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#### Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council

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

Board Meeting Minutes May 7, 2025 7:00PM-8:58PM APPROVED

#### **Regular Meeting Location:**

Gault Street Elementary School <u>17000 Gault Street</u> <u>Lake Balboa CA 91406</u> (MAIL NOT ACCEPTED AT THIS ADDRESS)

			Funding	
Boardmembe	er	Roll Call	Vote	Category
			Eligible*	
James Brown	1 <sup>st</sup> Vice President	Present	YES	Residential
Douglas Escobar		Present	YES	Business
Ronnie Frost	Communications Officer	Present	YES	Business
Christopher Garcia		Present	NO	Youth
John Garcia		Present	YES	Residential
Alex Goode	2 <sup>nd</sup> 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		Present	YES	Organization
Jackie Knoll		Present	YES	Residential
Danica Middleton	Secretary	Absent	YES	Residential
Mariam Preissel		Absent/Joined at 7:08 PM	YES	Organization
Linda Schwering	Treasurer	Present/Left at7:37PM	YES	At-Large
Bill Swartz		Present	YES	At-Large
Kathleen Swartz		Present	YES	Residential
Total Board Memb	pers -17	Present 15 Absent 02 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 7:00PM by President Linda Gravani, everyone was welcomed.

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 that 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

LBNC ITEM 3. Roll Call		
Present-15	Absent-02	Excused-00
Brown, Escobar, Frost, C. Garcia, J. Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, Heredia,	Middleton,	None
Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Knoll, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz	Preissel	

# 4. Discussion and possible action to adopt the May 7, 2025 agenda /move Items 20-26 (Funding) after Item 5

#### Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:05PM)

LBNC ITEM 4. Motion to adopt the May 7, 2025 agenda move Items 20-26 (Funding) after Item 5 Moved: Brown Seconded: Kalaydjian							
Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-02			
Brown, Escobar, Frost, C. Garcia, J. Garcia, Goode,	None	None	None	Middleton,			
Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Knoll, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz							

## Miriam Preissel joined the meeting at 7:08PM

 Discussion and possible action regarding the approval of LBNC April 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes – Numbering correct the first #20 and make it #19

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:06PM)

LBNC ITEM 5. Motion to adopt the April 2, 2025 Meeting Minutes Moved: Gravani Seconded: Brown							
Yes-14 No-00 Abstain-02 Ineligible-00 Absent-01							
Brown, Escobar, C. Garcia, J. Garcia, Goode, None Frost, None Middleton							
Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Preissel							
Knoll, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz							

