



Neighborhood Council



Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council

P.O. Box 7720
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818-779-9026

Website: www.lakebalboanc.org
Email: info@lakebalboanc.org

**Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 4, 2020
Zoom Meeting
7:00PM – 9:52PM 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	Resigned	NO	Residential
James Brown 1 st Vice President	Present	YES	Residential
Katie Cronin	Present	YES	Organization
Ruth Doxsee	Present	YES	Residential
Linda Gravani President	Present	YES	Business
Sandra Joseph 2 nd Vice President	Present	YES	Residential
Gary Kay	Present	YES	At-Large***
Danica Middleton Secretary	Absent (Arrived 7:04PM)	YES	Residential
Allen Nelson	Present	NO	At-Large***
Carol Newman	Present	YES	Business
Mary Pennomon	Absent (Arrived 7:04PM)	NO	Senior
Jeremy Pisanic	Present	YES	Residential
Linda Pruett	Absent (Arrived at 7:23PM)	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: 16	PRESENT 12, Absent 4		

*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, Allen Nelson, Mary Pennomon, and Linda Pruett are not up to date on trainings and are ineligible to vote.**

LBNC ITEM 3. Roll Call (7:04 PM)		
Present –14	Absent-02	Excused-00
Brown, Cronin, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Nelson, Newman, Pennomon, Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	Pruett, Scott	None

Ms. Middleton and Ms. Pennomon joined the meeting at 7:04PM

4. Adoption of the Agenda for November 4, 2020- **Correct Item 8 to say Employee not Volunteer.**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (7:05 PM)

LBNC ITEM 4. Motion to adopt the Agenda as corrected for November 4, 2020 Moved: Brown Second: Joseph			
Yes –12	No-00	Ineligible-02	Absent-02
Brown, Cronin, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman, Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Nelson, Pennomon	Pruett, Scott

5. A Discussion and possible action for the Approval of Minutes for Special September 30, 2020 meeting

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (7:07 PM)

LBNC ITEM 5. Motion to Approve the Minutes for September 30, 2020 meeting Moved: Pisanic Second: Riley			
Yes –10	Abstain-02	Ineligible-02	Absent-02
Doxsee, Cronin, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	Brown, Gravani	Nelson, Pennomon	Pruett, Scott

6. Discussion and possible action for the Approval of Minutes for Special October 9, 2020 meeting-

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (7:09 PM)

LBNC ITEM 6. Motion to Approve the Minutes for Special October 9, 2020, meeting Moved: Doxsee Second: Schwering			
Yes –11	Abstain-01	Ineligible-02	Absent-02
Brown, Cronin, Doxsee, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	Gravani	Nelson, Pennomon	Pruett, Scott

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 –**No Report**

- b. LA Councilwoman's Martinez's office (CD 6) 818-778-4999 Field Deputy – Jonah.Glickman@lacity.org **The Council President launched the new Utility program. DWP will allow \$500.00 per low income household to help with their bills. You can apply at the DWP home page. It can serve up to 100,000 households. The window will be open until 11-15-2020. Resurfacing on Victory will be postponed. They will be adding pedestrian upgrades. Street Services is working on the Median sign. The cost estimate should be here in a few weeks. Update on (CF20-1376) MC 4118 Homeless encampments near freeways. It will be rescheduled for November 24, 2020. There is ongoing litigation. Project Room Key and Home Key. The City wants these rooms to count towards the number required by the court. Cal Trans will not clean up until the Homeless have housing. The Airtel Hotel contract was extended until end of February. (6700 beds are being mandated).**

Linda Pruett joined the meeting at 7:23PM

- c. LA Mayor Garcetti's office East Valley Area Rep – Caroline.Menjivar@lacity.org 213-713-0597- **Pop-up flu shots at Hansen Dam. New Economic Relief Program (Parking Ticket)- pay within 48 hours LA DOT \$(20.00 discount) Website. Veteran's Day Celebration in Pacoima at Ritchie Valens Park 8:30AM-11:00AM on Veteran's Day. The Green New Deal Tool Kit is available.**
- d. LA City Attorney's Office – 213-978-8100 Neighborhood Prosecutor – Michael.Liu@lacity.org 818-374-6837 **Michael Liu-No report**
- e. Community Resource Specialist – Cynthia.Hernandez@lacity.org 818-374-6839
- 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-
- h. Dr. Maxey Head of the Reseda Community of Schools 818-668-1051- Came and introduced himself. The website is resedacos@LAUSD.net There is a Townhall coming up, information is available on the website.
- i. LAUSD Kelly Gonez office (District 6) 818-212-6687 - Dir of Community Engagement & Advocacy Michael.Menjivar@lausd.net -**No Report**
- j. LAUSD Northwest District Administrator Parent/Community Engagement-Gonsalo Garay - ggg9445@lausd.net 818-654-3600-**No report**
- k. LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's office (District 3) 818-901-3831 District Director Benita Trujillo btrujillo@bos.lacounty.gov
- l. CA Assembly Member Adrin Nazarian's office (District 46) 818-376-4246 Stephanie.Mkhlian@asm.ca.gov- **No report**
- m. State Senator Robert Hertzberg's Office (District 18) - 818-901-5588 Hannah.Kelley@sen.ca.gov CA- **No report**
- n. 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**
- o. US Representative Tony Cardenas (District 29) 818-782-7407 Oswaldo.Ramirez@mail.house.gov -**No report**
- p. US Representative Brad Sherman (District 30) - 818-501-9200 Mary.Chakerian@mail.house.gov **No report**
- q. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) 818-374-9898 Betty Wong-Oyama NC Advocate betty.wong@lacity.org 818-374-9896 **Upcoming trainings- Planning 101 is required for all Land Use Chairs and Committee Members. Please forward your certificate to Ms. Wong-Oyama. Do the training before December 16, 2020 or you will not be allowed to vote.**

