



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
August 7, 2024
7:00PM-9:01PM
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
Ronnie Frost Communications Officer	Present	YES	Business
Christopher Garcia	Absent	YES	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	YES	Residential
Danica Middleton Secretary	Present	YES	Residential
Jared Negron	Absent	YES	Residential
Mariam Preissel	Present	YES	Organization
Linda Schwering Treasurer	Present	YES	At-Large
Bill Swartz	Absent	YES	At-Large
Kathleen Swartz	Absent	YES	Residential
Vacant			Business
Vacant			Residential
Total Board Members -17	Present 10 Absent 04 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- **The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM**
 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.

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 9:15PM. 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 – **James Brown led the Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Roll Call**

LBNC ITEM 3. Roll Call		
Present –10	Absent-05	Excused-00
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering,	Garcia, Knoll, Negron, B. Swartz, K. Swartz,	None

4. Discussion and possible action to adopt the **August 7, 2024** agenda

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:06PM)

LBNC ITEM 4. Motion to adopt the August 7, 2024 agenda.				
Moved: Kalaydjian Seconded: Goode				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering	None	None	None	Garcia, Knoll, Negron, B. Swartz, K. Swartz

5. Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of previous LBNC Meeting Minutes– **Item Postponed**

6. Announcements from **LAUSD Board Member Scott Schmerelson-Scott Schmerelson is the District 3 LAUSD School Boardmember. He was a Spanish Teacher ,a Counselor, a Vice Principal and a Principal. Basset Street Elementary has a great video lab. Daniel Pearl has a lot of award winning students. Stagg Street School will be receiving an in kind donation. Every school in his district receives a bond funded project. One school requested some Smart Boards a classroom set of computers, some schools request benches. There are 13 schools in Lake Balboa Ms. Gravani-Stagg help with their Valet Program and needs safety vests and large cones. The need for12ft. fencing behind the Special Education Building was also mentioned.**

7. Announcements and Reports: **If present, PLEASE IDENTIFY YOURSELF and limit your comments to 2 minutes- Thank you**

- a. West Valley LAPD **Captain III Brian Wendling 26929@lapd.online** – 818-374-7640
 - i. Senior Lead Officer (SLO) - **Officer Mike Terrazas 818-374-7631 34499@lapd.online**- He sends his apologies that he was unable to attend.
 - ii. Also Representing LBNC Sgt Larry Martinez **31179@lapd.online**
 - iii. NON-Emergency 877-ASK- LAPD 877-275-5273
- b. LA Fire Department Battalion 10, **Battalion Chief Barna-There was an arsonist that was arrested for lighting a fire in the basin. They are collaborating with the Park Rangers. They are also meeting with the Army Corp of Engineers.**

Miriam Preissel **There were 13,909 fires in Los Angeles caused by the Homeless in 2023 in the City of Los Angeles which was confirmed by the Battalion Chief.**

