



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 18, 2013, 7:00pm

Simon Wiesenthal Center, 3rd Floor

1399 S. Roxbury Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035 (Pico and Roxbury)

I. Call to Order & Roll Call

SORO NC Board President, Doug Fitzsimmons, called the meeting to order at 7:27 PM.

Board Members Present (19): Kevin Gres (9 PM arrival), Kimber Smith (left at 10 PM), Beth Ryan, Robyn Braun (8:30 PM arrival), Bette Billet, Jon Liberman, Ellen Lanet, Paula Waxman, Nahed Guirguis (left at 9:45 PM), David Mattis, Brian Kite, Barry Levine (8:40 PM arrival), Marj Safinia, Terrence Gomes, Martin Epstein, Hector Garza, Victor Mitry (left at 9:50 PM), Doug Fitzsimmons and Erick Morales

Board Members Absent (4): Michael Lynn, Michael Bloom, Bethie Kohanbash and Susan Burden

II. General Public Comment

Kimber Smith made a public comment regarding the recent bombings in Boston during the Boston Marathon sending well wishes to all involved.

III. Community Reports

- a. Office of Council President Wesson (Carlin)
 - i. Liz Carlin, Field Deputy for Council President, Herb Wesson, let the board members know that Council President Wesson supports the NCs getting \$37,500 for the upcoming fiscal year and supported the upcoming NC elections to be paid for from the general budget as well as creating one new position at DONE to support the work of the NCs.
 - ii. Liz also reminded us about CicLAVia taking place this Sunday.
- b. Office of Councilmember Koretz (Bradkin)
 - i. Tania Bradkin, Field Deputy for Councilmember Koretz, gave updates regarding the cell phone tower appeal process, helping to find space for the NC committees to meet, tree planting, abandoned car issue and SORO Festival tables and chairs.
- c. Other Neighborhood, City and State offices
 - i. Stephanie Cohen, Field Representative for Assemblymember Richard Bloom, stopped by to introduce herself.

IV. Presentation and Board Discussion

- a. Century City Center transportation briefing / Jonathan Chambers
- b. Century City Center opposition / Save The Westside
- c. RePower LA Coalition / Laura Nieto – rescheduled
- d. Billboard briefing / Evan Roosevelt, Clear Channel - rescheduled

V. Approval of Minutes

- a. Draft meeting minutes for March 17 (Board retreat), March 21, and April 9, 2013 (special meeting) (Ryan / GB041813-1)
 - Amended minutes were unanimously approved by general consensus. (16 board members voted)

VI. Committee Reports

- a. Confirmation of Board committee memberships and absence requests (GB041813-2)
 - Kimber Smith and Jon Liberman requested to be added to the By-Laws committee.

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Ryan
Secretary

**South Robertson
Neighborhoods Council**

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- All committee additions were unanimously approved by general consensus. (16 board members voted)
- b. President's report
 - Update on the NC Plan Review meetings and business cards should be arriving next week.
- c. Treasurer's report and approval of monthly expenses (Gomes / GB041813-3)
 - Motion was moved by Marj Safinia and seconded by Ellen Lanet.
 - Motion was approved by the board.
 - Vote count was: (15 YES/0 NO/1 Abstain)
- d. Upcoming committee events and legislative issues

VII. New Business

- a. Motion to provide feedback on the Century City Center Draft Environmental Impact Report (Fitzsimmons / GB041813-4)
 - David Mattis and Barry Levine both recused themselves and left the room during discussion and voting.
 - The board heard from and asked questions of Jonathan Chambers and Tom McOsker regarding the Century City Center proposal and the transportation study that had been conducted.
 - Peter Brown from Save the Westside presented the board with the objections to the Century City Center and answered questions.
 - Craig Kaplan from Beverlywood Homeowners Association indicated that they do not support this project.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION - That SORO NC opposes the development at Century City Center as presented, without the inclusion of specific mitigations and studies of the problems and concerns of our community and stakeholders, which we have voiced consistently.

SORO NC is very open to continued conversations with JMB Realty on these points, so that such agreements can be made in writing and included in the project's scope. Until such time, we strongly oppose this project.

