



### MINUTES

## **Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Regular Virtual Monthly Board Meeting Wednesday April 24, 2024, 7:00 P.M.**

<b>NAME</b>	<b>BOARD SEAT</b>	Present	Absent
Barcohana, Elizabeth	Private Schools Grades K-6 (Selected 09/27/2023)	X	
Bayliss, Shawn	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)		X
Evans, Ellen	Community Interest At-Large (2025) / VP – <i>Legislative Affairs</i>	X	
Goodman, Mark M.D.	Bel-Air Association		X
Greenberg, Robin	Faith-Based Institutions (Re-selected 07/2023) / VP – <i>Operations</i>	X	
Gros, Mirco	Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association		X
Hall, Jamie	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Holmes, Kristie Ph.D.	Public Educational Institutions (2025)	X	
Kadin, David Scott	Benedict Canyon Association		X
Kamin, Aaron	North of Sunset District (2025)	X	
Kwan, Robert (Bobby)	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Levotman, Vadim	North of Sunset District (2025)	X	
Longcore, Travis Ph.D.	Custodians of Open Space (Re-selected 07/2023) / <i>President</i>	X	
Loze, Donald	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Mann, Mindy Rothstein	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)	X	
Miner, Nickie	Benedict Canyon Association / <i>Secretary</i>	X	
Paden, Andrew	Bel Air Hills Association		X
Palmer, Dan	Residents of Beverly Glen		X
Ringler, Robert	Residents of Beverly Glen		X
Roessel, Angela	North of Sunset District (2025) (7:26 P.M. to 9:25 P.M.)	X	
Rogovin, Jaye	Bel-Air Association		X
Ryan, Sandy	Casiano Estates Association ( <i>Appointed/Seated 01/24/2024</i> )		X
Sandler, Irene	Bel Air Crest Master Association	X	
Savage, Stephanie	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Schlesinger, Robert	Benedict Canyon Association (7:13 P.M. to 9:12 P.M.)	X	
Smith, Maureen	Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts (2025)	X	
Spradlin, Jason	Holmby Hills HOA		X
Levinson for Sroloff	Bel-Air Association	X	
Steele, Timothy Ph.D.	Bel Air Glen District (2025) / <i>Assistant Secretary</i>	X	
Stojka, André	Bel Air Ridge HOA	X	
Templeton, Patricia	Bel Air Hills Association		X
Wayne, Cathy	Laurel Canyon Association		X
Weinberg, Steven	Franklin-Coldwater District (2025)	X	
Weisberg, Leslie	Bel-Air Association		X
Wickers, Alonzo	At-Large Youth Rep (2025)	X	
Wimbish, Jon	Private Schools Grades 7-12 (Re-selected 07/2023)	X	
<b>Total:</b>		<b>23</b>	<b>13</b>

President Longcore called this all-online meeting to order at 7:08 P.M., after relating information on public comment and rules allowing the LA Neighborhood Councils to meet virtually under SB411. Following the flag salute, Dr. Steele, Assistant to the Secretary, called the roll with quorum met. Member Schlesinger arrived at 7:13 and Member Roessel at 7:26 P.M.

1. The agenda was **approved** by unanimous consent, as moved by Evans and Steele. Dr. Longcore asked those who have recusals on any item, e.g., if located within 1,000 feet of a project or any other reason, to do so at this time. There were none.
2. The March 27, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes (**Attachment A**) were **approved** by unanimous consent, as moved by Evans and Stojka.
3. **General Public Comment** –

