

at the U.S. Post Office on Sherman Way, October 27, and 28, 2020. Beginning on Oct 14, 2020. Parking will be enforced again for Street Cleaning. No more illegal parking. Enforcement will be resuming.

- c. LA Mayor Garcetti's office East Valley Area Rep – Caroline.Menjivar@lacity.org 213-713-0597
- d. LA City Attorney's Office – 213-978-8100 Neighborhood Prosecutor – Michael.Liu@lacity.org 818-374-6837 **Michael Liu- Criminal Courts are reopening for Courts and Jury Trials**
- e. Community Resource Specialist – Cynthia.Hernandez@lacity.org 818-374-6839

Linda Pruett joined the meeting at 7:09PM

- f. LA City Planning Liaison Ariel.Jones@lacity.org 213-820-4255-**No report**
- g. LAUSD Scott Schmerleson office (District 3) 818-654-3785 school Engagement and Data Specialist · Tara.Vahdani@lausd.net 818-654-3785- **Document readers you bought are so helpful, thank you. Two of your Local Schools have started in person tutoring, Gault Elementary and Lake Balboa College Prep. This is a Pilot Program. Daniel Pearl has a new Principal. The E-Choice window is open for Enrollment in Magnet Schools and Affiliated Charters**
- h. LAUSD Kelly Gonez office (District 6) 818-212-6687 - Dir of Community Engagement & Advocacy Michael.Menjivar@lausd.net **Ms. Gonez will be doing the report.**
- i. LAUSD Northwest District Administrator Parent/Community Engagement-Gonsalo Garay - ggg9445@lausd.net 818-654-3600-**No report**
- j. LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's office (District 3) 818-901-3831 District Director Benita Trujillo btrujillo@bos.lacounty.gov
- k. CA Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian's office (District 46) 818-376-4246 Stephanie.Mkhlian@asm.ca.gov **No report**
- l. State Senator Robert Hertzberg's Office (District 18) - 818-901-5588 Hannah.Kelley@sen.ca.gov CA **No report**
- m. State Senator Henry Stern's Office (District 27) - 818-876-3352 –Jeremy.Wolf@sen.ca.gov and SFV representative Denise.Kniter@sen.ca.gov **No report**
- n. US Representative Tony Cardenas (District 29) 818-782-7407 Oswaldo.Ramirez@mail.house.gov
- o. US Representative Brad Sherman (District 30) - 818-501-9200 Mary.Chakerian@mail.house.gov **No report**
- p. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) 818-374-9898 Betty Wong-Oyama NC Advocate betty.wong@lacity.org 818-374-9896 – **CF 20-0990 Diversity/Equity Training is on hold probably until the first of the year. The Social Media Policy is also on hold. Upcoming trainings- Planning 101 is required for all Land Use Chairs and Committee Members. The next trainings are October 13, 15, and 17, 2020. Do the training before December 16, 2020 or you will not be allowed to vote. The New Reform Policy was approved and there will be several things will be changed in the Bylaws-Youth Seat ages 14-17, and Community Interest Definition has been changed also. Check Zoom settings make sure Passcodes are turned off so that community members can join the meeting. Outreach meetings coming up you will receive invites. Vote by mail will be presented to the HENPAR Committee by the City Clerk's office on October 28, 2020. Renew your trainings every two years.**

8. Guest Speaker: Police Use of Force update - LAPD Captain Grimes 31168@lapd.online – **Captain Grimes gave his LAPD background. Crime is pretty good violent crime is down. Crime rate has increased for Grand Theft Auto. Do not leave the keys in the car. Park it securely if possible or get a Club device. Captain Grimes presented a Power Point Presentation – Eight Can't Wait. Police Reform Plan. There are eight recommendations to reduce Police violence.**
- 1. Ban Choke Holds, 2. Require De-escalation, 3. Warning before using deadly Force. 4. Ban shooting at moving vehicles 5. Exhaust Alternatives, 6. Duty to intervene, 7. Use of Force Continuum, 8. Comprehensive reporting.**
- LAPD has implemented this plan and others like-Teams 2 System- Early warning Computer Systems, reviews Officers records and it sends out a warning on an officer. Police Dogs are no longer trained to Bite. They are trained to bark. Biased Police-extensive Police training, Law enforcement Code of Ethics. In 1990-LAPD had 115 Officer Involved Shootings, in 2019-LAPD 26 Officer Involved Shootings. The ethnic breakdown was 15 Hispanic, 8 Black, 2 White, and 2 Other Ethnicities. 69% were armed with a firearm and 31% fired at Officers. There were 1.7 Million Contacts, 82,000 arrests, and 2,273 Use of Force (.14%) 2.9% of the time some Use of Force is needed. 3 out of 100 people .001% use of Force out of the 1.7 Million Contacts. Jeremy Q/A anything that restricts or impairs ability? No, it works. Steve Leffert Q/A percentage of African Americans 9% of the population are African Americans. The amount of crimes committed crimes are higher among African Americans and more of them have guns. Next week on the October 14th at the CPAB meeting there will be a presentation on this with more information.**