#### Meeting was moved to Item 20

- 6. 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
    - Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Officer Mike Terrazas 818-374-7631 <u>34499@lapd.online</u> Neighborhood Watch Meeting at Stagg St. Elementary School, on May21, 2025 from 7:00-9:00PM. Use a mounted safe for money or jewelry. There have been some incidents such as a Homicide at Woodley and Vanowen. Taggers killed a victim who tried to stop them. There was a possible bomb threat at Louise Park. When the Bomb Squad investigated, they found the cylinder was from a Gender Reveal. Thefts and Burglaries are up. Burglars are gaining access through side gates and are breaking sliding glass doors. Keep side gates locked. People are impersonating police on the phone. CPAB next Wednesday meet the new Deputy Chief at West Valley Station at 6:30PM
    - ii. Also Representing LBNC Sgt Anthony Duran 818-374-7694 37527@lapd.online
    - iii. NON-Emergency 877-ASK- LAPD 877-275-5273
  - iv. LA Fire Dept Battalion 10 'A' Platoon, Battalion Chief Robert J Barna <u>robert.barna@lacity.org</u> 818-756-8610- Station 39 Jesus De La Cruz-Commander of B Platoon. He was asked if the 17,000 fires started by the homeless are listed in the statistics as homeless fires? He answered yes. Events-This Saturday. Fire Station Open Houses this Saturday 10:00 -4:00!
  - b. LA City Council District 6 (CD 6) Imelda Padilla 818-778-4999
    - i. <u>Rosie.Avetisyan@lacity.org</u> Field Rep for Lake Balboa **Events-Pawty with Love Pet** Resource Fair on Saturday, May 24, 2025 9:00AM-12:00PM at Woodley Park, Section 2. We are waiting for LADOT to respond (Movie in the Park).The Sizzler site looks like it has been rented out. They have not started the development. We are working with our Graffiti removal company to help with the Sherman Way Tunnel. They are working on cleaning up the encampments. A Stakeholder was following up on her request for Permit Parking.
    - ii. <u>Rebecca.Gurrola@lacity.org Homelessness Director</u>
    - iii. <u>Christopher.E.Hernandez@lacity.org</u> Homelessness Coordinator
    - iv. Lamont.Cobb@lacity.org Land Use
    - v. <u>Alexandra.Leard@lacity.org</u> VNY Airport Deputy Chief of Staff
  - c. <u>LA Mayor Karen Bass' office–213-400-0916 Michelle.Vergara@lacity.org</u>, <u>Betsaira.Aguilera@lacity.org</u> (Betsy) Community Engagement 213-257-0224
  - d. LA City Attorney's Office 213-978-8100 Hydee Feldstein Soto
  - e. LA City Planning Liaison <u>Ariel.Jones@lacity.org</u> 213-820-4255
  - f. LA Metro Ron Macias maciasr@metro.net
  - g. LAUSD **Scott Schmerelson's** office (District 3) 818-654-3785 Deputy Director of School and Community Engagement Karla Silva <u>Karla.Silva1@lausd.net</u> 213-241-8333
  - LA County Supervisor Lindsey P. Horvath office (District 3) 818-901-3831 District Director Mirna Ezquivel <u>mezquivel@bos.lacounty.gov</u> HELP for HOMELESS <u>www.la-hop.org</u> Constituent Advocate ESFV Office Paulina Torres & Karen Dominguez
  - i. CA Assemblymember Jesse Gabriel 46<sup>th</sup> Assembly district<u>818-346-4521 Jack Trent-Dorfman Field</u> <u>Rep</u> Sunday May 4 at Pierce College 9:30 AM
  - j. CA State Senator Caroline Menjivar, (District 20) sd20.senate.ca.gov 916-651-4020 Andres.Garcia@sen.ca.gov 818-901-5588 The Real ID has gone into effect and you will need it to

board a plane. The Neighborhood Council will be getting a new representative. If you need help with any state issues let him know. He went over the upcoming events. Starr Resendez will be the new representative for Lake Balboa. LBNC opposes SB79. The issue of dogs being brought to Los Angeles from other states was brought up. He will wait for more information.

- k. US Representative Luz Rivas (District 29) 818-221-3718 Office not set-up yet
- US Representative Brad Sherman (District 30) 818-501-9200 <u>Mary.Chakerian@mail.house.gov</u> Van Nuys Airport Citizen's Advisory Council (CAC) Alicia Avery resident of Lake Balboa <u>VNYCAC@lawa.org</u>.
- m. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) <u>Daniel.D.Johnson@lacity.org</u> 818-374-9889 The deadline is June 2, 2025 for the Park Needs Assessment. May 31, 2025 is the Shine LA and AAPI Day of Service. Look for events around the city. The Budget was discussed.

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS: <u>PLEASE ADVISE THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL IF YOU ARE A REGISTERED</u> <u>LOBBYIST</u>. PLEASE ADVISE THE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL IF YOU ARE AN LBNC STAKEHOLDER. 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."