**Ellen Evans** related that when she had gone to the PLUM Committee to talk about the Wildlife Ordinance after we had submitted two voluminous Community Impact Statements (CISs), she wasn't called on at all, and was not allowed to comment on behalf of the neighborhood council (NC), while another representative of a NC was given some time to comment. Then, last week, she went to Housing and Homelessness Committee to talk about Home Sharing Enforcement for which we had submitted at least three CISs. She was called and got to the podium, and said she was speaking on behalf of the BABCNC. Committee Chair, Councilmember Raman, asked if she had submitted CISs, to which she responded, yes, numerous, at which point the City Attorney presiding over that part of the meeting said she didn't understand what was going on and Councilmember Raman explained that sometimes if they submit a CIS, they get extra time. Member Evans noted that she was given the three minutes and spoke on behalf of the NC in any case but ended up feeling as if she was asking for a special favor or did something wrong. Over the weekend, she spoke to Elise Rudin and was told that the only time we are guaranteed to speak or get three minutes is before Boards and Commissions, and that it is up to the discretion of the President or Chair.

Member Evans related that we do all this work and collect comments from the community and then it is optional whether we get to say our piece. She noted that we know that these CISs are not always read and our only chance to be heard is when we speak before the Committees and Council. She thinks if we can't get this changed, we might be better off changing to becoming a Community Council. She thinks we rarely want to speak before Boards and Commissions but need to be heard by Committees and Council. Dr. Longcore noted that we could potentially take this up at a future meeting.

**Jamie Hall** related that two days ago, LA County Superior Court Judge Curtis A. Kin declared that SB9 is unconstitutional, that it deprived Charter Cities of their rights under the California Constitution and that there was *not* a statewide interest in SB9 because the law did *not* create affordable housing, only increased overall housing, and the expressed intent of SB9 was to create affordable housing.

**Robert Schlesinger** suggested having lawn signs again for outreach, referencing signs we had in the past encouraging people to wear masks at the start of COVID.

#### 4. Comments of Elected Officials & Agencies

**Skylar Payab, Office of Assemblymember Jacqui Irwin – [Skylar.Payab@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Skylar.Payab@asm.ca.gov)**

Skylar noted that she covers Malibu to Pacific Palisades and Brentwood to Bel Air, and came to speak on the fire insurance issue. They do not have an answer yet from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, responsible for regulating this but Assemblymember Irwin posted good information on their Homepage & Resources tab: <https://a42.asmdc.org/> If you've been issued a non-renewal notice, see this town hall: <https://a42.asmdc.org/video/20240410-assemblymember-irwin-hosts-online-town-hall-wildfire-and-disaster-insurance> with tips. Questions were asked & answered. She is in constant communication with the Insurance Commissioner and will keep us updated.

**Joshua Marin-Mora, Office of Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur –**

[joshuamarinm@asm.ca.gov](mailto:joshuamarinm@asm.ca.gov) Joshua gave an update on Asm. Zbur's recent legislative bills and reminded us that the Assemblymember is Chair of the Select Committee on Retail Theft. Climate Change remains a top priority to help reach 2024 climate goals and the Assemblymember is taking action regarding gun violence. They've heard from hillside communities regarding AT&T, and continue to monitor insurance on their end. Questions were asked and answered. The Assemblymember is proud to be on the Jewish Caucus and remains steadfast in support of Jewish Constituents in light of rising anti-Semitism, and, the Jewish Caucus is tweaking a bill which has not been formally introduced yet.

**Amanda Laflen, Office of Supervisor Lindsey Horvath – [ALaflen@bos.lacounty.gov](mailto:ALaflen@bos.lacounty.gov)**

She gave updates on Earth Month issues, celebrating a Climate Action Plan, with the County's guide to conserving much more water by 2025, taking a holistic approach to environmental justice; addressing renewables and care for our unhoused, and expanding behavioral health.