Ms. Gravani moved the meeting to Item 10.

9. Guest Speaker: Ms. Kelly Gonez, LA Unified Board Member District 6.
- Ms. Gonez gave updates on the pandemic. They are going to open up the schools with a Hybrid Model when it is safe. Some one and one tutoring has already begun. The District has set up a Covid-19 testing program. Staff is currently being tested. The LAUSD Board voted to put Measure RR on the Ballot, the money will go towards improving the school infrastructure and buildings.**
- Q/A Can we open schools from K-3rd grade? / This is a priority.**
- Steve Leffert- Q/A How rapidly are the test results available? / Results come between 24-36 hours.**

Meeting returned to Item 12.

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. The Brown Act, prevents the board from commenting on your comments. We are making note of them.
- a. **Glenn Bailey – Thanked those who attended the Congress. The Sessions were recorded and are on the Congress Website. E- the money to help Budget Balancing Blast sent out last night regarding a proposal to take BA at Congress for the Department to sweep CAO denied their proposal. That was money voted by NC's into special accounts and should not be taken, we need to stand strong.**

L.A. City Charter Sec. 909. Annual City Budget Priorities.

Each neighborhood council may present to the Mayor and Council an annual list of priorities for the City budget. The Mayor shall inform certified neighborhood councils of the deadline for submission so that the input may be considered in a timely fashion. (see www.ncbala.com for 2015, 2016, 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 White Paper recommendations). **Read by Ms. Gravani**

11. Budget Advocate - Updates, (ncbala.com) - Newman Budget Advocate Carol Newman/Budget Rep Linda Gravani. **Carol Newman gave her report on the Budget Advocates. BONC had requested that The Department give a report on the Budget Advocates. This report undercut the existence of the Budget Advocates. The Department decided that about half of the Budget Advocates Funds would be swept and given back to City. The CAO said the special funds could not be taken. The Budget Advocates met with the Mayor today. The City is in a financial crisis. They will be short between Three and Four Million Dollars this year. There is an internal fight within the Budget Advocates that is creating a problem and interfering with the work. There will be a Town Hall in the near future. The Budget Advocates are working on publishing papers**
Motion for Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council to have the funds returned to them that are unused in the Budget Advocates as voted on.

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (8:08PM)

BONC ITEM 11. Motion for Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council to have the funds returned to them that are unused in the Budget Advocates as voted on. Motion: Gravani Second: Pisanic, Joseph			
Yes -11	No-00	Ineligible-03	Absent-03
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman, Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Nelson, Pennomon, Pruet	Bautista, Cronin, Scott

Ms. Gravani returned the meeting to Item #9

12. ANNOUNCEMENTS and REPORTS: Committee Chairs and Board Members:

- a. President Update - **Mandatory-Land Use 101 training was mentioned.**
- b. Emergency Preparedness - Linda Pruet RYLAN (Ready Your LA Neighborhood)- **No meeting tomorrow instead it is Valley Disaster Preparedness Day go to the website, Valley Disasterfair.com register to R.S.V.P. Get your Preparedness kit in a few weeks. Keep pantry's, first aid kits, and medical supplies full, due to the potential of civil unrest.**
- c. Health & Public Safety- James Brown- **The first Zoom Public Safety Meeting was held and it went well. The next meeting will be on October 17, 2020. The next CPAB Meeting is Wednesday, October 14, 2020 on Zoom.**
- d. Land Use - Tom Riley- **update on the Community Center: we have a great committee put together. Trying to work with the owners to put it together.**
- e. Outreach – Jeremy Pisanic- **spoke about the Lake Balboa signs. Will have a meeting in November date to be decided.**
- f. Recreation & Park - Jim Stein – **working on ideas for Jesse Owens Park. Mr. Stein is trying to put a meeting together. The committee has reached out to his family to get permission to use his images and quotes.**
- g. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee (SBWASC) - Ruth Doxsee/Danica Middleton

