



Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council

P.O. Box 7720
 Lake Balboa, CA 91409-7720
 818-779-9026
 Website: www.lakebalboanc.org
 Email: info@lakebalboanc.org

**Board Meeting Minutes
 December 6, 2023
 7:02PM-8:47PM
 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
James Brown 1 st Vice President	Present	YES	Residential
Michael Cortez	Present	YES	Residential
Ronnie Frost Communications Officer	Present	YES	Business
Christopher Garcia	Present	NO	Youth
Alex Goode 2 nd Vice President	Present	YES	Residential
Linda Gravani President	Present	YES	Business
Surat Hazra	Present	YES	At Large
Lydia Jerosimich	Present	YES	Senior
Mihran Kalaydjian	Present	YES	Organization
Jackie Knoll	Absent/ Excused	YES	Residential
Danica Middleton Secretary	Present	NO	Residential
Jared Negrón	Absent/Excused	YES	Residential
Mariam Preissel	Present	NO	Organization
Linda Schwering Treasurer	Absent Excused	NO	At-Large
Jim Stein	Present	YES	Business
Bill Swartz	Present	YES	At-Large
Kathleen Swartz	Present	YES	Residential
Total Board Members -17	Present 14 at Roll Call		

*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 (VOTE KEY: Yes, No, Abstain, Ineligible, Recuse, Absent)

1. Call meeting to order WELCOME to our STAKEHOLDERS

If you want to address the board on any item on the agenda tonight, please complete a speaker card located at the back of the auditorium and bring it to me. Likewise, if there is an item you want to bring to the board’s attention, please complete a speaker card for PUBLIC COMMENT.

The meeting was called to order at 7:02PM. President Gravani explained how to make public comments and how to speak on agenda items.

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.

Our Mission is to bring forward our concerns to our elected officials,

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 is NOT on tonight’s agenda. There is an item called PUBLIC COMMENT where you can address items NOT on the agenda. The President has suggested time limits for each item so that the meeting will end around 915p. 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- Roll was called by Secretary Danica Middleton. Quorum was reached.**

LBNC ITEM 3. Roll Call		
Present –14	Absent-00	Excused-03
Brown, Cortez, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Stein, K. Swartz, B. Swartz	None	Knoll, Negron, Schwering

4. Discussion and possible to action to adopt the **December 6, 2023** agenda

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:07PM)

LBNC ITEM 4. Motion to adopt the December 6, 2023 agenda. Moved: Brown Seconded: Kalaydjian				
Yes-14	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-03
Brown, Cortez, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Stein, K. Swartz, B. Swartz	None	None	None	Knoll, Negron, Schwering

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of LBNC Meeting Minutes– Middleton

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:07PM)

LBNC ITEM 5. Motion to approve the LBNC Meeting Minutes for November 2023				
Moved: Middleton Seconded:-Brown				
Yes-14	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-03
Brown, Cortez, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Stein, K. Swartz, B. Swartz	None	None	None	Knoll, Negron, Schwering

6. Announcements and Reports: Representatives of LAPD, LAFD, Local, City, County, State
 - a. West Valley LAPD **Captain III Brian Wendling 26929@lapd.online – 818-374-7640**
 - i. Senior Lead Officer (SLO) - 1-877-ASK-LAPD
 - ii. **Officer Mike Terrazas 818-374-7631 He spoke about the upcoming Community Police Academy and went over the Crime Stats. Crime is up since the holidays started. Hide it, lock it, keep it. Make sure your side gates are locked. Lock all doors and keep tools out of sight. The police will help to facilitate the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Christmas Parade. He will be on vacation from December 14th through January 17th. 34499@lapd.online**
 - iii. Also Representing LBNC Sgt Larry Martinez 31179@lapd.online
 - b. LA Fire Department Battalion 10, Captain Matthew Conroy