- 8. **REMINDER:** RePave405 from Van Nuys to Westwood **spring/summer 2025 to winter 2029** <u>Interstate 405</u> <u>Sepulveda Pass Pavement Rehabilitation Project | Caltrans https://quickmap.dot.ca.gov/</u>
- 9. **REMINDER:** Stakeholders (and board members) can voice their own personal opinions on Council Files by forwarding **PUBLIC COMMENTS.** See pages 8 and 9 of this agenda for instructions.
- 10. 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.
  - a. IF you are interested in learning more about where your tax dollars are scheduled to go <u>https://cao.lacity.gov/budget/</u>
  - b. Mayor's Office Staff etc. Budget
    - a. 2021-2022 \$ 9.1 million, actual expenditures were \$71.1 million
    - b. 2022-2023 \$ 9.4 million, actual expenditures were \$51 million
    - c. 2023-2024 \$10.3 million, actual expenditures were \$59 million
    - d. 2024-2025 \$10.1 million, unknown at this time
  - c. Create your own city Budget myLAbudget.lacontroller.app

- 11. Sec. 910. Monitoring of City Services. Neighborhood councils shall monitor the delivery of City services in their respective areas and have periodic meetings with responsible officials of City departments, subject to their reasonable availability.
  - a. City Services have been cut back for several years, with an \$800 million deficit not much hope of getting mediocre services
- 12. Budget Advocate Region 3 Updates, (budgetadvocates.org) –Budget Representatives: Linda Gravani and Mihran Kalaydjian who is also a Budget Advocate 2025 White Paper read pages 1-15 then look under department for specifics EX: page 40 for City Council

https://www.budgetadvocates.org/ files/ugd/f03c84 17341704205f406e95d2dce3965a7814.pdf The **Budget Advocates** have made the following recommendations, for 2025-2026 Budget, - all of which have been made over the years.

- a. The Four-Year General Fund Budget Outlook needs to be updated to reflect anticipated raises for City Employees. Personnel costs comprise about 75% of the City's expenditures. This will give the Mayor and the City Council a better understanding of the City's budget, finances, and Structural Deficit
- b. Develop a two-year budget as recommended by the City Controller and the LA 2020 Commission
- c. Conduct open and transparent labor negotiations that require significant outreach to Angelenos before, during and after the negotiations
- d. Place a measure on the ballot that would prohibit the city from entering into any labor agreement that would create a current or future deficit. In the short term, pass an ordinance
- e. Develop a long-term infrastructure plan to address deferred maintenance and future capital expenditures
- f. Create a robust Reserve Fund that can only be used in declared emergencies, not to balance the budget as is the current procedure
- g. Establish an Office of Trans and Accountability as recommended by the LA 2020 Commission to oversee the City's budget and finances in real time.

Allen- The City Council Offices and the Mayor's Office are the only parts of the Budget that are not affected. We have a billon more Dollars this year and They are cutting most of the budgets and letting city staff go.

Fordyce- The city does budget busting labor contracts. Kalaydjian- June 21, 2025 will be Budget Day.

## Public Comment: No comment

## Motion: Passed (8:17AM)

LBNC ITEM 12. Motion to approve and support the recommendations. Moved: Brown Seconded: Kalaydjian								
Yes-15 No-00 Abstain-00 Ineligible-00 Absent-01								
Brown, Escobar, Frost, C. Garcia, J. Garcia, Goode, None None Middleton								
Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian,								
Knoll, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz								

Douglas Escobar left the meeting at 8:28PM and returned to the meeting at 8:29PM.

13. Discussion and possible action regarding "the Los Angeles (LA) River Bikeway and Greenway San Fernando Valley Completion Project". Preissel There is a shortfall of funding (\$17 million dollars) to build the project. There are 2,000 signatures to stop the project which will shut down the project. There is no one patrolling this area. Preissel will write the letter. The BOE has 60 million set aside for the project. It should go back into the General Fund. This project is for the Olympics and should not be in the city'sbudget.

