



Building A Better Community



Minutes
Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council Regular Monthly Board Meeting (Virtual)
Wednesday August 28, 2024, 7:00 P.M.

NAME	BOARD SEAT	Present	Absent
Barcohana, Elizabeth	Private Schools Grades K-6 <i>(Selected 09/27/2023)</i>		X
Bayliss, Shawn	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)	X	
Brand, Jonathan	Bel-Air Association <i>(Appointed 04/26/2024 / Seated 05/22/2024)</i>	X	
Evans, Ellen	Community Interest At-Large (2025) / VP – Legislative Affairs	X	
<i>Gail Sroloff for Dr. Goodman</i>	Bel-Air Association	X	
Greenberg, Robin	Faith-Based Institutions / VP – Operations <i>(Re-selected 07/2023)</i>	X	
Gros, Mirco	Doheny-Sunset Plaza Neighborhood Association <i>(Notified absence)</i>		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 <i>(Notified absence)</i>		X
Levtoman, Vadim	North of Sunset District (2025) :	X	
Longcore, Travis Ph.D.	Custodians of Open Space / President <i>(Re-selected 07/2023)</i>	X	
Loze, Donald	Benedict Canyon Association <i>(Notified absence)</i>		X
Mann, Mindy Rothstein	At-Large Traditional Stakeholder (2025)	X	
Marble, Stacy	Private Schools Grades 7-12 <i>(Elected 06/26/2024)</i>	X	
Marburg, Tad	North of Sunset District (2025) <i>(Elected 06/26/2024)</i>	X	
Miner, Nickie	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Paden, Andrew	Bel Air Hills Association <i>(Notified absence)</i>		X
Palmer, Dan	Residents of Beverly Glen		X
Ringler, Robert	Residents of Beverly Glen		X
Ryan, Sandy	Casiano Estates Association <i>(Appointed/Seated 01/24/2024)</i>	X	
Sandler, Irene	Bel Air Crest Master Association <i>(Notified absence)</i>		X
Savage, Stephanie	Laurel Canyon Association	X	
Schlesinger, Robert	Benedict Canyon Association	X	
Silver, Jonathan	Bel-Air Association <i>(Appointed 04/26/2024 / Seated 06/26/2024)</i>		X
Smith, Maureen	Commercial or Office Enterprise Districts (2025)	X	
Spradlin, Jason	Holmby Hills HOA		X
Steele, Timothy Ph.D.	Bel Air Glen District (2025) / Secretary	X	
Stojka, André	Bel Air Ridge HOA	X	
Templeton, Patricia	Bel Air Hills Association	X	
Cathy Wayne	Laurel Canyon Association		X
Weinberg, Steven	Franklin-Coldwater District (2025)	X	
Weisberg, Leslie	Bel-Air Association <i>(Notified absence)</i>		X
Wickers, Alonzo	At-Large Youth Rep (2025)	X	
Total:		23	13

Board President Longcore provided welcoming comments, noting that we are meeting online under the auspices of SB411. He explained the process of providing public comment, called the meeting to order at 7:08pm, and led the flag salute. Dr. Steele called the roll with quorum met.

1. The Agenda was **approved** by unanimous consent, as moved by Miner.
2. The July 24, 2024 Board Meeting Minutes (Attachment A) were **approved** by unanimous consent, as moved by Schlesinger.
3. **General Public Comment:** Dr. Longcore related that he has recently learned that board members are *not* supposed to give General Public Comment under the Brown Act; we can have short announcements at Good of the Order.

Lionel Mares noted that he was speaking as an individual; he is also a Budget Advocate for Region 1 but is speaking as an individual. His comments included:

- 1) The LA City Ethics Commission <https://ethics.lacity.gov/> had a meeting today where Jeffery J. Daar, President and Manjusha P. Kulkarni, Vice President were reelected to those same positions for the new fiscal year. They discussed the Municipal Lobbying Ordinance and City Charter Reform going on the November ballot as well as Ethics Reform. He feels it is very important that all NCs at least reads their agendas and share this information.
- 2) The LA County (LAC) Board of Supervisors voted to pass Governance Reform for the people of LAC to vote to have an elected County official, like the Mayor, to create an Independent Ethics Commission and expand the Board of Supervisors from 5 to 9. He urges all NCs to share this, work together to keep each other informed, for democracy at all NCs.