**Haley Martinez, Office of CD5 Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky –**

[haley.martinez@lacity.org](mailto:haley.martinez@lacity.org) Updates included but were not limited to mention of a Golden State Plan to counter anti-Semitism, <https://www.gov.ca.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/04/Golden-State-Plan-to-Counter-Antisemitism.pdf> and the City Attorney's response to combat hate and division among all communities. Haley provided information regarding efforts to reduce plastics in the environment: [https://www.lacitysan.org/san/faces/wcnav\\_externalId/s-lsh-es-ceqap-cprp?\\_adf.ctrl-state=1bbdqeoh90\\_1&\\_afLoop=30837655393565254&\\_afWindowMode=0&\\_afWindowId=null#!%40%40%3F\\_afWindowId%3Dnull%26\\_afLoop%3D30837655393565254%26\\_afrWindowMode%3D0%26\\_adf.ctrl-state%3D1bbdqeoh90\\_5](https://www.lacitysan.org/san/faces/wcnav_externalId/s-lsh-es-ceqap-cprp?_adf.ctrl-state=1bbdqeoh90_1&_afLoop=30837655393565254&_afWindowMode=0&_afWindowId=null#!%40%40%3F_afWindowId%3Dnull%26_afLoop%3D30837655393565254%26_afrWindowMode%3D0%26_adf.ctrl-state%3D1bbdqeoh90_5)

She provided updates on the canyon closure, noting that the contractor is ready for the massive wall with materials in to shore up the road. One remaining utility pole is in the way of the new wall which is leaning, and wires need to be removed. They're working with the PUC, with LADWP, Spectrum and AT&T Cell service.

Questions were asked and answered. **Member Loze** asked her to help bring a meeting together with CD5. She noted that CD11 is taking a lead on one haul route motion and they're involved in conversations along with CD4. **Pamela Pierson, M.D.** thanked Haley for what she and Councilmember Yaroslavsky have done on Nicada Drive as to parking signage, and expressed her wish for that kind of help from CD4 for Mulholland, where a private business is occupying the area with a conga-line of parked cars, increasing fire hazards at a time that we are having difficulty with fire insurance and landslides. She would appreciate it if anything can be done to encourage those at CD4 to do the same as it is in CD4. She noted that the signs put there by LADWP have been removed, and we need to erect signs on the rest of Mulholland.

**Sidney Liss, Office of CD4 Councilmember Nithya Raman – [Sidney.liss@lacity.org](mailto:Sidney.liss@lacity.org)**

Sidney noted that a few projects have been funded through the budget request for a hillside stability program to replace bulkheads. A motion has been introduced by their office, to support local control of autonomous vehicles; another motion to regulate carbon construction towards a more sustainable city. They introduced a motion in response to significant problems emerging during the storm, in preparation for the next rainy season. Regarding the insurance issue, he'd be happy to connect any constituents who need help with the state partners. Asked, he noted bulkheads will be funded for Nash Drive in Laurel Canyon but was not aware of any for Viewmont Drive.

**Adriana de la Cruz, Budget Advocate**, noted that she has been sending emails and that there is an upcoming Budget Advocate Town Hall. She was available for questions offline.

**Octaviano Rios, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment:**

- Octaviano noted that our Monthly Profile included information on additional Board trainings, including recently added Anti-Bias Training (ABLE) and Gender Expression and Gender Identity Training, as well as the new Amended Code-of-Conduct, all on Cornerstone. He urged all board members to complete these by June 3<sup>rd</sup>.
- He discussed the new need for all Stakeholder Committee Members to do trainings. They are developing a Q&A doc on the Amended Code of Conduct for stakeholder committee members, which the policy mentions but doesn't give clarification on how to administer.
- Dr. Steele noted that the anti-bias training was interesting but had glitches, with freezing intermittently. Octaviano recommended refreshing the browser a few times, and noted that you can go out and come back to the same spot on the training without losing anything.
- As to the 2025 Elections for Region 11, individuals can send feedback on their new 2025 Election Handbook and Election Timeline by May 5<sup>th</sup> via email before they are finalized for the elections. See the Monthly Profile for links and send suggestions, comments, or questions about the handbook or timeline to [clerk.electionsnc@lacity.org](mailto:clerk.electionsnc@lacity.org) by May 5th.
- Important dates by the end of this fiscal year: May 20<sup>th</sup> last date for event request submissions, June 1<sup>st</sup> to submit check payment requests & June 20<sup>th</sup> to use the bank card.
- Questions were asked and answered.