- c. LA City Council District 6 (CD 6) **Imelda Padilla** [818-778-4999](tel:818-778-4999)
 - i. Rosie.Avetisyan@lacity.org - Field Rep for Lake Balboa -**The Council Office is trying to get a cleaning schedule for the Sherman Way Tunnel. She is still waiting for Street Services to let her know if graffiti coating for the tunnel is an option. She did get a response from Street Services in regards to using mulch on the medians, the answer was no. The area is a flood zone and mulch should not be used on the medians. Graffiti Busters is starting to do some work on the medians near Saticoy St. The CD6 Council Office is working with the CD4 Council Office to work out a possible joint motion to split the costs for the median cleanups and trimming 228 trees and fund it out of their discretionary accounts. Louise Park- becomes a big sales event every week. The vendors just need to have permits. The community is against this. Street Services will go check for permits. Fires in the basin,-a working group is being put together with many different jurisdictions to address cleanups and fire issues.**
 - ii. Rebecca.Gurrola@lacity.org – Homelessness Director
 - iii. Christopher.E.Hernandez@lacity.org - Homelessness Coordinator
 - iv. Lamont.Cobb@lacity.org – Land Use
 - v. Alexandra.Leard@lacity.org – VNY Airport – Deputy Chief of Staff
- d. LA Mayor Karen Bass’ office–[213-400-0916](tel:213-400-0916) Michelle.Vergara@lacity.org, Betsaira.Aguilera@lacity.org (Betsy) Community Engagement [213-257-0224](tel:213-257-0224)
- e. LA City Attorney’s Office – [213-978-8100](tel:213-978-8100) **Hydee Feldstein Soto**
- f. LA City Planning Liaison Ariel.Jones@lacity.org [213-820-4255](tel:213-820-4255)
- g. LA Metro Ron Macias maciasr@metro.net
- h. LAUSD **Scott Schmerelson’s** office (District 3) [818-654-3785](tel:818-654-3785) Deputy Director of School and Community Engagement Tammy.Ramirez@lausd.net [213-241-8333](tel:213-241-8333)
Scott Schmerelson is the LAUSD Boardmember he attends school meetings and lets them know that they should be in touch with their Neighborhood Councils.
- i. L.A. County Supervisor **Lindsey P. Horvath** office (District 3) [818-901-3831](tel:818-901-3831) District Director Mirna Ezquivel mezquivel@bos.lacounty.gov **HELP for HOMELESS** www.la-hop.org Mirna Esquivel- from **Lindsey Horvath’s office-Street vending is legal. Anyone needing to report a food vendor van do so on the L.A. County Department of Health website. They are also working with the Mayors office on Inside Safe. 11638 Wyandotte, the home owners were sited and did comply. The inspectors went back to the site in February and they were not allowed to enter the house, they are trying to get an Inspection Warrant. This house and property are full of rats. This has been going on for over eight years. It will become a civil suit at some point.**
- j. CA Assemblymember **Jesse Gabriel** 46th Assembly district [818-346-4521](tel:818-346-4521) Jack Trent-Dorfman Field Rep- **Jack Trent- The State Assembly is coming off of recess. On August 23, 2024 there will be an in-person grant workshop at Pierce College. There will be a pet wellness event hosted by the Michaelson Foundation at Balboa Park, the date has not been decided.**
- k. CA State Senator **Caroline Menjivar**, (District 20) sd20.senate.ca.gov [916-995-7020](tel:916-995-7020) Kristi.Lopez@sen.ca.gov or Ravin.Thrift@sen.ca.gov District Director [818-272-1182](tel:818-272-1182)-cell **District Representative, Andrés Garcia-Ms. Menjivar is focused on Veterans and Healthcare- August 31st is the bill deadline. The Senator has three bills currently sitting on the floor and ten bills in the Senate Appropriations Committee. One is for greening schools, the other is to stop the sale of leaded airplane fuel. Last night they attended several National Night Out Events They are currently looking for two interns for their office.**
- l. CA State Senator **Henry Stern’s** Office (District 27) - [818-876-3352](tel:818-876-3352) Susie.Herrera@sen.ca.gov Field Rep
- m. US Representative **Tony Cardenas** (District 29) [818-221-3718](tel:818-221-3718) Gabriela.Agarie@mail.house.gov

- n. US Representative **Brad Sherman** – (District 30) - 818-501-9200 Mary.Chakerian@mail.house.gov
- o. Van Nuys Airport Citizen’s Advisory Council (CAC) Alicia Avery and Doug Decker both residents of Lake Balboa VNYCAC@lawa.org.
- p. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) Daniel.D.Johnson@lacity.org 818-374-9889-**Daniel Johnson- Please do the department survey. CF 24-0867 in regards to youth and term limits, weigh in. The Elections are going to be Vote by Mail only. They are suggesting amendments to the Bylaws. Look at self-affirmation to make it easier for your stakeholders.**

8. **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 up to 2 minutes per speaker.** The State of California’s Brown Act **prevents the board from discussing** your comments, however we can ask clarifying questions. If there is a large group, you may be asked to select a spokesperson. You can also email your thoughts to LBNC President at: lindag@lakebalboanc.org.