Pamela Pierson, M.D. gave an update as to parking enforcement on Mulholland, from Nicada toward Beverly Glen; that the number of parked vehicles along that stretch has increased to 30, as the owners of these residential facilities have acquired the adjacent 7,500 square foot residence to provide sober companion care. She related that they are marketing ketamine and hallucinogenic therapies, which expands their operation beyond what is delineated in the legislation, and imposes additional risk, and with the increase in robberies and home invasions in Encino and Sherman Oaks, having people coming and going increases uncertainty in the neighborhoods where these facilities are supposed to be compliant with rules and municipal codes, and are in violation of those. Dr. Pierson noted that she heard that the City Attorney is trying to determine if Engineering at DOT has the legal right to install the no-parking signs on Mulholland between Nicada & Beverly Glen, which signs already exist in excess of a hundred on the north side of Mulholland (Beverly Glen to Cahuenga). She asked how, after a year, we can obtain assistance in getting these signs erected and curing the problem. Dr. Longcore thanked her for this report, and noted that this is an item that the board took up recently as regards residential facilities in homes used for medical reasons on Mulholland between Nicada and Beverly Glen.

André Stojka related that he just wanted to thank and express appreciation for the outpouring from this community and members of the board for the kind cards and flowers as well as the concern during his recent health issue, which meant a lot to him. Dr. Longcore related that he was welcome and that we were all so happy to see him back.

4. **Comments of Elected Officials & Agencies:** Dr. Longcore related that Carmen Chang, the new General Manager of DONE, will be joining the meeting a little later, and we may cut away during the agenda to hear from her along with Octaviano Rios.

Haley Martinez, Office of CD5 Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky, provided updates with some comments that they had a recent meeting with UCLA's upcoming Chancellor, Dr. Julio Frenk (*who begins January 2025*) to discuss their shared vision with UCLA and the Westwood community in preparation of the 2028 Olympics.

2) As to legislative efforts, City Council voted to enforce the laws for RVs, and that the Councilmember acknowledges need for a comprehensive strategy to address RV homelessness but believes in the importance of enforcing existing laws on the books.

3) The Energy and Environment Committee unanimously approved their motion to direct the Board of Public Works to terminate the pipeline franchise agreement for pipelines that exclusively serve the West Pico drill site. Her office is working with the site operator on a plan to permanently close the drill site and develop an expedited timeline for safely capping the existing wells. She'll have updates in the coming months.

4) CHP has decided to keep the Sepulveda Southbound on- & off-ramps closed until CalTrans can repair the roadway from water seepage; working with Metropolitan Water District and CD11 on timeline and scope of work. She hopes for further updates to make sure the water stops and invited us to let them know if potholes recur. She can get crews out there to fill those.

5) They're co-hosting a Fire Safety event October 5th with Supervisor Horvath.

Haley responded to Dr. Pierson's concerns, that they are very aware of it and that the parking issue is mostly on the CD4 side so Sidney Liss may have updates. She has been involved in that conversation and DOT is working hard to get those no-parking signs made; there is a two-year backlog on signs in the sign yard but they are determined to get a solution. They will try to get enforcement to get there more. As to the sober living facilities, she noted that they are regulated by the State, so all communications have to go to the State reps; the City has no jurisdiction on those. She'd be happy to respond to these one by one but is limited in what they can do with these sober living facilities. Haley responded to further questions with respect to the sober living and medical facilities in residential neighborhoods, including but not limited to note from Haley that the City has been in frequent communication with State reps. She will share an email with documentation as to what the City Attorney has done and how the City is limited in respect to this; however, they are aware of the need. She confirmed the two-year backlog for no-parking signs. It could help if requests are in the cue line but the budget is very small and staffing is an issue. Dr. Longcore noted that we'd follow up other issues raised with Sidney Liss on this.

