



Building A Better Community



Minutes
Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Regular Monthly Board Meeting
Wednesday June 26, 2024, 7:00 P.M.

NAME	BOARD SEAT	Present	Absent
Barcohana, Elizabeth	Private Schools Grades K-6 (Selected 09/27/2023)	X	
Bayliss, Shawn	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)		X
Brand, Jonathan	Bel-Air Association (<i>appointed 04/26 / seated 5/22</i>)	X	
Stella Grey for Ellen Evans	Community Interest At-Large (2025) / <i>VP – Legislative Affairs</i>	X	
Gail Sroloff for Dr. Goodman	Bel-Air Association	X	
Greenberg, Robin	Faith-Based Institutions (Re-selected 07/2023) / <i>VP – Operations</i>	X	
Mirco Gros	Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association (<i>Present Virtually</i>)	X	
Hall, Jamie	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Holmes, Kristie Ph.D.	Public Educational Institutions (2025) (<i>Present Virtually</i>)	X	
Kadin, David Scott	Benedict Canyon Association (<i>Present Virtually</i>)	X	
Kamin, Aaron	North of Sunset District (2025)	X	
Kwan, Robert (Bobby)	Laurel Canyon Association (<i>Excused Absence</i>)		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> (<i>Present Virtually</i>)	X	
Paden, Andrew	Bel Air Hills Association	X	
Palmer, Dan	Residents of Beverly Glen		X
Ringler, Robert	Residents of Beverly Glen		X
Dr. Garfield for Sandy Ryan	Casiano Estates Association (<i>Appointed/Seated 01/24/2024</i>)	X	
Sandler, Irene	Bel Air Crest Master Association	X	
Savage, Stephanie	Laurel Canyon Association (<i>Present Virtually</i>)	X	
Schlesinger, Robert	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Silver, Jonathan	Bel-Air Association (<i>appointed 04/26 / seated 06/26</i>)	X	
Smith, Maureen	Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts (2025) (<i>Excused Absence</i>)		X
Spradlin, Jason	Holmby Hills HOA (<i>Present Virtually</i>)	X	
Steele, Timothy Ph.D.	Bel Air Glen District (2025) / <i>Assistant Secretary</i>	X	
Stojka, André	Bel Air Ridge HOA (<i>Present Virtually</i>)	X	
Templeton, Patricia	Bel Air Hills Association	X	
Tad Marburg	North of Sunset District (2025) (<i>appointed/elected 06/26/2024</i>)	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	
Stacy Marble	Private Schools Grades 7-12 (<i>appointed/elected 06/26/2024</i>)	X	
Total:		30	6

Board President Longcore called the meeting to order at 7:04pm, and provided pertinent information as to conducting the meeting in a hybrid fashion, per SB411, and as to giving public comment. Following the flag salute, Assistant Secretary, Dr. Timothy Steele, called the roll with quorum met. Member Kadin arrived virtually and Templeton in person at 7:08pm. Following the election of Tad Marburg and Stacy Marble to board seats and upon the arrival of Jonathan Brand by 7:18pm and Irene Sandler shortly thereafter, we had **30 members present**, and **6 absent**.

1. The agenda was **approved** as moved by Savage, after agenda items 22 and 21 were reversed, as moved by Hall.
2. **Approval of Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association (DSPNA) Alternate**
Motion to ratify appointment of Angela de Silva as Alternate for Mirco Gros/ DSPNA was unanimously **approved** by acclamation as moved by Weisberg.
3. **Approval of Bel-Air Association (BAA) Appointment:**
Motion to ratify Bel-Air Association Representative appointment of **Jonathan Silver** (replacing Jaye Rogovin) was unanimously **approved** by acclamation as moved by Sroloff.
4. **Board Action to Fill Two Resignations / Vacancies**
 - i. **Election of Representative for the North of Sunset District (NOS)** seat until next election in 2025.
Tad Marburg, who has been serving for one year as a BABCNC Alternate for the North of Sunset District seat, introduced himself as a 33-year resident of the Sunset Plaza area, who has been on DSPNA's Security & Party House committees. He is known in his community as the Mayor of Belfast or the Sheriff of Belfast. He is a Post-Production Executive and is an Academy Award winner in his field. He is married with adult children. President Longcore read a comment from Ellen Evans (in her absence) in strong support of Tad for this position. Tad was **elected** by acclamation to complete the term for North of Sunset District Rep, Angela Roessel, as nominated by Weinberg.
 - ii. **Election of Representative for the 7-12 Private Schools** seat until 2025 Selections.
Stacy Marble introduced herself as the Director of Community and Public Affairs of the Harvard-Westlake School, having worked at H-W for some 10 years; previously worked for Councilmember LaBonge. She has worked on neighborhood issues and with other neighborhood councils in the past. Stacy welcomed the opportunity to serve on this Board and was **elected** by acclamation to complete the term for Private Schools Grades 7-12 Rep Jon Wimbish, as nominated by Weisberg.
5. **Seating and Swearing in of New Board Members & Alternates**
President Longcore opened the floor to all those who haven't yet taken the oath of office, to stand. New members included Jonathan Silver, Stacy Marble, Tad Marburg, and Alternate, Angela de Silva.

