



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
October 2, 2024
7:01PM-9:16PM
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
Douglas Escobar	Present	YES	Business
Ronnie Frost Communications Officer	Present	YES	Business
Christopher Garcia	Present	NO	Youth
John Garcia	Appointed at item 11	NO	Residential
Alex Goode 2 nd Vice President	Present	YES	Residential
Linda Gravani President	Present	YES	Business
Surat Hazra	Present	YES	At Large
Darian Heredia	Present	YES	Residential
Lydia Jerosimich	Present	YES	Senior
Mihran Kalaydjian	Absent/ Holiday	YES	Organization
Jackie Knoll	Present	YES	Residential
Danica Middleton Secretary	Present	YES	Residential
Mariam Preissel	Present	YES	Organization
Linda Schwering Treasurer	Present	YES	At-Large
Bill Swartz	Present	YES	At-Large
Kathleen Swartz	Present	YES	Residential
Total Board Members -16 at Roll Call	Present 15 Absent 01 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 STAKE HOLDERS**
The meeting was called to order at 7:01PM by President Gravani.

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- Christopher Garcia led the Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. **Roll Call- Roll was called by Secretary Danica Middleton**

LBNC ITEM 3. Roll Call		
Present –15	Absent-00	Excused-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Knoll, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz	None	Kalaydjian (Holiday)

- 4. Discussion and possible action to adopt the October 2, 2024 agenda

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:04 PM)

LBNC ITEM 4. Motion to adopt the October 2, 2024 agenda.				
Moved: Brown Seconded: Goode				
Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Knoll, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz	None	None	None	Kalaydjian

- 5. **Motion to approve the September 4, 2024 meeting minutes as amended. There is one correction Item # 16b add the word not before the word Holiday in the motion.**

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:05PM)

LBNC ITEM 15. Motion to approve the September 4, 2024 meeting minutes as amended.				
Moved: Middleton Seconded: Brown				
Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Knoll, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz	None	None	None	Kalaydjian

- 6. Announcements and Reports:

- 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
There were 2 incidents right after the last LBNC meeting. One was a Domestic Violence Homicide; the suspect was arrested. The other was a home invasion with an attempted rape, this suspect was also arrested. Officer Park will be out for 3 months for surgery. Officer Terrazas reminded everyone that with the World Series, the upcoming elections with possible protests, and visits to Los Angeles by Presidential Candidates, may create situations where the officers may be mobilized. The holidays are coming remember to hide packages.
 - ii. Also Representing LBNC Sgt Larry Martinez 31179@lapd.online
 - iii. NON-Emergency 877-ASK- LAPD 877-275-5273

- b. LA Fire Dept Battalion 10 'A' Platoon, Battalion Chief Robert J Barna Robert.Barna@lacity.org 818-756-8610
- c. LA City Council District 6 (CD 6) Imelda Padilla 818-778-4999
 - i. Rosie.Avetisyan@lacity.org - Field Rep for Lake Balboa-**The Sherman Way Tunnel has not been cleaned yet. The money was allocated and the motion was passed. They will follow up if they have not heard from Street Services within a week. This week Urban Forestry will start the median maintenance on Woodley and Balboa. They will be trimming 220 trees and removing 9 dead trees. The Basin Task force is still meeting. They have broken the area up into sections and will start with a cleanup on October 5, 2024 with FoLAR at Bull Creek. The volunteer spots are full but come by and say hi. The Councilmember will be there. November 9, 2024 will be the Pet Wellness Event in partnership with Jesse Gabriel's office.**
 - 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 Michelle.Vergara@lacity.org, Betsaira.Aguilera@lacity.org (Betsy) Community Engagement 213-257-0224
- 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) 818-901-3831 **Karen Dominguez** Karen.Dominguez@bos.lacounty.gov **Ms. Dominguez The County has approved funds to make biking safer. They want to do it with an equitable focus in areas where there have been high rates of hit and runs. County approved a motion to create an Emergency Centralized Response center for housing and homelessness. Metro will be putting on an Emergency Preparedness Event at the Skirball Center this Saturday from 9:00PM-1:00PM.**
 - i. 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- Mr. Dorfman mentioned the Pet Wellness Event on November 9, 2024. They will have resources, pet hygiene services, vaccines and micro chipping. They have 200 spots available. Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council was invited to have an outreach table. The Legislature is in a special session to discuss refinery storage, and the possibility of bringing down gas prices. 10 of their 12 Bills were signed by the Governor.
- k. CA State Senator Caroline Menjivar, (District 20) sd20.senate.ca.gov 916-651-4020 Andres.Garcia@sen.ca.gov 818-901-5588 **Mr. Garcia oversees Healthcare and Veterans issues for the Senators office. He brought Anniversary Certificates for the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Boardmembers. The Governor signed 10 of Senator Menjivar's Bills. One of them is for the greening of schools and one of the others is the move to unleaded airline fuels. Senator Menjivar is accepting nominations for Veteran of the Year-bit.ly/SD20VeteranoftheYear**
- l. CA State Senator Henry Stern's Office (District 27) - 818-876-3352 Susie.Herrera@sen.ca.gov Field Rep
- 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. 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
The City Clerk has made updates to the online Funding Policies and Procedures. Some of the changes effect what food you can purchase for meetings and how much you can spend. The Department is creating Google Groups to take the place of the Board email lists. It is being tested. The Congress of Neighborhoods was held on Saturday, September 28, 2024. Linda Gravani, Ronnie Frost and Miran Kalaydjian were there.