Robbie Staenberg, Office of Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur, shared updates with some comments including 1) that as to Public Safety and Retail Theft, Governor Newsome signed 10 bills into law last week, one authored by Asm. Zbur on AB2943 California Retail Theft Reduction Act, targeting organized crime rings or serial retail thieves, imposing three years behind bars for possession of stolen property and intent to resell, and use of diversion and rehab programs to address this. 2) Robbie acknowledged our agenda item #19 below, CM Raman's resolution to include in the LA Legislative Program, support of AB2525, which is heading to the Governor's desk for signature. He noted that the bill is sponsored by Mayor Karen Bass, to allow the City to lease up to 25 properties from California Department of Transportation (CalTrans) at reduced rate of \$1.00 so recreational vehicles may be stored while the former inhabitants receive services. He noted that the most recent

point-in-time count showed about 6500 people in LA are living in about 4000 RVs; the number has grown by 40% since 2018 and that the idea, as part of Mayor Bass's Inside Safe Program, is that there are homeless residents who might have the opportunity to move into supportive housing who are currently living in RVs, and the City needs additional locations to store those vehicles taken off the streets. AB2525 will help accomplish this by allowing DOT to lease those parcels to the City of LA.

The locations will be determined by the City and Caltrans. As to possible impacts of vehicle storage, if any enforcement is necessary, it will be conducted by the City.

He'll email his colleague at CD5 re how the State interacts with the City as to Sober Living Facilities, and will get back to us if he gets answers to any specific questions about what they're doing on that. There were no other State issues raised.

[At this point, while awaiting the arrival of the new General Manager of DONE, Carmen Chang, and Octaviano Rios, attention was turned to agenda #5.]

Carmen Chang, General Manager, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment carmen.chang@lacity.org

Later in the evening (at 8:09pm) Dr. Longcore welcomed DONE's new General Manager, Carmen Chang. GM Chang introduced herself to the Board, noting that she is now into month three on the job, and because of the ability of doing virtual meetings from the start, she has been able to get a flavor of all 99 NCs throughout the City of LA; getting a sense of how things are going for everybody, what's working well, the challenges, and how the Department can support our work.

GM Chang shared a bit of her background, having hailed from the San Gabriel Valley, Covina and Arcadia. She went to community college and transferred to UCLA and then moved to Washington DC for 11+ years, as a home base, and started working in the realm of community organizing on electoral campaigns, doing political work, hearing voices from community members, understanding issues from the field from voters, and considering how to use their voice to make a difference in the world.

She worked in different states, having left LA and DC, worked in the Commonwealth of Virginia and Omaha, Nebraska, as well as in the Peace Corps. She was abroad in Cameroon for two years, then went back to DC after she finished grad school, and worked in the Federal government, as a civil servant at the Peace Corps' headquarters, looking at how to affect policy change and then during the Obama administration, in international finance development. She returned to LA in 2018 and, after a congressional race in Northern LA, did nonprofit advocacy work at the statewide level, with a focus on immigrants and supporting people in low-income communities, through advocacy, tax credit education and outreach.

Ms. Chang noted that the work in LA speaks to her, and she was glad for the opportunity to work within the Neighborhood Council system, which she described as the nation's largest grassroots and civic engagement model in democracy, focusing on local work, serving community members and neighbors. She hoped that

this is why we are all here, as volunteers, because we care about making a difference in our neighborhood and city.

GM Chang noted that there are some challenges needing to be fixed, which is why she is here. The themes she hears across the City are what she wants to prioritize. Who do we like her to talk to, e.g., the Mayor's office, Councilmembers or other City Departments? One of her goals is to make sure we have strong partnerships across all of City Hall, to make sure that this board is properly supported. Questions were asked and answered.