[Jonathan Brand arrived at 7:18pm and may be sworn in at a later date.]

6. The May 22, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes (**Attachment A**) were **approved** unanimously, as moved by Schlesinger.

7. **General Public Comment: Dr. Pamela Pierson** related that on her drive here along Mulholland, on the Universal City Overlook, she saw a cooking setup with open flames on 10 chairs with a tent over it, in our hills. She is concerned about potential fire and would like to know what measures we as a community can take with the 4th coming up, to ensure safety. She hopes to engage our rangers and get mitigation of fires, noting that she has never seen anything like this.

8. **Comments of Elected Officials & Agencies**

Sidney Liss, Office of CD4 Councilmember Nithya Raman

Sidney related that the “Al Fresco Program” for restaurant owners will be continuing with temporary permits expiring at the end of July as they transition everyone to permanent permits. <https://ladot.lacity.gov/al-fresco> He reported on sewer service rates increasing. Hall expressed thanks to CD4 on efforts to enforce the Protected Tree Ordinance.

Haley Martinez, Office of CD5 Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky

Haley gave an update on the reopening of Benedict Canyon Drive, ahead of schedule last Friday, and asked that we notify the neighbors. She mentioned local events and upcoming ballot measures as well as motions submitted in Council such as creating a charter reform commission, owners of property who would like to use it for housing and a motion with Bob Blumenfield for bolstering security for Jewish institutions, as well as updates on free microchips and reduced adoption fees for dog and cats through July 3rd at LA Animal Services. She wished us a safe 4th and asked us to report everything to LAPD. Asked about law enforcement’s handling of protestors blocking the entrance of a place of worship and why resources weren’t provided in advance after community had contacted Councilwoman Yaroslavsky’s office requesting additional Police prior to the event where violence was expected. Haley offered to get back to us.

Robbie Staenberg, Field Rep taking over for Joshua Marin-Mora from the Office of Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur, related that they represent hillside communities and Santa Monica, and that the AT&T application to end its “carrier of last resort” designation was denied by the CPUC on June 20th. His office continues to monitor the insurance crisis in California and he’d be happy to work on getting a rep from the Insurance Commissioner’s office for a future meeting with a Q&A. With regard to EDD, folks can now enroll in direct deposit for EDD.

[Member Sandler arrived at this point.] [A member of the LAFD attempted to join the call but had sound issues; was invited to try again later. He left the meeting shortly thereafter.]

Officer Joe Raviol, New Senior Lead Officer for Basic Car Area 31 from Hollywood, introduced himself and responded to Dr. Pierson’s concern as to open fire and preparation for fireworks for the 4th. He explained that there will be mass deployment noting that most of the West Bureau officers go to beach cities, and that Hollywood was lucky to secure funding and will have two two-person units in the Lake Hollywood area and two two-person units focusing on barbecue, drinking, drugs, smoking, fireworks, and party houses. For the 5th there will be 2 units at Lake Hollywood and 2 units for party enforcement on the west side of the hills south of Mulholland; said deployment continues on the 6th.

Unless it’s an emergency, he asked that you please file complaint at:

<https://lacity.gov/AngelenoConnect/OnlineServices/OnlineDirectory/File-Complaint-Report-Comment>. If you see someone setting up shop selling fireworks, that is a crime; call that in. SLO Raviol: 40541@lapd.online and his City cell is (213) 631-1571.

Octaviano Rios, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment was present virtually.

9. Election of Standing Committee Members and Chairs

BABCNC Bylaws specify that committee members are to be elected during the second quarter of each year. As a reminder, 80% of the members of the Budget and Finance, Planning and Land Use, and Bylaws, Rules and Elections Committees must be Board members and 50% of all other committees must be Board members. The limit on the number of regular members of each committee is 7. Committee members are only elected with a majority vote of all members present. The Chair of each committee is nominated by the President and confirmed with a majority vote of members present.