There was a fire in the Basin on September 6, 2020. The person who started it was arrested because of a homicide caused by the fire. Several photos were shown. 86 acres were burned. There is a large loss of plant and animal life. It will take many years to recover. An invasive water plant was discovered that needs to be removed or it can destroy the lake they are looking for volunteers to help remove it. Volunteer at sepulvedawildlife.org.

- h. Volunteer Community Patrol - Mary Pennomon-**Volunteers are getting training on monitoring speeders and taking police reports. Picked up a video from a Home Depot that had a \$9,000.00 theft of equipment. She spoke about some of the calls she had been on. Mr. Brown added that the Volunteer Police will be assigned at Election Polling Places on Election Day.**

BOARDMEMBERS:

- a. Liasons: Resilient Los Angeles - Linda Pruett www.lamayor.org/resilience= **No report**

Alliances:

- a. West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness. **Report from Glenn Bailey, the alliance is supposed to be the 16 Neighborhood Councils working together to solve the homelessness problem in the West Valley. Mr. Bailey is asking for 1 or more liaisons to participate for Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council. The next meeting is November 15, 2020, at 4:00PM.**

- 13. **BUDGET:** Discussion and possible action regarding approval of August Monthly Expense Report (MER). **Mr. Stein reviewed the MER**

Public Comment:

Motion Passed (8:50PM)

LBNC ITEM 13 Motion to approve the August Monthly Expense Report Moved: Stein Second: Doxsee			
Yes -11	No-00	Ineligible-03	Absent-03
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Nelson, Pennomon, Pruett	Bautista, Cronin, Scott

- 14. Discussion and possible action regarding additional **WELCOME TO LAKE BALBOA signs** – Middleton/Glickman 5 min-**An update was given and the final design has been chosen #2 was the favorite #3 was the second favorite. Street Services will get back to the Board. The Board may have to purchase the two additional signs.**
- 15. **LAND USE:** Discussion and possible action regarding 7 story apartment building with 150 units at 7650 Balboa. Riley 10 min- **Tom Riley gave an update on the project. The hearing has not been scheduled so the Community Meeting on this project will be cancelled. Steve Leffert spoke about putting pressure on the developer.**
- 16. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action regarding the expenditure of up to \$500 for the Neighborhood Holiday Parade.

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (9:15PM)

LBNC ITEM 16. Motion for LBNC to approve up to \$500.00 for refreshments for the Lake Balboa Holiday Parade Moved: Middleton Second: Pisanic

Yes –6	No-03	Abstain-02	Ineligible-03	Absent-03
Doxsee, Gravani, Middleton, Newman, Riley, Stein	Brown, Joseph, Kay	Pisanic, Schwering	Nelson, Pennomon, Pruett	Bautista, Cronin, Scott

17. Discussion and possible action regarding LBNC creating an ad hoc Neighborhood Watch development committee. Gravani – **Ms. Gravani will chair the Ad Hoc Committee. Middleton, Brown, Pisanic volunteered to be on the committee.**
18. FUNDING: Discussion and possible action regarding 5TH request to fund the Neighborhood Purposes Grant for \$4,000 for Valley Interfaith Council’s Meals on Wheels program. –**Ms. Gravani questioned Mr. Riley on Ethics related to this organization. Mr. Riley receives no salary. Mr. Riley Recused himself and left the meeting. Ms. Ruden continues to say no to this NPG. There are some information missing on the NPG- Item Postponed**
19. **Thank you LBNC Board Members for all you do for our community!**
20. **Adjourn- Meeting was adjourned at 9:38. No vote was taken.**

Next Regular Meeting of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council

Wednesday November 4, 2020 at 7:00PM