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:25PM)

LBNC ITEM 13. Motion to write a letter opposing this project								
Moved: Gravani Seconded: Kalaydjian								
Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-02				
Brown, Escobar, Frost, J. Garcia, Goode, Gravani,	Brown, Escobar, Frost, J. Garcia, Goode, Gravani, None None None Middleton,							
Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Knoll, Schwering								
Preissel, B. Swartz, K. Swartz								

14. Discussion and possible action regarding Mayor Bass' budget cut for NCs which was \$50,000, in 1999, reduced to \$40,000 in 2008, reduced to \$32,000 in 2020 proposed reduction to \$25,000 in 2025-26 budget. Gravani

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (8:30PM)

LBNC ITEM 14. Motion to support the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners letter to fully fund the Neighborhood Councils at \$50,000.

Moved: Gravani Seconded: Brown

Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-02
Brown, Escobar, Frost, J. Garcia, Goode, Gravani,	None	None	None	Middleton,
Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Knoll,				Schwering
Preissel, B. Swartz, K. Swartz				

15. Discussion and possible action regarding South Coast Air Quality Management District's NOTICE OF INTENT TO ISSUE "PERMIT TO CONSTRUCT/OPERATE" A Human Crematory. The address is 16760 Stagg St. Lake Balboa-94% Environmental Burden.

Public Comment: Stake Holder Resident-

Motion: Passed (8:40PM)

LBNC ITEM 15. Motion to oppose due to homes being nearby and the amount of air pollution from Van Nuys Airport. Moved: Gravani Seconded: Goode

Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-00	Absent-02
Brown, Escobar, Frost ,C. Garcia J. Garcia, Goode,	None	None	None	Middleton,
Gravani, Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian,				Schwering
Knoll, Preissel, B. Swartz, K. Swartz				

16. LAND USE: Discussion and possible action regarding California Senate Bill 79 (SB79). LBNC voted to oppose SB79. PLEASE contact your State Senator (Caroline Menjivar) and oppose this bill which will allow 65foot

apartment developments within a one-half mile radius of any rail or bus stop. The bill does not mandate affordable units, accepts no public input, will destroy single family neighborhoods.-**Reviewed** 

- LAND USE: Discussion and possible action regarding 194 units at 17100 Victory Blvd ADM-2023-4537-TOC-VHCA-ED1 LINC the developer is scheduled to attend the Land Use Committee meeting on 20MAY 2025, 7P at Van Nuys FlyAway Bus Terminal, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor meeting room.-Reviewed
- 18. LAND USE: UPDATE: METRO Joint Development (JD) Program for properties owned by Metro, "to increase the supply of high-quality housing, especially income-restricted affordable units on underutilized metro properties" Metro's plans are for 248 units at the G Line parking lot -Gravani Contact Councilmember Padilla who is on the Metro Board -Reviewed SEE page 7 of agenda for Committee schedules and locations, please join us
- 19. Committee **UPDATES**: Approximately **2 minutes** for each report, unless otherwise noted
  - a. Education- They are putting together a Townhall in June on School Safety. The LAUSD Superintendent will be a speaker at the event.
  - b. Emergency Preparedness- Meeting this Saturday, at the Van Nuys Fly Away at 9:30AM
  - c. Health & Public Safety-Meeting-Wednesday, May 23, 2025, 7:00PM at the Van Nuys Fly Away At West Valley on Wednesday, May 14, 2025 at the CPAB Meeting. The new Valley Bureau Assistant Chief will be introduced. LAPD will be losing lots of civilian staff.
  - d. Land Use- Was previously reviewed.
  - e. Outreach The LBNC is hosting a Movie in Louise Park on Saturday, May 31, 2025. The Senior Symposium is at One Generation on May 17, 2025. The Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council will also have an outreach table at The River Clean-up hosted by The Friends of The Los Angeles River on May 24, 2025.
  - f. Rec and Park-No Report- Future meeting dates will be on a different day.
  - g. VNY Airport-No Report
  - h. Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Areas Steering Committee- No Report
  - Homeless <u>link.la-alliance.org/email-preview/CxRElpj4S5m5TncgFbDq/RQiGX0bMN4WjF3n3WAll?time\_stamp=1746053092665</u>
    There was a homeless liaison meeting. The Homeless count is a problem and it was unsafe. The homeless that are not drug addicts can't seem to get help.