Dr. Longcore noted that it was brought to his attention and he consulted with our City Attorney who said that we *cannot* have more than a majority of the quorum of the board serving on a committee. We have to limit our committees to no more than seven board members (from 12 to 7) due to our current quorum size; thus we have a motion below to change the size of our quorum from 15 to 21.

He explained that this process involves taking nominations for each committee, as many as possible, then go and vote for people in the order nominated. If someone gets a majority, they are on the committee -- maximum of 7, then take any stakeholders. He noted that people nominated earlier are more likely to be confirmed. Board members noted need for members with a certain skillset as well as with geographical diversity.

Planning and Land Use Committee Nominees approved by a majority:

7 Board members:

Patricia Templeton (BAHA) nominated herself and was approved by 19 yeases

Jamie Hall (LCA) nominated himself and was approved by 27 yeases

Weinberg nominated **Stephanie Savage (LCA)** who was approved by 19 yeases

Kamin nominated **Ellen Evans (DSPNA)** who was approved by 23 yeases

Dr. Steele nominated **Robert Schlesinger (BCA)** who was approved by 26 yeases

Grey nominated **Leslie Weisberg (BAA)** who was approved by 25 yeases

Kadin nominated **Don Loze (BCA)** who was approved by 25 yeases.

2 Stakeholder members:

Sroloff nominated **Maureen Levinson (BAA)** who was approved by a majority

Savage nominated **Stella Grey (DSPNA)** who was approved by a majority

For the record, the following nominees were not called for a vote for PLUC once the committee filled up with 7 board members and 2 stakeholder members:

Robin Greenberg nominated herself (BAHA/Religious Institutions)

Jason Spradlin nominated himself (Holmby Hills)

Nickie Miner nominated herself (BCA)

Irene Sandler nominated André Stojka (BAR) concerned not enough diversity

Steven Weinberg nominated himself (Coldwater/Franklin)

Chairs: President Longcore nominated Robert Schlesinger to continue as Chair and Jamie Hall as Vice Chair, with both unanimously approved.

Bylaws, Rules, and Elections Committee Nominees approved by a majority:

6 Board members:

Kamin nominated **Ellen Evans**
Weisberg nominated **Gail Sroloff**
Templeton nominated **Patricia Templeton**
Grey nominated **Robin Greenberg**
Dr. Longcore nominated **Robert Schlesinger**
Kadin nominated **Nickie Miner**

1 Stakeholder member:

Sroloff nominated **Larry Leisten**.

Chair: Dr. Longcore nominated **Ellen Evans as Chair, approved** unanimously.

Budget and Finance Committee Nominees approved by a majority:

4 Board members:

Weisberg nominated **Vadim Levotman**
Levotman nominated **Aaron Kamin**
Kamin nominated **Robin Greenberg**
Sandler nominated **Nickie Miner**

Chair: Dr. Longcore nominated **Vadim Levotman as Chair, approved** unanimously.

Traffic Committee Nominees approved by a majority:

6 Board members:

Longcore nominated **Irene Sandler**
Templeton nominated **Andrew Paden**
Leslie Weisberg nominated herself
Leslie Weisberg nominated **Robert Schlesinger**
Nickie Miner nominated herself
Irene Sandler nominated **Maureen Smith**

6 Stakeholder members:

Robert Garfield, DDS, nominated himself
Graham Green nominated himself
Grey nominated **Maureen Levinson**
Templeton nominated **Jacob Lipa**
Sandler nominated **Pamela Pierson**
Sandler nominated **Joyce Page**

Chair: President Longcore nominated **Irene Sandler as Chair, approved** unanimously.

Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Nominees approved by a majority:

7 Board members:

Kamin nominated **Vadim Levotman**
Sroloff nominated **Jonathan Brand**
Levotman nominated **Aaron Kamin**
Tad Marburg nominated himself
Robert Schlesinger nominated himself
Irene Sandler nominated herself
Robin Greenberg nominated herself

[Kadin nominated Loze, who declined, noting he'd be happy to advise as needed.]

2 Stakeholder members:

Ron Cornell & Maureen Levinson

Chair: President Longcore nominated **Vadim Levotman as Chair**, who was approved unanimously. Later in the meeting, **Vadim Levotman** nominated **Aaron Kamin as Vice Chair**, also approved.

Outreach Committee Nominees approved by a majority:

6 Board members:

Weisberg nominated **Robin Greenberg**

Grey nominated **Mirco Gros**

Templeton nominated **Alonzo Wickers**

Nickie Miner nominated herself

Kamin nominated **Mindy Rothstein Mann**

Sandler nominated **Maureen Smith**

Chair: President Longcore nominated **Robin Greenberg as Chair**, who was approved by a majority until and if André Stojka returns to the committee. (Greenberg was recently Acting Chair replacing Chair André Stojka who had stepped down and currently has declined a nomination for this committee).