**5. President's Report – Travis Longcore, Ph.D.**

- Dr. Longcore asked the Board to please do the new required trainings.
- He noted that BAA has a new Executive Director, Jonathan Brand, and there will be a change of representation from Bel Air Association.
- He related efforts to get alternative meeting sites, based on the Brown Act, and noted that AJU (now Milken) has security protocols that prohibit meeting there again, and while Belmont may be a site, the City Attorney has had hesitation as we have TreePeople and Belmont is farther away, unless we can make a finding that we cannot meet at TreePeople. He continues to pursue this.
- By virtue of his position as President, he was invited to participate in the Community Advisory Council for Asm. Zbur, which he did, speaking on behalf of himself, not the NC, along with VP Evans, who chaired that meeting. Good discussions took place; anyone interested can discuss this with him or VP Evans.
- He asked board members to please keep their cameras on during the meeting.
- Questions were asked and answered.

## 6. Reports of Committee Chairs:

**VP Evans, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Short Term Rentals**, reported that at the hearing on Short-Term Rental Enforcement, Councilmember Raman gave more instructions for a report-back to include many items that could make a difference with enforcement. VP Evans will circulate the new set of instructions given, and noted that Councilmember Raman is providing good leadership.

**Treasurer Levotman, Chair of the Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness (PS&EP) Committee** related that they have been asking the LAPD a lot of questions but not receiving answers lately; however, two pressing questions were answered: Why are they not investigating party houses? The obvious reason is lack of resources, e.g., Hollywood Division has 10 detectives assigned while normally they have 16. Vice deals with gambling, alcohol, drugs, and prostitution which leads to runaway kids and human trafficking. They are making a priority for the resources they are using, and concentrating currently on prostitution which leads to rescuing run-away kids and human trafficking.

**Member Kamin of the PS&EP Committee** shed light on a pressing issue, the understaffing crisis at the LA 911 Call Centers. He noted that he and Chair Levotman are taking 12-week Police Citizen's Academy course, and spoke on the Police Service Representatives (PSR), who are civilian employees of the LAPD who dispatch police patrol cars and receive and analyze 911 emergency calls. He noted that their role is critical, they cannot be replaced by anyone off the street, and they're facing a staffing shortage. He noted that ours is 211 in the Valley though they visited one in DTLA. He learned that the shortage cannot be resolved quickly. The PS&EP Committee feels there is an urgent call to action, as the LAPD has a goal of answering 90% within 15 seconds, though only met that 50% of the time, and they are sure that with adequate staffing they could meet the goal. Member Kamin related that the supervisors gave them a list of things that could be done to help the staffing shortage and that he and Chair Levotman would like to have the Board's support in drafting a statement to tell representatives we demand action to address the understaffing issue. He noted that one part of the problem is that they are not allowed to be part-time employees, and they would like to make sure that the PSRs are adequately compensated for their invaluable service. Chair Levotman noted that the committee would like to emphasize the need for mental health specialists to help the dispatchers, and that they are paid \$27/hr. He feels we have a huge problem in the City. Questions were asked & answered. Dr. Longcore suggested the committee have a meeting and bring a motion. He thanked Members Levotman & Kamin.

### Old Business

## 7. Codification of Executive Directive No. 1. Expedition of Permits and Clearances for Temporary Shelters and Affordable Housing Types

**Motion:** Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council opposes the motion in **CF 23-0623-S1** to codify Executive Directive No. 1 unless amended to contain the eligibility requirements found in AB 785, specifically, Public Resources Code Section 21080.27 (a)(1). AB 785 was a law that was sponsored by Mayor Bass that went into effect on January 1, 2024. It only applies to 100 percent affordable housing developments in the City of Los Angeles and sets forth when a project is statutorily exempt from CEQA. It logically follows that projects that do not qualify for this statutory exemption should also not qualify for ED1 as a ministerial approval.