- a. **Sue Steinberg-spoke about the Van Nuys Airport. She is concerned about the health issues. The CAC has been taken over with airport interests.**
- b. **Suzanne Gutierrez- The last CAC meeting was cancelled, even though the NAA held its meeting. The community has been labeled as troublemakers.**
- c. **Alicia-she is a CAC member, the CAC is not functioning as it should. The meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month at the Van Nuys Fly Away**
- d. **Sharon Brewer- There is a (24-0909) Council File regarding fires on June 24th in the Basin it is for a report back. She feels the basin needs to be declared a High Fire Danger Area. We were notified of our roll over amount today.**

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.*”

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

9. Discussion and possible action regarding **Council File 24-0140-S1 – City of Grants Pass, Oregon v. Johnson/ Homeless Encampments/Public Spaces Regulation/Ruling Impact Analysis – Gravani (Supreme Court decision)**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:00PM)

LBNC ITEM 9. Motion to support Council File 24-0140-S1				
Moved: Gravani Seconded: Kalaydjian				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering	None	None	None	Garcia, Knoll, Negron, B. Swartz, K. Swartz

10. Discussion and possible action regarding **Council File 24-0602 – Synthetic Grass/Artificial Turf – Preissel**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:02PM)

LBNC ITEM 10. Motion to support Council File 24-0602				
Moved: Gravani Seconded: Brown				
Yes-09	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-00	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel	None	Schwering	None	Garcia, Knoll, Negron, B. Swartz K. Swartz,

11. Discussion and possible action regarding **Council File 24-0867 – NC Term Limits/Youth Seats = Diversity**
Gravani

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:06PM)

LBNC ITEM 11. Motion to oppose Council File 24-0867 – NC Term Limits/Youth Seats				
Moved: Gravani Seconded: Kalaydjian				
Yes-08	No-00	Abstain-02	Ineligible-00	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Schwering	None	Hazra, Preissel	None	Garcia, Knoll, Negron, B. Swartz, K. Swartz

12. Discussion and possible action regarding: **proposed Sewer fee increases. There are no breakdowns we have seen that shows what this money will be sent on.** - Gravani

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(s) in which you are most interested)

13. **Budget Advocate – Region 3 - Updates**, (budgetadvocates.org) –Budget Representatives: Linda Gravani and Mihran Kalaydjian who is also **Budget Advocate**. The Budget Advocates held their first Budget Day at City Hall. After the presentations everyone broke out into sessions where the Budget Advocates were elected from a pool of Budget Representatives and people were able to state what services they felt needed more funding. There is a lot of information available on the website

LBNC BYLAWS: Article V Governing Board Section 6: Vacancies

Any “Stakeholder” interested in filling a vacancy on the Board shall submit a written application to the Board, providing that Community Stakeholder is qualified for that particular seat. The Board shall cause the matter to be placed on the agenda for the next regular meeting of the Board.

14. Discussion and possible action regarding the open seats on the board

- a. **Business Stakeholder Representative (BSR)** A BSR shall be any person who (1) owns a business; (2) owns business, residential rental or real property; or (3) works within the Council’s boundaries. A BSR shall be any person who (1) owns a business; (2) owns business, residential rental or real property; or (3) works within the Council’s boundaries.

- b. **Residential Stakeholder Representative (RSR)** An RSR shall be any person whose primary residence or living space is located within the Council’s boundaries whether in a home, apartment, condominium or other accommodation.
- c. **Applications from:**
 - i. **Douglas Escobar-He is excited by the opportunity. He worked at Head Start and the YMCA has worked with Department of Building and Safety on building issues and understands the system. (Business Seat)**
 - ii. **Casey Kyle-Application Withdrawn**
 - iii. **Lupita Kyle- Application Withdrawn**
 - iv. **Darian Heredia-He is married and has two children, he is from the entertainment industry. He would like to give back to the community and make sure our voices (Resident Seat)**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:20PM)

LBNC ITEM 14. Motion to approve Douglas Escobar for the Business Board Seat and Darian Heredia for the Resident Board Seat.				
Moved: Gravani Seconded: Goode				
Yes-09	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-00	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering	None	Preissel	None	Garcia, Knoll, Negron, B. Swartz K. Swartz

- d. **Possible oath of office Daniel Johnson swore in the new Board members.**

15. **President’s UPDATE –The webmaster no longer has the emails for Jim Stein nor Michael Cortez, so the communications for the Jesse Owens plaque will be taken over by Jackie Knoll and Surat Hazra Letters have going out to community members using the LBNC Logo to tell people to clean up their properties. The City Attorney will look into it. An email was received by a Stakeholder charging them \$500.00 saying they were from the city and they were being charged for not cutting their weeds. The NC needs to register their logo. Ms. Gravani is going to write a letter to the Mayor about the airport committee Brown Act violations and refusal to add items to the agenda as requested.**