Public Works & Telecommunications Committee Nominees approved by a majority:

6 Board members:

Weisberg nominated **Jonathan Brand**

Grey nominated **Ellen Evans**

Timothy Steele, Ph.D. nominated himself

Robin Greenberg nominated herself

Kamin nominated **Mindy Rothstein Mann**

Tad Marburg nominated himself

Chair: President Longcore nominated **Timothy Steele, Ph.D., as Chair**, approved unanimously.

10. President's Report: Dr. Longcore related that he has been communicating with officials for federal assistance for residents of the Flicker Way landslide, which occurred outside of the Emergency Declaration, with Brad Sherman's City Emergency Management Office and CD4 to help the neighbors.

11. Reports of Committee Chairs & Liaisons: None

New Business

12. Treasurer's Report – At this point, Treasurer Levotman asked to go back to chairmanship for the Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee and add Aaron Kamin as Vice Chair, which he did. Otherwise, there was no report.

13. Monthly Expenditure Report

Motion to approve May 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report (**Attachment B**) passed by 27 yeses, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, 6 absences and 3 ineligible to vote.

14. Amendment of Bylaws to Increase Quorum

Motion to amend the Bylaws to change the quorum for the Board from 15 to 21 and request that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment incorporate this change into the currently pending Bylaws revision.

Dr. Longcore related that this did *not* come from committee but following discussion with a City Attorney, when he found that having a higher amount would allow for 11 members on committees. The above motion was moved by Dr. Longcore and Member Hall.

An **amending motion** to reduce the proposed number from 21 to 19 **failed**, as moved by Weisberg.

The **main motion passed** by a majority with 24 yeses, 4 noes, 2 abstentions.

(Items 15 through 17 were deferred due to time constraints)

15. Motion to approve DRAFT Standing Rule: Systems and Passwords (**Attachment C**)

16. Motion to approve DRAFT Document Retention Policy (**Attachment D**)

17. Discussion & Possible Motion DRAFT trifold brochure for input (**Attachment E**)

[Attention was next turned to Agenda Item #19]

18. Expand Existing Notification Requirements Prior to Issuance of a Demolition or Structure Permit (Grey/PLU Committee)

Discussion and Possible Motion: To support the motion in Council File 18-0406 <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=18-0406> proposed by Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky with the following amendment:

- Add a requirement for the demolition permit applicants to provide LADBS Plan
- Check with a proof of compliance with Rule 1403 for asbestos clearance <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/rule-book/reg-xiv/rule-1403.pdf>. LADBS shall consult with AQMD and LAFD regarding implementation of this request.

Background:

- Currently, LADBS and its Plan Check Department rely solely on applicants' integrity to report compliance with Rule 1403 for asbestos clearance <http://www.aqmd.gov/docs/default-source/rule-book/reg-xiv/rule-1403.pdf> by simply signing an affidavit.
- Unfortunately, some applicants have signed affidavits without performing necessary tests to prevent neighbors and construction workers from being exposed to debris contaminated with asbestos. After our reports, AQMD intervened, stopping demolitions and enforcing compliance.
- By requesting a proof of compliance from SoCalAQMD or LAFD we will ensure that public health and safety are further protected during demolition from asbestos-contamination.

The motion **passed unanimously** by unanimous consent with 29 yeses, as moved by Grey and seconded by Weisberg. Dr. Longcore thanked Member Grey for her work on this.

[Attention was next turned to Agenda Item #21]

19. Update of Party House Handbook

Discussion and Possible Motion: To approve the revised Party House Handbook to provide the most current resources to stakeholders addressing compliance with and enforcement of nuisance party houses. (**Attachment F**) The motion **passed** by 29 yeases; 0 noes; 0 abstentions (7 of the members were online), as moved by Sroloff and Levotman. **Approved version:** tiny.cc/PartyHouseHandbook

[Attention was next turned to Agenda Item #22]

20. City-Directed Encampment Engagements (LAMC Sec. 41.18) Deferred due to time constraints

Discussion & Possible Motion: BABCNC, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, opposes the motion in CF 21-0329-S5, which makes implementation of LAMC Sec. 41.18 unnecessarily and unreasonably complicated and needlessly involves county agencies in City policy. We agree with the protection of sensitive use sites and deem this Municipal Code section to be a necessary tool for combatting the proliferation of homelessness and protecting public health and safety citywide. BABCNC therefore strongly supports LAMC Sec. 41.18, which has been effectively implemented in Council District 11 and other areas of Los Angeles to protect public health and safety and preserve the use of our public spaces for all constituents. *According to the Chief Legislative Analyst, ‘LAPD believes that LAMC Sec. 41.18 and its subsections have an overwhelmingly positive impact on public safety’ (5/31/24 CLA Report in related CF 21-0329-S4).”