Member Stojka would appreciate anything she could do to help improve relations with the departments. Member Hall concurred with Member Stojka, noting that he has been on this board for at least 10 years, and wished NCs were given more respect by City. He noted that some City employees think of us as annoying constituents and wondered if she could help educate City employees to understand the role of NCs under the City Charter and that we do play an important role. Member Hall also requested to return the opportunity for NC representatives to speak at public meetings for a minimum of three (3) minutes as was done under Councilmember Wesson (when the present with a Community Impact Statement (CIS) representing the voice of the Board). He noted that now, the City sometimes limits public comment to 60 seconds and that it is important for us to have a certain amount of time at the *beginning* of the hearing *not at the very end*. He concluded that what we had has devolved and changed and needs to revert to the previous policy. Ms. Chang responded that she had seen Dr. Longcore's letter on this and has had a conversation with Jamie York, President of Reseda NC, who said something similar and brought this back to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC). Member Sroloff of Bel Air Association noted that she had similar experience, which Ms. Chang would be happy to chat about offline.

Member Evans asked if she had any ideas for changes to NCs for the Charter which is coming up for Charter Reform. Ms. Chang noted that she does not but has heard through the news and NC alliance meetings, that a commission is being put together she believes for 2026, and will share more information as she gets it. She noted that her understanding is that the first Charter is how the NC system was created, and she doesn't know if NCs will be addressed in reform. She assumes it will be but doesn't know enough yet. She referenced an information session put on by an organization, on what does charter reform look like? She had an event that evening and couldn't join. Ms. Chang noted that if there is a readout she'd be happy to share that. She wasn't yet sure about what she could do, to which Member Evans reiterated interest in know if she had ideas of what should change.

Octaviano Rios, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Octaviano gave a brief report, he reminded us of the homelessness liaison meeting tomorrow from 6pm to 8pm, and a reminder Congress of Neighborhoods, September 28th, 8-3, and registration is open; register at <https://www.neighborhoodcongress.la/>

He discussed upcoming |NC elections, noting that Region 11 is the first open. The City Clerk's Election Division works hand in hand with NCs. Election Day is Tuesday March 18th of next year. Candidate filing period starts November 15th

through December 30th. He has an Election Administrator assigned to us. The Survey perception and insights survey is due Friday. Submit your comments with regarding to the NC system and departments.

He noted that the Planning Department sent out the Department list of liaisons; ours for the West is Christopher Galindo.

Evans noted that Region 11 has been first in the election process for several election cycles, which has burdensome. They may be elected and then it may be a number of months before they are actually sworn in. That is a problem; it should be mixed up; we should not always be first. She requested that they mix it up in the future. He noted that the region remains the same for two consecutive elections and then after that, it changes. So, this should be the last time we go first.

Member Stojka asked about Board member terms, to which Dr. Longcore explained the various ways our board members are elected, selected or appointed. Octaviano noted that we have 17 seats for this election season, to which Longcore clarified that we have both election and selection.

While Octaviano was still present, Dr. Longcore noted, as our agenda item is coming up later in the meeting on this, he wanted to share his opinion that the City Council does not need to micromanage the terms of board members. These are volunteer boards; it is a lot of work. If you have people who want to do this and are willing to do this for a long period of time, we should say thank you and not show them the door and try to create turnover.

Travis thanked Carmen Chang and Octaviano Rios for their report.

[Attention was turned back to Item #12, discussing amendments of the brochure.]

5. **President's Report:** Dr. Longcore gave report on a few things that have come to his attention through his email and phone that he has responded to on behalf of the Board, including as to the inquiry about parking on Mulholland for the sober living facilities; he has received the information and has been coordinating with the council offices about that. 2) He got a complaint about illegal grading that he coordinated and sent along. 3) In Beverly Glen there is a road no longer with through traffic that people walk on all the time, and a home owner who may want to put a fence across the road, to which Dr. Longcore noted there is an effort to get permit compliance on it. He referred these to our partners in CD 5 and CD4 as applicable. He noted that these are not issues that rise to the level of coming to the board, but are enforcement questions, not policy questions, and we may serve as the front door to accessing the right people in the City if that hasn't happened by some other means.
6. **Reports of other Officers, Committee Chairs & Liaisons:** VP of Operations Greenberg related that we celebrated National Night Out, for CD5 at Stoner Park while VP Legislative Affairs Evans went to National Night Out in Hollywood. VP Greenberg wanted us to know how appreciative we are by the hospitality afforded by the police officers and that it was a wonderful experience.