16. **Committee UPDATES: 2 minutes for each report, unless a Motion is presented**

- a. **Education Mihran Kalaydjian-Education Committee date TBD, he has been working on the Candidate Forum.**
- b. **Emergency Preparedness- Linda Schwering-This Saturday 9:00AM at the Fly Away, CERT Training, evacuations and “bugging out.”**
- c. **Health & Public Safety James Brown-4th Wednesday in September, Mike Terrazas sent out a packet. He held a Neighborhood Watch meeting that was well attended. The CPAB meeting Next Wednesday the 14th at 6:30PM. Now all first aid kits need to have Narcan in them.**
- d. **Land Use-Linda Gravani- There is a lot of demolition being done which means buildings coming soon.**
- e. **Outreach-Ronnie Frost-We hosted 4 events last year and four pop-up events. This year they would like to do five events and five pop-up events**
- f. **Rec and Park- Miriam Preissel fourth Thursdays 7:00PM at the Fly Away.**
- g. **VNY Airport-Jared may no longer be on the Board.**
- h. **Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee Representative Miriam Preissel, Alternate- Mihran Kalaydjian**

i. Homeless Liaison-**Mihran Kalaydjian**

17. **BUDGET:** Discussion and possible action regarding the **May 2024 MER** (Monthly Expense Report) Schwering

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:05PM)

LBNC ITEM 17. Motion to Approve the MAY MER (Monthly Expense Report)				
Moved: Schwering Seconded: Gravani				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering	None	None	Escobar, Heredia	Garcia, Knoll, Negron, B. Swartz, K. Swartz

18. **BUDGET:** Discussion and possible action regarding the **June 2024 MER** (Monthly Expense Report) Schwering

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:42PM)

LBNC ITEM 18. Motion to approve the June 2024 MER (Monthly Expense Report) Schwering				
Moved: Schwering Seconded: Kalaydjian				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering	None	None	Escobar, Heredia	Garcia, Knoll, Negron, B. Swartz, K. Swartz

19. **BUDGET:** Discussion and possible action regarding the **July 2024 MER** (Monthly Expense Report) Schwering-
Item Postponed

20. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action regarding the expenditure of **up to \$100 for LBNC retractable banner repair** – Schwering

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:05PM)

LBNC ITEM 20. Motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$100 for LBNC retractable banner repair –				
Moved :Schwering Seconded: Kalaydjian				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering	None	None	Escobar, Heredia	Garcia, Knoll, Negron, B. Swartz, K. Swartz

21. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action to approve the **expenditure of \$125.00 per year for the maintenance of the Jesse Owens plaque** at Jesse Owens Park in Lake Balboa – Schwering

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:50PM)

LBNC ITEM 21. Motion to approve the expenditure up to \$125.00 per year for the maintenance of the Jesse Owens plaque at Jesse Owens Park in Lake Balboa				
Moved: Schwering Seconded: Kalaydjian				
Yes-09	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Schwering	None	Preissel	Escobar, Heredia	Garcia, Knoll, Negrón, B. Swartz K. Swartz,

22. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action to approve the **expenditure of up to \$150.00 per month for Survey Monkey (\$1,800/year) service for outreach and to poll stakeholders** – Schwering

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:53PM)

LBNC ITEM 22. Motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$150.00 per month for Survey Monkey				
Moved: Schwering Seconded: Kalaydjian				
Yes-09	No-00	Abstain-01	Ineligible-01	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Schwering	None	Preissel	Escobar, Heredia	Garcia, Knoll, Negrón, B. Swartz, K. Swartz

23. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action to reimburse Board Member Linda Schwering for \$69.99 for a Microsoft plan renewal used for Treasurer duties. – Gravani

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:58PM)

LBNC ITEM 23. Motion to reimburse Board Member Linda Schwering for \$69.99 for a Microsoft plan renewal used for Treasurer duties				
Moved: Gravani Seconded: Goode				
Yes-10	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-05
Brown, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering	None	None	Escobar, Heredia	Garcia, Knoll, Negrón, B. Swartz, K. Swartz

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

25. **Adjourn Meeting-The meeting was adjourned at 9:01PM**

**Next Regular Meeting IN PERSON of the
Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council**
Wednesday, Sept 4, 2024 our 20th anniversary
at Gault St School Auditorium