7. Guest Speaker Chris Shogren, Environmental Horticulturalist, to discuss ground cover options to control weed growth. **Mr. Shogren presented a list that included several varieties of plants that would be appropriate to plant in the center medians. Mr. Shogren said the plants are not as important as the soil. The soil needs to be prepared so that it drains properly. The Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council has been trying to cut down the weeds. They are hoping to get the city to plant plants that don't need maintenance. Mr. Shogren suggests the Zauschneria. They are low to the ground, are drought tolerant, A California Native, and has pretty flowers. He does not feel that weed cloth is good to use.**

8. PUBLIC COMMENTS- **No Public Comments**

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 the last two pages of this agenda for instructions.

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)

9. Budget Advocate – Region 3 - Updates, (budgetadvocates.org) –Budget Representatives: Linda Gravani and Mihran Kalaydjian who is also Budget Advocate **-No Report**
10. 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- **Reviewed**
11. Discussion and possible action regarding the one open seat on the board
- a. 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.
Two applications were received. One of the applicants, Steve Friedmann did not qualify for the Resident Seat. He was asked to apply for future seats he may qualify for and was asked to join the Land Use Committee. John Garcia has worked for UPS for 31 years. He is unhappy with how the community is being neglected. He is Christopher Garcia’s father. John Garcia was sworn in by his son Christopher Garcia with the rest of the family present.

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:02 PM)

LBNC ITEM 11. Motion to approve John Garcia to the Residential Stakeholder Seat.				
Moved: Gravani Seconded: Brown				
Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Knoll, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz	None	None	None	Kalaydjian

12. Discussion and possible action regarding Rec and Parks (RaP) committee connecting projects to volunteer groups (such as Eagle Scouts) and assisting them through the approval process with city entities **No Action Taken**

13. Discussion and possible action regarding CANDIDATE FORUM for LAUSD Board Member for District 3 via zoom on 19OCT2024 11AM Middleton

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:23PM)

LBNC ITEM 13. Motion to approve the Candidate Forum via Zoom for LAUSD District 3.				
Moved: Middleton Seconded: Frost				
Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, C. Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Knoll, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz	None	None	J. Garcia	Kalaydjian

14. Discussion and possible action regarding the Housing Element, loud voices needed – Gravani **The Planning Department is trying to do away with single family areas. There are 2,000 pages of documents. -Item Postponed**

15. Presidents Update- Illegal Cannabis Shops- **Ms. Gravani handed out a sheet with all of the Cannabis shops within the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Boundaries. There are only seven legal ones. People need to start reporting the illegal ones.**