7. **Standing Rules: Legislative Positions** (*continued from July 24, 2024 meeting*)
Motion from Bylaws, Rules and Elections Committee to approve DRAFT Standing Rules for Legislative Positions (**Attachment B**)

Bylaws, Rules and Elections Chairwoman Evans moved this item, after bringing it back to the committee following last month's board meeting. They added "When a President declines to put a requested item on the agenda, that decision can be overridden at the request of a minimum of three Board members. If a Board member is seeking to utilize this process, no more than 9 Board members may be contacted on the matter." This addition was to address the concerns that were brought up last month. She noted that the Committee also made a couple of tiny changes in the draft, such as clarifying whether it was City Council or Neighborhood Council. Otherwise, no other substantive changes were made. The cap of 9 members was to prevent violation of the Brown Act. The motion **passed** by unanimous consent of all 23 members.

8. **Council File 20-1375** (*continued from July 24, 2024 meeting*)
Discussion & Possible Motion: To thank City Council for reactivating Council File 20-1375, **30x30 Conservation Campaign / Open Space Conservation**, to encourage immediate passage of this, and make suggestions on its implementation. We have already opined positively on this piece of legislation. The Council File expired without action and was recently reactivated. (**Attachment C**)

Member Hall introduced this, thanking Ellen Evans BABCNC's VP of Legislative Affairs for bringing this to our attention. He noted that this Council File had expired and it was moved to reinstate it, which he supports. At the last meeting, he had recommended that we provide some ideas to the City on how they might implement this on a citywide basis. He, Dr. Longcore and Members Evans and Mann had a meeting to come up with concrete things the City can do to implement this in the City of LA. He read the list of 12 things from Attachment C that they think the City should consider to jumpstart the conversation.

Member Hall moved that the Board submit a CIS supporting the reenactment of the 30x30 motion and provide these 12 specific implementation ideas. The motion was seconded by Schlesinger. Board discussion held as Templeton's concern about the use of the word "implement." Hall would change the preparatory language to say the City should explore the following conceptual ideas, while Evans noted that the letter does say we offer the following suggestions.

Hall offered to change it to clarify that these are concepts that we believe the City should explore. Dr. Longcore noted that as a formality, we will consider this to be a **restated motion** by Hall to incorporate that. VP Evans added that she has just changed the language at the beginning which said "We offer the following suggestions on how to proceed with implementation -- with **We offer the following concepts that we believe the City should explore**. She believes these are good concepts that we can vote on them and not continue this again. **Public comment** was given by Dr. Pierson who hopes everyone would support this conservation effort. VP Evans noted that we've already supported this with a CIS. The motion with the language change **passed** unanimously by 23 members present and voting.

New Business

9. **September 2024 Meeting Location**

Motion to approve having the Board meeting in September at TreePeople in Coldwater Canyon Park.

[Member Mann recused herself as regards #9.]

The motion was moved by Smith and was seconded by Evans. Asked about the need for liability insurance, Dr. Longcore noted that the city engages with the location and this is City property, so we are acting as the City on City property; he did not think we have exposure as a board for a trip and fall. The safety and condition of that site is the responsibility of the City. The motion **passed** by unanimous consent.

10. **Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Levotman related that we've been waiting for the City to tally our finances and to let us know how much of the exact dollar amount can be rolled over to the next fiscal year. He reported that we have \$6900 to roll into our new FY budget (2024-2025) and would appreciate it if you would send him your budget requests by September 15th to present to the B&F Committee for our amended budget.

Dr. Longcore noted that we have an election coming. Member Miner would like some funds put aside for audio (microphones) at our in-person meetings.

11. **Monthly Expenditure Report**

Motion to approve July 2024 Monthly Expenditure Report (**Attachment D**) **passed** by 16 yeses, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, 13 absences and 7 ineligible: Members Sroloff, Brand, Ryan, Savage, Templeton, Wickers and Marble.