20. President updates:

- a. City Clerk Funding Deadlines
- b. 20May2025 final date to submit an event request
- c. 1JUN2025- final date to submit a check payment
- d. 20JUN2025-final date to make bank card purchases

21. BUDGET: Discussion and possible action regarding the amendment to LBNC's FY 2024-2025 budget allocations. LBNC Executive committee voted to approve the changes 4-0-0

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:25PM)

LBNC ITEM 21. Motion to Approve the amendment to LBNC's FY 2024-2025 budget allocations. Moved: Schwering Seconded: Heredia

Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-01
Brown, Escobar, Frost, J. Garcia, Goode, Gravani,	None	None	C. Garcia	Middleton
Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Knoll,				
Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. Swartz				

22. **BUDGET:** Discussion and possible action regarding the **March 2025 MER** (Monthly Expense Report) Schwering

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:25PM)LBNC ITEM 22. Motion to approve March 2025 MER (Monthly Expense Report)Moved: Schwering Seconded: KalaydjianNo-00Abstain-00Ineligible-01Absent-01Yes-15No-00Abstain-00Ineligible-01Absent-01Brown, Escobar, Frost, J. Garcia, Goode, Gravani,<br/>Hazra, Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Knoll,<br/>Preissel, Schwering, B. Swartz, K. SwartzNoneNoneC. GarciaMiddleton

- 23. **BUDGET:** Discussion and possible action regarding the **April 2025 MER** (Monthly Expense Report) Schwering-**Item Tabled**
- 24. **FUNDING:** Discussion and possible action regarding the license renewal of Canva Pro to be paid by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:35PM)LBNC ITEM 24. Motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$125 license renewal of Canva Pro<br/>Moved: Gravani Seconded: KalaydjianYes-15No-00Abstain-00Ineligible-01Absent-01Brown, Escobar, Frost, J. Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra,<br/>Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Knoll, Preissel, Schwering,<br/>B. Swartz, K. SwartzNoneC. GarciaMiddleton

## 25. FUNDING: Discussion and possible action to contribute \$250 for the Congress of Neighborhoods.

#### Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:35PM)

LBNC ITEM 25. Motion to Approve \$250 for the Congress of Neighborhoods							
Moved: Gravani Seconded: Escobar							
Yes-15	No-00	Abstain-00	Ineligible-01	Absent-01			
Brown, Escobar, Frost, J. Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra,	None	None	C. Garcia	Middleton			
Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Knoll, Preissel, Schwering,							
B. Swartz, K. Swartz							

26. FUNDING: Discussion and possible action regarding the expenditure of up to \$125 for the purchase of a collapsible utility wagon to transport LBNC event/meeting material

Public Comment: No comment

Motion: Passed (7:35PM)

LBNC ITEM 26. Motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$125 for the purchase of a collapsible utility wagon to transport LBNC event/meeting material Moved: Gravani Seconded: Kalaydjian						
Yes-15 No-00 Abstain-00 Ineligible-01 Absent-01						
Brown, Escobar, Frost, J. Garcia, Goode, Gravani, Hazra, None None C. Garcia Middleton Heredia, Jerosimich, Kalaydjian, Knoll, Preissel, Schwering,						
B. Swartz, K. Swartz						

Linda Schwering left the meeting at 7:37PM

The Meeting was moved back to Item 6.

- 27. THANK YOU LBNC Board Members & Neighborhood Watch Block Captains for all YOU do behind the scenes for our community.
- 28. Adjourn Meeting-The meeting was adjourned at 8:58PM

Next Regular Meeting IN PERSON of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Wednesday June 4, 2025 at Gault St School Auditorium