Member Hall noted that subsequent to our meeting last month, he did some research and explained that Mayor Bass supports AB 785 which was designed with certain eligibility requirements and that ED1 should have the same requirements as in AB785.

Member Hall moved the motion above that the BABCNC oppose the ED1 Ordinance unless it includes the eligibility requirements for 100% affordable housing found in AB785. The motion was seconded by Member Weinberg. Discussion was held.

**Amendment:** Evans moved to amend the motion to say “would support ED1 if amended” (change from oppose unless amended to support if amended.)

Member Mann related that in the WRAC Homeless Committee, discussion on the concept of what it means to have affordable housing came up; when most people hear about ED1 they support it because they believe it will provide housing for *low-income* and *unhoused* people, which she believes is *not* the case. Rather, ED1’s affordable housing will be providing *middle-income* housing, and will *not* be *low-income* housing. She noted that we should *not* bypass CEQA to quickly get housing on the market, and that it is a misnomer. Vote on the amendment passed with 2 noes from Mann and Stojka.

**Motion as Amended:** Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council supports the motion in **CF 23-0623-S1** to codify Executive Directive No. 1 if amended to contain the eligibility requirements found in AB 785, specifically, Public Resources Code Section 21080.27 (a)(1). AB 785 was a law that was sponsored by Mayor Bass that went into effect on January 1, 2024. It only applies to 100 percent affordable housing developments in the City of Los Angeles and sets forth when a project is statutorily exempt from CEQA. It logically follows that projects that do not qualify for this statutory exemption should also not qualify for ED1 as a ministerial approval.

The motion passed by 13 yeses, 1 no from Mann, and 8 abstentions.

#### 8. Request Compensation for Transfer of PROW Easements [WRAC]

**Discussion and Possible Motion:** The BABCNC requests that the City modify its procedures regarding street vacations as follows:

a) If a street vacation is being processed to facilitate a development project, then the applicant must obtain an appraisal prepared by a qualified appraiser to determine the fair market value of the easement. In undertaking this evaluation, the appraiser shall assess the value of the development project both with and without the easement. The applicant shall be required to compensate the City for vacation of the easement taking into consideration the increased value of the development project resulting from the street vacation.

b) If a street vacation is not being processed to facilitate a development project, then an applicant need not pay the City for the fair market value of the easement. However, the City shall require an irrevocable deed restriction be placed on the portion of the street being vacated to prevent habitable structures.

BABCNC further requests that Councilmembers representing WRAC member councils (CMs Park, Yaroslavsky, Raman and Hutt) bring a motion in Council or otherwise direct the Dept. of City Planning (DCP) to institute a DCP policy to effectuate this purpose.

Dr. Longcore introduced this item which was moved by Hall and seconded by Evans. Discussion was held and following Board comments, the question was called. Member Savage interjected and provided further comment, following which there was no objection to a motion to suspend the rules to take Member Savage’s suggestion. **Amendment** by Savage to add “easement to control reinforced walls or habitable structure” in section (b) was approved and the **motion as amended passed** by 14 yeses, 4 noes, and 4 abstentions.

## New Business

### 9. **Monthly Expenditure Report**

**Motion** to approve the March 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report (**Attachment B**) **passed** by 21 yeases, 0 noes, 1 abstention, and 2 ineligible, as moved by Levotman and seconded by Schlesinger.

### 10. **Funding Request**

**Motion** to approve orders for up to \$700 for Name Badges – “LA City Hanging Badge” with raised City Seal - Double Sided – Lanyard 2.00"W x 3.50"H @ \$15.95 each. For 36 board members the total would be \$639.70 including taxes and shipping. A few additional badges may be ordered for regular Alternates and Board Administrator) (**Attachment C**)

The motion was introduced by Treasurer Levotman. Color was discussed, Dark Green or White. VP Evans noted that we shouldn't order any officer badges until our next election, coming up soon and asked if this could be done on an on-demand basis for those who think they want or need one. Dr. Longcore noted that on-demand is a possibility. Member Roessel doesn't think she needs one and pointed out the expense.