All NC's Must do a Board count confirming all Land use Committee Members. 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. The Bylaws will be updated. Check Zoom settings make sure Passcodes are turned off so that community members can join the meeting. Events Safer LA Orders. NC- until further notice Event forms do not need to be filled out for online meetings if no funds are spent. Renew trainings. Ms. Wong-Oyama announced her retirement. She can be reached at 818-374-9896 The LBNC would like to choose your replacement.

8. **Guest Speaker: Barbara Hatley Employee at West Valley Animal Shelter.** Discussion and possible action regarding CF20-1114 - Motion brought to City Council on 9/2/2020 and as of 10/26/2020 – 5 NCs forwarded Community Impact Statements (CIS) AND 259 public comments were in favor of permanent operation of the West Valley Animal Shelter. **Ms. Hatley is a 30- year Employee. The Shelter was closed due to Covid -19. The West Valley Shelter has remained closed and is causing problems for the other shelters. There are no adoptions and no enforcement coming from the West Valley. The West Valley Shelter is the only Shelter with air conditioning. We need to have a fully functional Municipal Shelter at that site. That is what the taxpayers paid for in Proposition F. This is a Public Safety Issue. It can take a few hours to get a response for animal attacks. The City offered a retirement incentive. Only 3 Officers are leaving. There are 9 currently training. There is enough staff. Ms. Gravani read the following:** In response to the City's current financial situation it has come to the Councils attention that the once temporary plan to shutter city operations at the West Valley Animal Shelter could become permanent it is imperative that the City maintain it's operation at the West Valley Animal Shelter. I therefore move that the Department of Animal Services be instructed to report immediately to this Council on the long-term plan for the West Valley Animal Shelter.

Public Comment: Stacey Rotter- Q/Serious concerns. Has it made it to the Mayor and has he addressed it? A horse is being held as evidence in a dog play yard at East Valley. A/ He wants to see her plan before he comments on it. Michelle Cornelius- Volunteer at West Valley Animal Shelter has the Prop F Brochure. There was over crowding which is why they were built. Two shelters have been given away already and they do not provide city services.

Motion Passed (8:02PM)

LBNC ITEM 8. I move that LBNC support the reopening and permanent operation of the West Valley Animal Shelter as a full municipal shelter effective immediately regardless of current budgetary constraints, that a CIS be forwarded to LA City council and a letter of support to the Board of Animal Services Commissioners Moved: Gravani Second: Joseph

Yes –12	No-00	Ineligible-03	Absent-01
Brown, Cronin, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Nelson, Pennomon, Pruet	Scott

9. **GUEST SPEAKER on WEST NILE VIRUS and other mosquito-transmitted diseases, presented by: Wesley Collins, Supervisor of Operations, Greater Los Angeles County Vector Control District. wcollins@glacvcd.org 818-364-9589 The recording is on the LBNC Website. Mr. Collins spoke about how they serve about 6 million people in the District. They check yards and flood control channels and respond to requests. They do education for the public. There is an uptick in mosquito complaints and West Nile virus. West Nile virus is tracked by zip code. They talked about the life cycles of the different mosquitoes. The New Aedes mosquito (invasive) bites around the clock and like to live inside. They leave large welts and swelling for many people when they bite. They reproduce by laying eggs in containers and dirt and will hatch up to years**

later when they get wet. They carry different diseases like Zika, Dengue, and Yellow Fever. The common household mosquito spreads West Nile virus. They lay their eggs in water. These mosquitoes bites around dawn and dusk. There is a lot of information on their website that explains all of the information that was presented. The Department traps and tests the insects and the ways they use to kill them. They investigate service requests when they receive reports. Remove standing water. Don't use trays under your plants. Repellant may be necessary. There is a list of active ingredients recommended by the CDC on their website. Theresa- Stakeholder Q/Do they still come out? A/ You need to generate a service request.