- c. LA City Council District 6 (CD 6) **Imelda Padilla** [818-778-4999](tel:818-778-4999)
 - i. Rosie.Avetisyan@lacity.org - Field Rep – **introduced Christopher Hernandez- he will be the contact for homeless issues. He was previously a Drug Counselor. He has been on ride alongs with the Park Rangers so that he can engage the homeless and help them to get services. Winter Shelters have been set up. The area near the Harvard Westlake Fields has been cleaned up. There were only two people out there. Ms. Avetisyan- mentioned that ITA is upgrading Van Nuys City Hall so meetings may be able to return there in January or February. The Council Office has a new contract with Graffiti Busters. They will be doing median cleanup, weed abatement, and power washing. The contract goes into effect in January. Graffiti Busters will have most reported graffiti removed within 1-2 days. The Sherman Way Tunnel can only be cleaned by Street Services which currently cleans it quarterly, trying to get it cleaned more frequently.**
 - ii. Rebecca.Gurrola@lacity.org – **Homeless**
 - iii. Lamont.Cobb@lacity.org – **Land Use**
 - iv. Alexandra.Leard@lacity.org – **VNY Airport – Deputy Chief of Staff- She is handling questions in regards to the CAC and Van Nuys Airport,**
- d. LA Mayor Karen Bass’ office–213-400-0916 Michelle.Vergara@lacity.org
- e. LA City Attorney’s Office – 213-978-8100 **Hydee Feldstein Soto**
- f. LA City Planning Liaison Ariel.Jones@lacity.org 213-820-4255
- g. LA Metro Ron Macias maciasr@metro.net
- h. LAUSD Scott Schmerelson’s office (District 3) 818-654-3785 Deputy Director of School and Community Engagement Tammy.Ramirez@lausd.net 213-241-8333
- i. LA County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath office (District 3) 818-902-3831 District Director HELP for HOMELESS www.la-hop.org
- j. CA Assemblymember **Jesse Gabriel** 46th Assembly district [818-346-4521](tel:818-346-4521) **Jack Trent-Dorfman Field Rep**
- k. CA State Senator **Caroline Menjivar, (District 20)** sd20.senate.ca.gov 818-901-5588 Kristi.Lopez@sen.ca.gov District Director 818-272-1182-cell- **She worked for Senator Portantino for the last 10 years. She gave a Legislative update. Senator Menjivar submitted 16 bills. 4 were signed by the Governor. One was in regards to vision care for minors living on the streets. Others were in regards to having a state bat, improving student attendance and mental health. She will be in Saturday’s Parade. There will be a Legislative Open House from 4:30-7:30PM at 6150 Van Nuys Blvd. There will also be a Toy Drive at the Discovery Cube.**
- l. CA State Senator **Henry Stern’s** Office (District 27) - 818-876-3352 Susie.Herrera@sen.ca.gov
- m. US Representative **Tony Cardenas** (District 29) 818-221-3718 Gabriela.Agarie@mail.house.gov
- n. US Representative **Brad Sherman** – (District 30) - 818-501-9200 Mary.Chakerian@mail.house.gov
- o. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) Daniel.D.Johnson@lacity.org 818-374-9889 **Mr. Johnson reminded Board members to do the survey sent out by the Mayors Community Engagement Team. The Youth Conference will be on January 27, 2024. The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners approved an amended Code of Conduct. The Department Manager position is open if anyone would like to apply.**

7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: PLEASE ADVISE THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL IF YOU ARE A REGISTERED LOBBYIST. PLEASE ADVISE THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL IF YOU ARE AN LBNC STAKEHOLDER. Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda items, Issues, Announcements and Complaints within the jurisdiction of the Lake Balboa NC. You have 2 minutes per speaker. The State of California’s Brown Act prevents the board from discussing your comments. You can also email your thoughts to LBNC President at: lindag@lakebalboanc.org.

- a. **Stakeholder-spoke about issues with a gang member who was squatting in his house and doing prostitution.**
- b. **Alicia Avery-spoke about her appointment to CAC and holding the airport accountable.**

8. Guest Speaker Stacey Dains, GM Department of Animal Services- **Cancelled**
Ms. Preissel- spoke about the issues with the dog park.

- a. Discussion and possible action regarding **Council File 23-0452** Regarding rate increases to the free certificate and discount vouchers for the Spay and Neuter Program and Citywide Cat Program-

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:01PM)

LBNC ITEM 8a.Motion that the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council supports Council File 23-0452 Regarding rate increases to the free certificate and discount vouchers for the Spay and Neuter Program and Citywide Cat Program-Moved: Gravani Seconded:-Middleton				
Yes-13	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-00	Absent-03
Brown, Cortez, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Stein, K. Swartz, B. Swartz	None	Preissel	None	Knoll, Negron, Schwering

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.budgetadvocates.ORG for White Paper recommendations – read the summary and then go to the department in which you are most interested)

9. **Budget Advocate – Region 3 - Updates**, (budgetadvocates.org) –Budget Representatives: Carol Newman and Mihran Kalaydjian – Budget Advocate Glenn Bailey **Mr. Kalaydjian- last-months update was sent out. Two vacancies have been filled. They are still interviewing departments for the White Paper. The city is \$93 million dollars over budget.**

L.A. City Charter Sec. 910 Monitoring of City Services *“Neighborhood councils shall monitor the delivery of City Services in their respective areas”*

10. Update on MyLA311 – Christopher Garcia- He has been making the morning announcements at his school encouraging people to use My LA 311.