**Amendment** to have this built in to the budget so we get these for new people so they have a form of ID if they like, and change language as noted above, to approve orders for up to \$700, was moved by Member Kamin,

**Motion as amended** to approve orders for Name Badges – “LA City Hanging Badge” with raised City Seal - Double Sided – Lanyard 2.00"W x 3.50"H @ \$15.95 each; to have this built in to the budget so we get these for new people so they have a form of ID if they like, to approve orders for name badges for up to \$700, presumably for people in groups who need them. (Attachment "C") The motion **passed** by roll call vote with 20 yeases, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, 13 absent, and 2 ineligible to vote.

### 11. **Standing Rules**

**Motion** to approve the Standing Rules for the Planning and Land Use Committee (**Attachment D**) was moved by Evans and seconded by Smith. Questions were asked and answered and the motion was **adopted** by unanimous consent.

### 12. **Fire Station Open Houses**

Volunteers were solicited for Fire Station Open House tables:  
Fire Station 71 Open House – May 5 from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm  
Volunteers were Levinson, Miner and Smith.  
Fire Station 99 Open House – May 11 from 11:00 am to 4:00 pm  
Volunteers were Mann, Steele, Miner and Weinberg.  
VP Ops Greenberg will attend both and will check into FS 41 & 37.

### 13. **Appointment to WRAC Homeless Committee**

**Motion** to appoint primary and alternate representatives for WRAC Homelessness Committee (HOC).  
Maureen Levinson, our current Homeless Liaison with the City accepted the appointment to WRAC's HOC as Primary Rep and Mann as Alternate Rep, which was approved by acclamation as moved by Schlesinger.

### 14. **Town Hall on City Solutions for Housing and Homelessness**

**Background:** The landscape of solutions for housing and homelessness is very complex, with different public and private actors involved in the creation and administration of rules

and regulations, provision of services, oversight of those services and financing. Because of the level of complication, most people have a challenging time understanding exactly what's going on beyond a basic understanding of some of the costs involved. This, however, is the defining problem of Los Angeles at this time, and we, as Neighborhood Council Members, bear some responsibility for understanding how the City is responding, and for providing an opportunity for our constituents to understand as well.

**Motion:** That BABCNC, potentially in conjunction with nearby NCs, hold a town hall on this topic and bring in our Councilmembers and/or staff to help us understand the lay of the land better and to budget for an in-person event in the upcoming fiscal year.

VP Evans related that she would like to understand this topic, bring in staff & councilmembers to talk to us about the factors, the legislation, what's important, what we should be paying attention to and how we can help. She'll look for another NC to share the expenses, noting that for our last town hall we shared expenses with Westwood. Dr. Longcore noted that is motion is a go ahead for planning.

The motion **passed** by all but 1 no from Stojka and 6 abstentions from Sandler, Schlesinger, Miner, Holmes, Longcore, and Loze.

We will come back with a specific proposal with a financial estimate attached.

**15. Appointment to DONE Regional Grievance Panel:**

**Background:** The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment has certified grievances filed by stakeholders and board members. For those filed by board members and subsequently certified, a regional grievance panel will be formed. The Department, in its sole discretion, may reject or remove any panelist recommended for appointment by the Neighborhood Council and request the Neighborhood Council to appoint a replacement panelist. The Department may also develop mandatory training required, and consultation with the Office of the City Attorney before a panelist serves on the Regional Grievance Panel.

**Motion** to recommend one Board Member to serve as Panelist for Neighborhood Council Regional Grievance Panels. Secretary Nickie Miner volunteered and was **approved** by acclamation.

**16. 1524 Benedict Canyon**

**Discussion and Possible Motion** to request that the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) investigate the notification process and permit issues for the removal of a protected tree at 1524 Benedict Canyon after two protected trees apparently were previously removed without permits (**Attachment E**).