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. **Steve Leffert asked about Covid19 Testing. The testing is free at projectbaseline.com. You need to have an appointment. It is a self-test results in 2-3 days.**
11. Budget Advocate - Updates, (ncbala.com) - Newman Budget Advocate Carol Newman/Budget Rep Linda Gravani. **Carol Newman gave her report on the Budget Advocates. They met with the Mayor on October 9, 2020. The City is in a financial crisis. They approved big raises to first responders. The Budget will be short about 600 million this year. They will likely have to lay-off employees and do furloughs. The City Leaders need to pay attention. There will be a Town Hall in the near future. New website-www.budgetadvocates.com.**
12. ANNOUNCEMENTS and REPORTS: Committee Chairs and Board Members:
 - a. President Update – **Carla Bautista has resigned. Linda read the letter from her. There is a Residential seat open on the Board. We need to look at an Education Committee. Miron from Porter Ranch NC is happy to hear about an Education Committee. You have good schools. He mentioned several of the Elected Officials.**
 - b. Emergency Preparedness - Linda Pruet RYLAN (Ready Your LA Neighborhood)-**There will be a meeting on November 14, 2020 at 9:00AM on Zoom. Dan Tomlinson will be speaking on communications.**

Ms. Pruet left the meeting at 9:02PM

- c. Health & Public Safety- James Brown- **A Public Safety Meeting was held on October 17, 2020. The Highlights of the meeting were what LAPD has been doing since the funding realignment. LAPD is more than happy to hand off some of its responsibilities that they had been called upon to handle which should be dispersed to other agencies like Health and the mentally ill. Currently there are two million people in the San Fernando Valley and only 2,000 officers. Our Public Safety Committee is messaging out that "Public Safety is everyone's business." The Police only know what is happening in your community if you let them know. File reports. Do not post on Next Door and give the criminals a heads up in advance of the Police addressing the issue. Response times will be slower. Saturday November 21, 2020 will be the next Public Safety Meeting at 10:00AM on Zoom.**
- d. Land Use - Tom Riley- **no report**
- e. Outreach – Jeremy Pisanic- **The next Outreach Meeting will be on Thursday, November 12, 2020 on Zoom. This will be the last meeting for the year.**
- f. Recreation & Park - Jim Stein – **no report**

- g. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee (SBWASC) - Ruth Doxsee/Danica Middleton- **This was a special meeting held because of the devastating fire and wildlife lake’s infestation by water lettuce, which, if not dealt with, will kill the lake. After the September 6, 2020 fire, invasive weeds have been burned to the ground, but will return with rain. To control these, hiring goats with a taste for invasive plants is being considered. It is \$500 per day for 100 goats to clear one acre. It will take 100 goats 4-6 weeks in April through end of May to control the invasive plants. This will cost \$15,000. Please keep this in mind when we are asked to help fund the restoration of the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve. Invasive Water Lettuce: Oct. 27 saw 30 city employees in boats and on shore remove an entire 10 yd. dump truck of the water lettuce from the wildlife lake. Previously, volunteers were doing “teaspoon sized” removal of it. A screen is in place to keep it from entering the LA River. Parks and Rec is keeping an eye on it and will investigate spraying with herbicide when its growth picks up again in the spring. Unfortunately, it will probably take a few years to bring under control fully and hopefully eradicate. To view water lettuce removal, see video by Pat Bates ...https://youtu.be/3jD1dZfNHKYFor more information, see www.sepulvedabasinwildlife.org. On Friday, November 13, 2020 from 8:30 -12:00 there will be a homeless encampment cleanup in the South Reserve.**
- h. Volunteer Community Patrol - Mary Pennomon-**no report**
- i. BOARDMEMBERS:
 - a. Fireworks- Gary Kay, **On October 30, 2020 Birmingham held a virtual Homecoming but did live Fireworks show that was disturbing to residents. There was a lack of communication and no warning to the community.**
 - b. **The CPAB meeting has been postponed until November 18,2020 6:00 PM**
- j. Liaisons: Resilient Los Angeles - Linda Pruett www.lamayor.org/resilience- **no report**
- k. Alliances:
 - a. West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness. -**no report**

13. Discussion and possible action regarding proposed changes to **JESSE OWENS park** at White Oak and Jellico using Measure A funds. – **Ms. Cronin presented the Park improvements. The Park Project Group has 70 members. Ms. Cronin presented all of the upgrades they would like done to improve the park for the community. The gross bathroom is its only amenity currently. They are requesting gardens, grass, fencing, benches, and playgrounds. This park is a pocket park on a cul-de-sac. The letter was presented for the board to support the improvements to the park. Images were shown by Ms. Cronin. The Jesse Owens Family is permitting them to use Jesse Owens images and quotes. There is a rendering of a custom-made play structure. She would like a letter of support from the Board for them to forward to city agencies to receive funding for the project. They are trying to use Measure A funding for these upgrades. Rec and Parks has the money for Jesse Owens Park Improvements They have been awaiting the recommendation. It will be presented to Ms. Martinez office and Rec and Parks**

Public Comment: **Steve Leffert- changed motion wording, take out the word the before improvements. Miron-recommends reaching out to Arts and Culture.**

Motion Passed (9:18PM)

LBNC ITEM 13. Motion that the LBNC Support the Park Project Group for Jesse Owens Park Improvements.

