

Our Neighborhood News



Neighborhood Council



Lake Balboa - Where good neighbors make a great community

March 2010 Election to the Neighborhood Council: What's in it for Me?

"Why should I serve on a neighborhood council?" It's a legitimate question. Chances are, you're probably not even sure what a neighborhood council is, let alone what you would do if you were elected to a council. I certainly had those questions two years ago when I first ran for election. Although I really wasn't sure what I was getting myself into, what I've found is a truly rewarding experience and a way to give back to this Lake Balboa community I care so much about.

My initial motivation for running for the council was to be able to learn more about the community. I wanted to know about crime in my neighborhood. What I learned after being elected was that Lake Balboa has two great senior lead officers from the Los Angeles Police Department that not only come to our council's meetings, but are an invaluable resource to the people or live and work in Lake Balboa. I was also impressed to learn that field deputies from the two city councilmen who represent the Lake Balboa community regularly attend our council meetings.

Not only did I get to learn more about my community, but as a member of the council I got to voice my opinion regarding various matters that affect the people that live here in Lake Balboa. For example, if a homeowner wants to convert a property to apartments or condominiums, or a business owner wants to apply for a liquor permit, these applications are considered by the council. The council is also allocated money from the city each year which we can use for beautification projects or to sponsor events here in Lake Balboa. As a council, we also have an opportunity to help stakeholders who sometimes feel helpless trying to find their way through our city's bureaucracy when they have problems. These are all ways the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council helps to make a difference.

I have to admit, I was initially reluctant to run for the council. My occupation does not allow me much free time, and the little time I have I would prefer to spend with my wife and two young children. However, the council meets only once a month. There are obviously issues and projects that arise between meetings, as well as other events and meetings which require attendance by members of our council, but with 17 people serving on our council there is always at least one or two who can step up to the plate. No single person bears the weight managing the council on their own. Thus, if you're a busy person like me and need flexibility, election to the council does not mean you have to sacrifice work time or family. On the other hand, if you have the time and motivation, serving on the council provides a tremendous opportunity to get very involved in the community.

The Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council meets on the first Wednesday of every month, with the next meeting on March 3rd. If you're curious about the council or interested in the upcoming elections, I strongly encourage you to attend our next meeting. The filing period begins on February 26th and will run through March 30th. If you visit our website at www.LakeBalboaNC.org, you will find specific information about the elections.

Dave Bernardoni

President,
Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council

**More election information
on the reverse side**

What's Happening!!! Dates & Updates

March 3rd, 2010 - Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Regular Community Meeting @ 7:00 PM. The meeting is at our regular location, Lake Balboa Studios, 7412 Balboa Blvd., in Lake Balboa. **Note New Starting Time**

March 13th, 2010 - LBNC Combined Emergency Preparedness Meeting and EP Communications Meeting @ 9 AM in the Community Meeting Room @ The Flyaway Bus Terminal, 7610 Woodley Ave. Park in the Short Term lot in front closest to Woodley Ave. Go inside and take the elevator at the north end of the building up to second floor. Contact Linda Pruett @ LindaP@LakeBalboaNC.org or 818-345-9809 for additional info. All-Valley HAM Radio check-in, Sunday mornings, 9:00 AM, Simplex 145.570, down by 10s to 530 if busy, no lower!

March 13, 2010 - Second Saturday Bird Walks for Families and Beginners 9:00 AM – 11:00 AM @ the Wildlife area in the Sepulveda Basin. Enter off Woodley by the entrance to the Japanese Gardens. Rain cancels

March 18th, 2010 - Empower LA Open Dialogue and Candidate Preparation Session 6:30-8:30 PM @ Sherman Oaks Elem. School, 14755 Greenleaf St., Sherman Oaks. Learn about opportunities to: Engage your Government and your Community; Collaborate with your City Council Member and City Agencies on Issues of Concern; Become a Voter and/or a Candidate in the 2010 Neighborhood Council Elections. (Lake Balboa NC elections will take place May 27, 2010.) RSVP @ 213-485-1360. www.empowerLA.org

April 3rd, 2010 - Spring Egg Hunt 10:00 AM– 12:00 Noon @ Balboa Sports Center, 17015 Burbank Blvd, Encino. Free event with lots of fun activities for children ages 1-11 years.