11. www.Crimemapping.com-Reviewed by Ms. Gravani

12. President’s UPDATE:

- a. **LAUSD Facilities** She has been working to get using LAUSD Facilities streamlined. We will not have to request facilities quarterly.
- b. **VNY Town Hall-** Gravani, Negron, and Kalaydjian are on the working group setting it up tentatively in February. There will be a special meeting in January.
- c. **Community Impact Statements-**First they were not going where they should have. The Email addresses are no longer visible and NC Boards are no longer getting the receipts.
- d. **Primary Elections-** hard to get signatures to get on the ballot. We should hold petition signings.

- e. **Other PRA requests on who changed the Council File with an amendment in regards to the Van Nuys Airport. Who sent the amendment through?**
- f. **Committees need to confirm their meeting locations, dates, and times.**
- g. **Went over Ethics changes. Public Comments can have a brief response.**
- h. **Members can act on a non-agenda item if it has come up after the agenda was posted, if it is approved by 2/3 vote of the Board.**

L.A. City Charter Sec. 907 Early Warning System “*establish procedures for receiving input from neighborhood councils prior to decision by the City Council, City Council Committees and boards and commissions.*”

13. Discussion and possible action regarding **Council File 23-1338** regarding the VNY Vision Plan

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:20PM)

LBNC ITEM 13. Motion for Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council to support Council File 23-1338 Moved: Gravani Seconded:-Brown				
Yes-14	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Brown, Cortez, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Stein, K. Swartz, B. Swartz	None	None	None	Knoll, Negron, Schwering

14. Discussion and possible action regarding **Council File 23-1339** regarding inclusion of stakeholders in VNY future plans

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:23PM)

LBNC ITEM 14. Motion for the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council to support Council File 23-1339 Moved: Gravani Seconded:-Kalaydjian				
Yes-14	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-03
Brown, Cortez, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Stein, K. Swartz, B. Swartz	None	None	None	Knoll, Negron, Schwering

15. **REMINDER:** Stakeholders can voice their own personal opinions on Council Files by forwarding **PUBLIC COMMENTS**. See last two pages of this agenda for instructions.

16. **Health and public safety:** Discussion and possible action regarding open seats and **What’s in it for me? Mr. Brown-discussed volunteering on the Neighborhood Council. Health and Public Safety is all of our responsibility. Assembly Bill 1719 was worked on through this committee. It requires all students to learn compression only CPR before they can graduate. The committee has trained over 2,000 community members in CPR since 2017. The Committee supports the volunteer Community Patrols. If you are interested the flyers are on the back table. The committee hands out the Neighborhood Watch signs. If you volunteer on any of the committees you will receive an I Love Lake Balboa T-shirt.**

17. **Health and public safety:** Discussion and possible action regarding **LAPD West Valley Community Police Academy**. There is a flyer at the back of the room. It helps you to understand what the police go through. It is an eight-week program and you will receive a certificate upon completion.

18. **Rec and Park** – Discussion and possible action regarding **murals and plaque at Jesse Owens Park** – Stein
The wording of the Plaque was read to the Board and community members.

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:42PM)

LBNC ITEM 18 Motion for Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council to support installing a historical plaque with approval of wording as read, at the entrance at Jesse Owens Park. Moved: Gravani Seconded:-Kalaydjian				
Yes-14	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-03
Brown, Cortez, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Stein, K. Swartz, B. Swartz	None	None	None	Knoll, Negron, Schwering

19. **BUDGET: Discussion and possible action regarding Oct MER (Monthly Expense Report)**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:45PM)

LBNC ITEM 19. Motion to approve the October MER (Monthly Expenditure Report) Moved: Gravani Seconded:-Kalaydjian				
Yes-13	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Brown, Cortez, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Stein, K. Swartz, B. Swartz	None	None	Garcia	Knoll, Negron, Schwering

20. **BUDGET: Discussion and possible action regarding Nov MER (Monthly Expense Report)- November MER not Available.**

21. **FUNDING: Discussion and possible action regarding the reimbursement of \$8.02 to board member Jim Stein for refreshment items for the LBNC October meeting**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed(8:46PM)

LBNC ITEM 21. Motion to approve reimbursement of \$8.02 to board member Jim Stein for refreshment items for the LBNC October meeting Moved: Gravani Seconded:-Jerosimich				
Yes-13	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-03
Brown, Cortez, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Stein, K. Swartz, B. Swartz	None	None	Garcia	Knoll, Negron, Schwering

22. **NO REGULAR LBNC MEETING IN JANUARY** – Check committee schedules for their January meetings.

23. **THANK YOU** LBNC Board Members AND Neighborhood Watch Block Captains for all **YOU** do behind the scenes for our community

24. **Adjourn** The meeting was adjourned at 8:47PM

**Next Regular Meeting IN PERSON of the
 Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
 Wednesday February 7, 2024 at Gault St School Auditorium**