Moved: Stein Second: Gravani

Yes –12	No-00	Ineligible-02	Absent-02
Brown, Cronin, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Nelson, Pennomon	Pruett, Scott

14. Discussion and possible action regarding **LBNC’s help with Jue Joe Ranch/Community Center –Mr. Riley gave a history of the land owner and property. The property is for sale. Mr. Riley wants a letter of support that the LBNC supports the Jue Joe Ranch/ Community Center.**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (9:29PM)

LBNC ITEM 14. Motion that the LBNC support Jue Joe Ranch/Community Center Moved: Riley Second: Stein			
Yes –12	No-00	Ineligible-02	Absent-02
Brown, Cronin, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Nelson, Pennomon	Pruett, Scott

15. Discussion and possible action regarding the need to know what chemicals were released from the Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility. Whereas the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors has the authority to grant the Department of Public Health subpoena power to for the disclosure of the list of chemicals spun into the air during the blowout of Well SS-25 at the Aliso Canyon Gas Facility, I move that LBNC support Port Ranch NC’s request that LA County Supervisors obtain a list of those chemicals and also request LA City Council President and LA City Attorney to assist in obtaining that chemical list.

Ms. Cronin left the Meeting at 9:32PM

Public Comment: No comment

Motion Passed (9:33PM)

LBNC ITEM 15. Motion that LBNC support Porter Ranch NC’s request that LA County Supervisors obtain a list of those chemicals and also request LA City Council President and LA City Attorney to assist in obtaining that chemical list. Moved: Gravani Second: Brown			
Yes –11	No-00	Ineligible-02	Absent-03
Brown, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Nelson, Pennomon	Cronin, Pruet, Scott

16. BUDGET: Discussion and possible action regarding approval of SEP Monthly Expense Report (MER) Stein

Ms. Cronin returned to the meeting at 9:36pm

Ms. Pruet returned to the meeting at 9:37PM

Public Comment:

Motion Passed (9:37PM)

LBNC ITEM 16. Motion to approve the September Monthly Expense Report (MER) Moved: Stein Second: Brown			
Yes –12	No-00	Ineligible-03	Absent-01
Brown, Cronin, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Schwering, Stein	None	Nelson, Pennomon Pruet	Scott

17. **BUDGET:** The August MER shows \$32,991.07 for Office/Outreach/Elections. The Ad Hoc NW committee would like to earmark up to \$5,000 for the printing of flyers, Every Door Direct Mail and/or Neighborhood Watch Signs and outreach materials. **-I move that LBNC allocate up to \$5,000 for Ad Hoc Neighborhood Watch Committee to use for printing, mailings, NW signage and other NW outreach materials to be used to promote NW meetings. The item was discussed between Boardmembers.**

Public Comment: **Steve Leffert- you can transfer the money around at a later date.**

Motion Passed (9:42PM)

LBNC ITEM 16. Motion that LBNC allocate up to \$5,000 for Ad Hoc Neighborhood Watch Committee to use for printing, mailings, NW signage and other NW outreach materials to be used to promote NW meetings

Moved: Gravani Second: Kay

Yes –11	No-01	Ineligible-03	Absent-01
Brown, Cronin, Doxsee, Gravani, Joseph, Kay, Middleton, Newman Pisanic, Riley, Stein	Schwering,	Nelson, Pennomon Pruet	Scott

18. **UPDATE REGARDING VIC: Stalemate with the Los Angeles City Attorney. Ms. Gravani sent an email. It was sent to Adrin Nazarian, Bob Hertzberg, Henry Stern and Ethics Commissioners. Ms. Gravani and Mr. Riley attended the HENPAR meetings with zero response.**
19. **Funding: Discussion and Possible Action regarding 5th request to fund the Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) for \$4,000.00 for Valley Intercommunity Council’s Meals on Wheels Program. - Item postponed**
20. **Thank you LBNC Board Members for all you do for our community!**
21. **Happy Thanksgiving!!**
22. **Adjourn- Meeting Adjourned at 9:52PM- No vote was taken.**

**Next Regular Meeting of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
Wednesday, December 2, 2020 at 7:00PM**