Mindy Mann introduced and **moved** this, re the property at Benedict and Clearview, 1) Two sycamores were removed and nothing happened; 2) we never got any notification on the oak that was just removed though we are supposed to get notifications of requests for protected tree removals. There was a hiccup and Council sent it to us but we haven't been receiving those emails. The date that it was sent was the date before it was removed. There is something wrong with the process. 3) This would have been the third protected tree removal and when three it is supposed to go to public hearing. Dr. Longcore noted that the motion is to summarize this into a letter, to BSS and CD5. Discussion was held, with Member Hall explaining how this works, including but not limited to that this ordinance authorizes the withholding of building permits for up to 10 years and it there is no fine procedures. He noted that going to that hearing highlighted some problems with the ordinance that we need



to change: 1) there is no fine..., it doesn't require replacement of the trees. You can't fine the contractor; only the owner. The other issue is that the city wants to see video evidence. They have only done this withholding of building permits one time (at 8461 Grandview). The City Attorney is making sure that video and photographic evidence from the public will be accepted as valid evidence.

Dr. Longcore further explained that because it is so difficult to go through that remedy of withholding building permits, the City comes to the owner, and says we want you to get a permit for the trees already removed and ... a backdoor mitigation approach; generally put back four trees for one; retroactively ask for the permits, pay the fees, put the trees in, and make sure they do well. He would have the letter say these are the things we believe happened and think you should open a case. There was no objection to writing the letter and the motion **passed** by unanimous consent. Dr. Longcore will coordinate with Hall and Mann, as the Trees Committee that the Board established before sending it out.

#### **17. 9650 Cedarbrook Drive**

**Update and Possible Action** to advise the City Attorney on community concerns relative to recent actions of the bankruptcy court affirming validity of permits issued for the development of a 78,000 square foot dwelling at 9650 Cedarbrook Drive, pursuant to the purpose of the neighborhood council to have an advisory role on issues of concern to the neighborhood under the City Charter.

Dr. Longcore introduced this item, noting that there was a public records request on this, which the Board fully and completely complied with. He asked Steven Weinberg to briefly update on what has happened and noted that before we make a motion on this, he wanted to report on some guidance from the City, on how to do this in a way that fulfills our role with the charter.

Member Weinberg gave an update on this development on lower Coldwater Canyon... proposed by Hadid. He has been monitoring the bankruptcy case. It is no longer controlled by Mohammed Hadid, as the court replaced him with an executor last summer said in report that LA City was invalidating all permits for the site, however, LADBS continued to do inspections while money was being pumped into this project. When we heard of City denying the permits, we as a board wrote to the Mayor to say we want to make sure the City stands fast which they did. The Hadid team filed a motion with bankruptcy court saying the permits – under equitable stopple, they never gave us any indication the permits were invalid; bankruptcy court agreed; ruled that they are property of the estate and vested, and can never be terminated; to the extent that the City does it, it could be a taking under the constitution. The City has appealed to the 9<sup>th</sup> Circuit. The parties are in mediation; going in May. He is writing a letter to express strong concerns that the City hold fast, and let the appeals process play out.

Longcore noted that in any situation like this, if anyone wants to communicate individually to endorse Weinberg's letter, you can say you are on the NC but if you do, have to say "I am doing so on my own behalf." Write to City Council that oversees litigation for the City, and say we care about this and want the City to stand fast, and important that the permits not be deemed valid. We can say we are an individual, cannot give advice to the City Attorney but to the City Council – doing it personally.

Miner/Weinberg moved to write the letter. Discussion was held; Longcore noted that it is best to just advise the City Council and cc the City Attorney; be careful about talking about impacts versus policies of the case.

The **motion** to authorize Travis to write the letter and convey it to the City Attorney; cc the Councilmember of CD5 passed by 18 yeses, 0 noes, and 2 abstentions from Weinberg and Longcore.

Travis Longcore adjourned the meeting at 9:43pm to meet again on **May 22, 2024**.

[info@babnc.org](mailto:info@babnc.org) [www.babnc.org](http://www.babnc.org)