12. **Reconsideration of Outreach Materials Approved Last Fiscal Year, with Some Changes for this FY**

An initial motion to combine i, ii & iii into one item was **approved** as moved by Greenberg.

- i. **Motion** to approve up to \$300 for handout trifold brochures. (**Attachment E = Brochure**) Cost via Canva website is \$270 with free shipping and guarantee.
- ii. **Motion** to approve Minuteman Press Estimate 6974 for printing of 262 trifold brochures at \$152.87 to be sent to new neighbors (in the last 12 months) to the neighborhood. (**Attachment F & G = Brochure & New Quote**)
Asked by Levotman, Octaviano Rios noted that we can use the City logo/seal in our brochures but once we have a draft for the promotional material (the trifolds in this case) we need to submit that to the City Clerk of NC Funding for review and cc him.

Amending motion that the City seal be added to the brochure (either above where it now says Attachment "F" or below the logo or leave it to the committee for where to place the City seal) **passed** as moved by Levotman and Kamin.

Amending motion moved by Templeton:

- 1) Under About the NC, it says that we continually advocate for key local issues "downtown" which she noted that sounds like issues that involve downtown. She would

change it “to advocate for key local issues with the City.”

2) Map should have north at the top, so she’d like to reorient it in the way people are used to reading maps, so they can see if they are from this area.

3) Under What We Do -- the last thing says provide input re City ordinances impacting our neighborhood. She would move that to the top.

[At this point, new D.O.N.E. General Manager, Carmen Chang arrived, at 8:09 pm, and we suspended discussion on this item.]

[After hearing from Carmen and Octaviano Rios (above at the bottom of item #4), attention was returned to this item at 8:31 pm.]

Dr. Longcore noted that we have a proposal, a soft motion from Patricia to:

- Reorient the map, across the fold.
- That we represent these areas can go across the fold as well theoretically.
- Change downtown to the City and the order.

An amending motion to separate the two sets of brochure and send back for comments and vote on the other two was moved by Evans. Following discussion, the motion was changed as agreed to by Evans to divide all three of these items, for the two sets of brochures to be sent back for comments, noting that the map is on both E & F as is “providing input” on the bottom of both, to be moved up. Discussion was held.

Evans recommended postponing this, to have the suggestions submitted to Mirco so he can be here, to explain what was suggested.

The motion was made separately to **postpone** items 12.i & ii respectively to next month, for further changes on the brochures, for Member Gros and the committee, and **passed by unanimous consent** as moved by Evans and seconded by Kamin.

- iii. **Motion** to approve new “local” bid/quote from Extreme Canopy for a 10x10 Pop-Up Tent for outreach events to include features previously approved last fiscal year with new estimate including all costs and fees in the amount of \$1,850.00 (**Attachment H**) was moved by Levotman/Committee.

Public Comment was given by Dr. Pamela Pierson who mentioned the budget issues in the City, asking if this is the best time for this expenditure. She also noted that as to the above trifolds that people may want to consider that we will be receiving a lot of campaign mail similar to this until November; concerned about spending on things that might be thrown in the trash.

Board discussion was held and questions were asked and answered. The motion **passed** by 16 yeses, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, 13 absences and 7 ineligible: Members Sroloff, Brand, Ryan, Savage, Templeton, Wickers and Marble.

13. Walkway Lighting for Meetings

Motion to approve purchase of three rechargeable GoGonova Cordless Dimmable Detachable work lights to bring to TreePeople or other meeting locations with less than desirable lighting for safety reasons at \$126.39 each x 3 = \$379.17 + estimated taxes of \$36.03 and free shipping by Amazon for a total of \$415.20 (**Attachment I**) was moved by Levotman, seconded by Stojka. Treasurer Levotman noted that we are trying this out with three work lights to test, while he feels we need six, in addition to the security service we have for in-person meetings. The motion **passed** by 16 yeses, 0 noes, 0 abstentions, 13 absences, and 7 ineligible: Members Sroloff, Brand, Ryan, Savage, Templeton, Wickers and Marble.