- The substitute motion was moved by Marj Safinia and seconded by Terrence Gomes.
- The substitute motion was approved by the board
- Vote count on substitute motion was: (13 YES/0 NO/2 Abstain/2 Recused)

AMENDMENT - SORO NC will send a letter to the Planning Commission to request an extension of 30 days to the comment period on the DEIR for this project.

- Amendment was unanimously approved by general consensus. (15 board members voted)
- b. Motion to organize and host an Emergency Preparedness & Safety Fair (Lynn / GB041813-5)
 - Motion was moved by Kevin Gres and seconded by Terrence Gomes.
 - Motion was approved by the board.
 - Vote count was: (14 YES/2 NO/0 Abstain)
- c. Motion to allocate \$1000 for Movies in the Park 2013 (Safinia / GB041813-6)
 - Motion was moved by Marj Safinia and seconded by Ellen Lanet.
 - Motion was approved by the board.
 - Vote count was: (15 YES/0 NO/1 Abstain)



- d. Motion to allocate up to \$700 for SoRo Festival Outreach printing (Safinia / GB041813-7)

AMENDMENT – That SORO NC defunds the 2012 Town Hall.

- Amendment was moved by Marj Safinia and seconded by Ellen Lanet.
- Amendment was unanimously approved by general consensus. (16 board members voted)

MOTION – That SORO NC funds up to \$700 towards the cost of large-format printing for display at the SORO Festival 2013 and beyond.

- Motion was moved by Marj Safinia and seconded by Brian Kite.
- Motion was approved by the board.
- Vote count was: (15 YES/0 NO/1 Abstain)

- e. Motion to fund up to \$4000 for updates to soronc.org (Safinia / GB041813-8)

AMENDMENT – To move \$4,000 previously set aside for NPGs to be put back into SORO general funds.

- Amendment was moved by Doug Fitzsimmons and seconded by Kevin Gres.
- Amendment was approved by the board.
- Vote count was: (14 YES/0 NO/2 Abstain)

MOTION – That SORO NC funds up to \$4000 towards the costs of important website upgrades to soronc.org.

- Motion was moved by Doug Fitzsimmons and seconded by Marj Safinia.
- Motion was approved by the board.
- Vote count was: (15 YES/0 NO/1 Abstain)

- f. Motion to approve up to \$700 to be used for an NC laptop (Ryan / GB041813-9)

AMENDMENT – to include the term “tablet” in motion GB041812-9. To approve up to \$700 to purchase a laptop, tablet, bag and needed software.

- Amendment was moved by Beth Ryan and seconded by Robyn Braun.
- Amendment was approved by the board by general consensus. (16 board members voted)

MOTION – to approve up to \$700 to purchase a laptop, bag and needed software.

- Motion was moved by Beth Ryan and seconded by Robyn Braun.
- Motion was approved by the board.
- Vote count was: (14 YES/0 NO/2 Abstain)

- g. Motion to allocate \$500 to help fund the 2013 NC Congress (Fitzsimmons / GB041813-10)

- Motion was moved by Doug Fitzsimmons and seconded by Robyn Braun.
- Motion was approved by the board.
- Vote count was: (10 YES/5 NO/1 Abstain)



- h. Motion to reallocate current fiscal year budget as needed and request increase of purchase card spending limit (Fitzsimmons / GB041813-11)

MOTION – That SORO NC requests that its Q4 FY 2012-2013 purchase card limit be raised to \$4,000 and that its single-purchase limit for that period be raised to \$14,125 to accommodate approved NC purchases.

- Motion was moved by Doug Fitzsimmons and seconded by Jon Liberman.
- Motion was approved by general consensus. (16 board members voted)

- i. Motion to request changes to the NC system definition of “stakeholder” (Fitzsimmons / GB041813-12)

MOTION – To join with the Neighborhood Council Plan Review and Reform Initiative and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to recommend to the Los Angeles City Council that the City administrative code be amended to:

- a. Further define “own property” in the Neighborhood Council stakeholder definition as meaning real property;
- b. Remove the requirement that neighborhood councils provide governing board positions for factual basis stakeholders;
- c. Allow each neighborhood council to determine the number, if any, of governing board seats that be allocated to factual basis stakeholders;
- d. Remove the current definition of factual basis stakeholder; and
- e. Allow each neighborhood council to adopt its own definition of factual basis stakeholder.