16. Committee Updates- **Ms. Gravani wants to know which committee member will be looking for the Council Files and issues for the committee and Board to weigh in on.**
- a. Education- **No Report**
 - b. Emergency Preparedness-**Next meeting is Saturday, October 12, 2024 at 9:00AM at the Fly Away. We will have updates on the EP Bins and the Rylan Program.**
 - c. Health and Public Safety-**The House of Representatives passed the HARTS Bill, which establishes training teachers, staff, and students in CPR.** The LAPD arrested 46 people that were part of a White Supremist Gang, in the San Fernando Valley. The next committee meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 7:00PM. The focus will be on protecting your own community. The next CPAB Zoom meeting will be held on October 11, 2024. The speaker will be Deputy-Chief Alan Hamilton.
 - d. Land Use—**No Report**
 - e. Outreach -**Meetings are held on the 4th Saturday of the month at the Van Nuys Fly Away at 10:00AM. Upcoming event- The Lake Balboa Holiday Parade will be held on December 23, 2024. The permit has been submitted. Everyone is invited. LBNC will have an outreach table. Sign up for the newsletter to get information on all of our upcoming events.**

- f. Rec and Parks-They held a meeting last week. Rosie Avetisyan from Councilmember Padilla’s office was there and discussed the fires in the Sepulveda Basin. They will be doing cleanups but there are multijurisdictional issues. They will be removing the encampments but not removing the brush. At the meeting, they had a presentation from FoLar which cleans up the river.
- g. VNY Airport-The next meeting will be on October 15, 2024. At the meeting last night at the Advisory Council Meeting they voted to move to unleaded fuel. The airport needs to include prop planes to the numbers of planes that are turning early. Linda Gravani has a meeting with the Van Nuys Airport General Manager on Friday to go over the issues.
- h. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Steering Committee-**No Report**
- i. Homeless Liaison-**No Report**

17. Budget: Discussion and possible action regarding the August 2024 (MER)-Monthly Expense Report

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:39PM)

LBNC ITEM 17. Motion to adopt the August 2024-2025 Monthly Expenditure Report				
Moved: Schwering Seconded: Brown				
Yes-14	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-02	Absent-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Knoll, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz	None	None	C. Garcia, J. Garcia	Kalaydjian

18. Budget: Discussion and possible action regarding the 2024-2025 Budget and carryover funds from fiscal year 2023-2024 Schwering

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:41PM) agenda

LBNC ITEM 18. Motion to adopt the 2024-2025 revised Budget which includes the carry over funds.				
Moved: Schwering Seconded: Escobar				
Yes-14	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-02	Absent-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Knoll, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz	None	None	C. Garcia, J. Garcia	Kalaydjian

19. FUNDING: Discussion and possible action to approve the expenditure of up to \$8500 for plaque at Jesse Owens Park. Hazra/Knoll-**Item Postponed**

20. Discussion and possible action regarding a new Lake Balboa NC Logo – Schwering

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (9:00PM)

LBNC ITEM 20. Motion to approve creating a new LBNC Logo				
Moved: Middleton Seconded: Frost				
Yes-12	No-02	Abstain-01	Ineligible-01	Absent-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, C. Garcia, Goode, Hazra, Knoll, Middleton, Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz	Gravani, Jerosimich	Heredia	J. Garcia	Kalaydjian

21. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action regarding the expenditure of up to \$850 for Graphic Designer **Angie Cibis** to design a new LBNC logo – Frost/Schwering

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (9:04PM)

LBNC ITEM 21. Motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$850.00 for Graphic Designer Angie Cibis to design a new LBNC logo Moved: Brown Seconded: Middleton				
Yes-12	No-01	Abstain-01	Ineligible-02	Absent-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Jerosimich, Knoll, Middleton, Preissel, B. Swartz K. Swartz	Schwering	Heredia	C. Garcia, J. Garcia	Kalaydjian

22. Discussion and possible action to approve SB411 which would allow LBNC to conduct virtual, hybrid teleconference meetings with the public. Preissel/Kalaydjian- **Item Postponed**

23. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action regarding the expenditure of up to \$2200 for teleconference equipment - Frost/Kalaydjian **Item Postponed**

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 9:16PM**

Next Regular Meeting IN PERSON
of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
Wednesday November 6, 2024
at Gault St School Auditorium