14. Standing Rules: Absences

Motion from Bylaws, Rules and Elections Committee to approve DRAFT Policy on Absences (**Attachment J**)
BR&E Chair Evans introduced this item, noting that the question to be answered had to do with alternates. You should have an alternate and if you are aware that you are unable to attend the meeting, find out if they can. If the alternate serves, yours is an excused absence. There are other reasons to have you have to come at least once a quarter to not be subjected to disciplinary action. The motion was moved by Evans/Committee. Discussion was held, and the motion **passed** by unanimous consent.

15. Standing Rules: Censures and Removals

Motion from Bylaws, Rules and Elections Committee to approve DRAFT Policy on Censures and Removals (**Attachment K**)
BR&E Chair Evans noted that this is only that we designated the secretary to receive the motions. The motion **passed** by unanimous consent.

16. Proposed new Landscape and Site Design Ordinance and Point System

Discussion & Possible Motion: Support or borrow from draft comment letter from the Trees Committee of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (LANCSA) on the 2nd draft of a proposed new Landscape and Site Design Ordinance and Point System for new residential projects of 5 or more units and commercial projects. The concept of utilizing an objective point system was the idea of the Planning Department's Urban Design Studio to comply with the State requiring an objective system for new projects. (**Attachment L**)

Background [here](#) and links to the 2 documents that LANCSA's proposed letter is commenting on draft ordinance:

https://planning.lacity.gov/odocument/33faf488-323e-4b58-a1e2-e40ee0509987/Landscape_and_Site_Design_Ordinance.pdf

and draft point system:

https://planning.lacity.gov/odocument/2344466b-e20b-4192-869b-8f898b828f74/Landscape_and_Site_Design_Ordinance_Point_System.pdf

Proposed comment letter [here](#).

Dr. Longcore introduced this item, following which Member Mann, our representative at the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance, shared that there is her letter and the letter of the Trees Committee of the LANCSA. Dr. Longcore noted that her letter would be the thing to talk about, regarding the level of detail, as a NC. Mann noted that the comments have to be submitted by this Friday. Mann noted that the city is trying to streamline the whole development process, and the Landscape Ordinance has to take that into consideration as well.

As to the recommendations, Mann noted that the Tree Committee reviewed this carefully, and this is the second draft, which has gone through the departments in the City to make sure they can actually enforce this when it becomes code. It has also gone through the public for feedback for the 2nd draft. She feels we should approve it with the recommendations from the trees committee as well as the letter submitted by the Alliance. Moved by Mann, seconded by Evans.

Dr. Longcore summarized that there is a general recommendation to pass an updated Landscape Ordinance, recognizing a lot of flexibility and incentives that it has, with the points. It is not about forcing people into particular things but earning points in different ways to ensure healthy environment outside of the built structures in the City. Mann added that this is for five units or more; not for private houses, not for single family residences and doesn't affect our area at this point; however, having a healthy urban forest throughout the City benefits everybody. Longcore noted that the further import of this would be to endorse the committee that Mindy sits on as our representative regarding tree planting and appropriate species, and planting areas to ensuring that those trees survive as they are planted under the ordinance. The board thanked Mindy for being involved in this and representing us on this. The motion **passed** by unanimous consent.

At 9:01 pm, Dr. Longcore noted the time and the business ahead, asked the board, and gained a consensus by all members to remain present and not adjourn at this time.

17. Council File [24-0867](#) Neighborhood Council Bylaws / Youth Participation / Diversity Increase / Leadership Growth

Full Council File Motion: https://clkrep.lacity.org/online/docs/2024/24-0867_misc_7-30-24.pdf

Discussion & Possible Motion: To OPPOSE the Rodriguez/Hernandez City Council motion that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, with assistance of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, the Youth Development Department and the City Clerk, be requested to provide recommendations on potential methods and options to amend the Neighborhood Council Bylaws (Bylaws) to ensure youth participation in Neighborhood Councils including the designation of a youth seat on each Neighborhood Council board to increase diversity and allow for leadership growth; and further that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, with assistance of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the City Attorney, be requested to report to the Council on potential options to amend the Bylaws to include term limits for Neighborhood Council board members in order to facilitate greater member participation and leadership development. **(Attachment M)**