April 4th, 2010 - Persian New Year Celebration 8:00 AM-6:00 PM @ Beilensen Park, 6300 Balboa Blvd., Lake Balboa. \$15 admission. Booths, food and entertainment.

Through March 30, 2010 - Lake Balboa NC Candidate Filing Period Continues. See other side for more info on the elections.

**Don't forget to visit our website at
www.LakeBalboaNC.org
To send your request to join our mail / email list,
click on the website's "Contact Us"**

Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council
PO Box 7720 Lake Balboa, CA 91409-7720
Voicemail / FAX 818-779-9026
*Please leave your phone number
so we can return your call.*

LAKE BALBOA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD SEAT DESCRIPTIONS

The following chart contains information regarding board seats for this election

BOARD POSITION	# OF SEATS	ELECTED OR APPOINTED?	QUALIFICATIONS TO RUN FOR THE SEAT	QUALIFICATIONS TO VOTE FOR THE SEAT
Residential Stakeholder Representatives (RSR)	6	Elected	Any stakeholder whose primary residence or living space is located within the Council's boundaries whether in a home, apartment, condominium or other accommodations. 18 years or older at the time of election.	Stakeholders 18 years of age and above.
Business Stakeholder Representatives (BSR)	3	Elected	Any stakeholder who (1) owns a business; (2) owns business rental or real property; or (3) works within the Council's Boundaries. 18 years or older at the time of election.	Stakeholders 18 years of age and above.
Organizational Stakeholder Representatives (OSR)	3	Elected	Any stakeholder who participates in a religious institution, educational institution, community organization, non-profit organization, neighborhood association, school/parent group, faith based group, senior group, youth group, arts association, service organization, boys and girls club, cultural group, or environmental group within the Council's boundaries. 18 years or older at the time of election.	Stakeholders 18 years of age and above.
Youth Stakeholder Representative (YSR)	1	Elected	Any stakeholder that meets the criteria for RSR, BSR, or OSR AND is between their fourteenth birthday and seventeenth birthday at the time of election.	Stakeholders between fourteen (14) and eighteen (18) years of age.
Senior Stakeholder Representative (SSR)	1	Elected	Any stakeholder that meets the criteria for RSR, BSR, or OSR AND is older than fifty-five (55) years of age at the time of election.	Stakeholders 18 year of age and above.
At-Large Elected Stakeholder Representative (ALESR)	1	Elected	Any stakeholder that meets the criteria for RSR, BSR, or OSR but does not wish to seek a seat within that category or who declares a stake in the neighborhood and affirm the factual basis for it.	Stakeholders 18 years of age and above.
At-Large Appointed Stakeholder	2	Appointed Not a part of this election	Stakeholders who meet the criteria for category RSR, BSR, or OSR.	Current Board members appoint with approval by 2/3 of Board members voting.

Beginning February 26, 2010 information about election procedures, a LBNC area map, election timeline and to obtain a Candidate Filing Packet for one of the Board seats go to <http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/ncdocs/Election%20Information%20listed%20by%20Region.pdf> scroll down to Region C Election Information and click on Lake Balboa. Information and a packet will also be available from the City Clerk's Office at 213-978-0444.

The completed forms must be received by the City Clerk's Office by the close of business on March 30, 2010. Packets and information will also be available at our Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council meeting on March 3rd, 7:00 PM, @ Lake Balboa Studios, 7412 Balboa Blvd., Lake Balboa. There will also be a link to the election information on our website: www.LakeBalboaNC.org.



Neighborhood Council