Refers to City Council file [21-0329-S5](#)

See [Background Information](#) and [Further Background Info](#).

See also: WRAC letter in further support of LAMC 41.18, filed in connection with CF 21-0329-S4: [June 5, 2024 Letter](#)

21. Opposition to City Council resolution regarding the Israel-Gaza conflict

Discussion and Possible Motion: A resolution to communicate support for the Blumenfield-Yaroslavsky statement opposing a City Council resolution regarding the Israel-Gaza conflict, and to express opposition to the Hernandez-Raman resolution on the same topic (**Attachment G**).

Background: The Hernandez-Raman resolution (CF-24-0656), introduced on May 16, 2024, addresses the ongoing Israel-Gaza conflict. On June 14, 2024, Councilmembers Blumenfield and Yaroslavsky issued a statement opposing this resolution, arguing it is flawed, biased, and distracts from critical City needs. Our proposed resolution supports the Blumenfield-Yaroslavsky position and urges focus on issues directly affecting Los Angeles residents.

Member Kamin introduced this item, and read Paragraph 91 of the Rules of the Los Angeles City Council aloud, which states the following:

"The Council shall not consider any resolution, motion, or matter which does not affect the conduct of the business of the City of Los Angeles or its corporate powers or duties as a municipal corporation nor shall the Council consider any resolution or motion supporting or disapproving any legislation or action pending in the Legislature of the State of California, the Congress of the United States, or before any officer or agency of said State or nation unless such proposed legislation or action, if adopted, will affect the conduct of

the municipal business or the powers and duties of the City of Los Angeles or its officers or employees. This Rule may only be invoked before deliberation and by ten (10) affirmative votes on the question: 'Shall the Council consider this matter?'"[1]

The main motion on item #21 was moved by Miner and seconded by Levotman. Following Board discussion, an **amending motion** was moved by Barcohana, to add/incorporate comments that **the underlying City Council Resolution itself is inherently biased and violates the City's own anti-bias policies training**. The motion was seconded by Weinberg. Following further discussion, the question was called on the amending motion **to add that it also violates the anti-bias training of the City**, which **passed by a majority**. This language will be added to our motion.

Discussion as held on the amending motion with a **new amending motion** to very simply state, as Jamie said, the very first paragraph and strike all of the rest, without reference to Katy Yaroslavsky's letter, just that the original motion should be withdrawn. She'd add a paragraph that even if it is within the purview of #91, add language to the effect that it is still *not* in the best interest of the City and the residents. (Asked if she would use the anti-bias language, she said yes, let them work on things that they can actually have impact on.)

Dr. Longcore restated the amending motion, that it is to gut, take it all out, bring back the first paragraph that says we don't think you should be doing this because it violates the City Charter and even if it does have a local nexus, it is divisive and violates the City's anti-bias policies and is not in the best interest of the City. This amending motion was moved by Templeton and seconded by Wickers. The amending motion "gut and amend" motion **failed** by **12 yeses** and with Longcore as the tiebreaker who voted "no" for a total of **13 noes** and **3 abstentions** from Gros, Paden and Weisberg.

Main motion as amended with the anti-bias piece in it: That the Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council adopt the attached motion supporting Councilmembers Blumenfield and Yaroslavsky's position that the Hernandez-Raman resolution is unduly one-sided, omits key facts, fuels disharmony spreading on our Los Angeles streets, and hinders efforts to achieve peace and urging the immediate withdrawal of the Hernandez-Raman resolution **as it violates the City Council's own regulations and exceeds its jurisdiction** **passed** with **14 yeses** from Barcohana, Brand, Grey, Sroloff, Greenberg, Kamin, Levotman, Mann, Garfield, Sandler, Silver, Stojka, Weinberg, and Marble; **3 noes** from Loze, Steele & Templeton and **8 abstentions** from Gros, Hall, Holmes, Paden, Savage, Schlesinger, Weisberg & Wickers.

[The meeting adjourned at this point in the meeting, at 9:12 pm.]

22. Notification of Tree Removal Requests

Discussion and Possible Motion: To request that the Urban Forestry Division communicate notifications of requested removals of protected trees to Neighborhood Councils with adequate time to comment. The motion **passed** unanimously as moved by Hall and seconded by Weinberg.

[Attention was next turned to Agenda Item #18]

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM to meet again on July 24, 2024.