Ellen introduced the motion for which she wrote a draft letter. There was a motion to by Councilmembers Monica Rodriguez and Eunisses Hernandez to require term limits on NCs and make every NC have a youth representative. We already had our youth rep age range

by DONE against our will; so she thinks they have no business doing that; it is detrimental to NCs, and nobody should be touching NCs until after charter reform. The motion was seconded by Hall, who supports this and thanks VP Evans of Legislative Affairs for bringing this to our attention. He noted that he definitely supports having a youth rep, which has turned out to be a great thing. Member Miner noted that for all organizations it is to the benefit to have people who have historic memory, we don't profit from it, we are all volunteers and do it because of the desire to help our community, keep it safe, and put a lot of energy into it, and to reinvent the wheel is lunacy. Youth Representative Wickers believes that term limits are a terrible idea for NCs; he appreciates Hall's words and noted the benefits for a youth seat on NCs, which give youth access to civics education which is becoming rare, and serves both parties.

Further board discussion was held, following which Member Evans noted that the issue raised as to requiring youth seats would be for another time, e.g., after charter reform. She noted that in the letter we say youth seats have been very valuable for us, a soft support. We could say we encourage other NCs to have youth seats, but do not want to support any part of this motion because it shouldn't have happened in the first place. Dr. Longcore recommended that we educate ourselves about charter reform. The question was called for the motion with the amendments that Evans said: **having a youth seat is very valuable to us and encourage other NCs to have a youth seat**. Hall moved, and the **motion as amended** was approved.

18. Board Email Addresses and IT

Motion to approve a letter to DONE and BONC regarding the elimination of the EmpowerLA board email addresses and suggesting that the solution to the problem is having the City take over the IT function for all NCs including providing email addresses. (Attachment N)

The motion was moved by Evans who explained the former group email address babnc@EmpowerLA.org which was used by various departments was disabled because they were scamming emails. Lots of departments couldn't communicate with us; we didn't know we weren't getting stuff. She thinks the solution is for the City to take over our email addresses, and control all the scamming and take over all of our IT as there is no reason why we shouldn't be benefiting from being a part of the City; they have a huge department to do it. Dr. Longcore fielded questions on this item, and following board discussion, Member Hall noted that there is a workaround solution: they could create a list of all 99 NCs, @board at babnc.org. He noted that it is important for City departments to have an email address that they can use to use to forward to all of us, and they've eliminated that without any alternative solution. Travis acknowledged that we had a position on this a few months ago. The motion passed with all but two noes from Miner and Schlesinger and one abstention from Dr. Longcore.

Items #19 through 22 were deferred due to time constraints and the meeting concluded at 9:18 pm following the Good of the Order below.

VP Legislation Evans noted that Item #19 was now moot per the report from Assembly-member Zbur's representative above.

19. Council File [23-0002-S151](#) AB 2525 (Zbur) / Freeway Underpasses / Parking / Storage / Recreational and Oversize Vehicles **Deferred**
Full CF Motion https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0002-S151_misc_8-16-24.pdf
20. Council File [23-0002-S147](#) Albertsons Companies, Inc. / Kroger Company / Merger / Anticompetitive **Deferred**
CF Motion https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2023/23-0002-S147_misc_8-2-24.pdf
21. Council File [24-0889](#) Recyclables Market / Waste Diversion / Recycling Goals
Full City Council Motion (Yaroslavsky) **Deferred**
CF Motion https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2024/24-0889_misc_8-02-24.pdf
22. Report on Impact of Artificial Turf Installations –
Discussion and Possible Motion to Support the Resolution in CF-24-0602
(Blumenfield/Yaroslavsky) **Deferred**
CF Resolution: https://clkrep.lacity.org/onlinedocs/2024/24-0602_misc_5-24-24.pdf

Good of the Order

Members Schlesinger and Evans reported that Elizabeth Barcohana is running to be a delegate for the LA GOP Central Committee.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:19 pm to return to an In-Person (hybrid) meeting at TreePeople on September 25, 2024 at 7:00 pm.

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