- Motion was moved by Doug Fitzsimmons and seconded by Jon Liberman.
- Motion was approved by general consensus. (16 board members voted)

- j. Motion to include non-voting members of the Neighborhood Councils on City Committees and Commissions (Gomes / GB041813-13)

AMENDMENT - to remove

Whereas the City Council continues to ignore the Neighborhood Councils in decision making.

And to remove

Whereas the City Council continues to deride Neighborhood Councils for not weighing in on issues.

- Amendment was moved by Marj Safinia and seconded by Jon Liberman.
- Motion was approved by general consensus. (16 board members voted in favor with one board member voting against)

MOTION TO TABLE

- Motion to table was moved by Bette Billet and seconded by Barry Levine.



- Vote count was: (6 YES/10 NO/0 Abstain)

MOTION – Whereas the City Council has NOT devised a credible system to inform that Neighborhood Council System on items of concern in a timely manner,

Therefore, the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council demands that the City Council and the Mayor immediately open a non-voting seat for a Neighborhood Council member on all City Council (Regular and Ad-Hoc) committees and Commissions to be elected by the Neighborhood Councils. A letter will be sent to the City Council and the Mayor's office.

- k. Motion to include an NC member on the LA2020 Commission (Gomes / GB041813-14)

No Vote was taken by the board on this motion.

VIII. Adjournment

The SORO NC Board President, Doug Fitzsimmons, adjourned the meeting at 10:44 PM.



Current Committee Membership

Board members must attend at least 7 committee meetings within a 12 month period.

Note that Bylaws, Econ Revitalization, Board Development, and Parks & Recreation ad hoc committees may have no more than 6 voting members.

Committee	Education	Green Team	Land Use	Outreach	Public Safety	Trans- portation	Finance	Exec	Bylaws	Econ Revital	Board Dev	Parks & Rec
Kevin Gres	■				■							
Kimber Smith				■			■		■			
Beth Ryan				■			■	■			■	
Robyn Braun					■							
Bette Billet		■	■	■					■	■	■	
Michael Lynn					■		■					
Jon Liberman			■	■		■			■			
Ellen Lanet			■			■						
Paula Waxman		■					■					
Michael Bloom			■		■							
Bethie Kohanbash											■	
Nahed Guirguis												
David Mattis				■								
Brian Kite			■				■	■	■			■
Barry Levine	■	■		■		■	■			■		
Susan Burden			■									
Marj Safinia			■	■			■			■		
Terrence Gomes			■		■		■	■	■	■	■	
Martin Epstein		■										
Hector Garza											■	
Victor Mitry			■				■					
Org 3												
Doug Fitzsimmons				■		■	■	■	■	■		■
School 1												
Erick Morales	■			■		■					■	



Board Vote Tally Sheet

Meeting Date: April 18, 2013

Votes taken	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Kevin Gres	A	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Kimber Smith	A	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Beth Ryan	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Robyn Braun	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Bette Billet	Y	C	Y	C	C	N	C	Y	C	Y
Michael Lynn	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jon Liberman	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Ellen Lanet	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Paula Waxman	Y	C	Y	C	C	N	C	Y	C	Y
Michoel Bloom	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bethie Kohanbash	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Nahed Guirguis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
David Mattis	R	R	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Brian Kite	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Barry Levine	R	R	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Susan Burden	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Marj Safinia	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Terrence Gomes	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Martin Epstein	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	A
Hector Garza	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
Victor Mitry	X	C	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Org 3										
Doug Fitzsimmons	Y	C	Y	C	C	Y	C	Y	C	Y
School 1										
Erick Morales	Y	C	A	C	C	Y	C	A	C	A

Votes taken

1. Substitute Motion for Century City Project (GB041813-4)
2. Motion for Century City Project (GB041813-4)
3. Treasurer's report and approval of monthly expenses (GB041813-3)
4. Motion for Board committee memberships & absence requests (GB041813-2)
5. Draft minutes (GB041813-1)
6. Motion for Safety Fair (GB041813-5)
7. Amendment for Festival Printing (GB041813-6)
8. Motion for Festival Printing (GB041813-6)
9. Amendment for soronc.org website (GB041813-7)
10. Motion for soronc.org website (GB041813-7)



Votes taken	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Kevin Gres	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N			
Kimber Smith	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Beth Ryan	C	C	Y	C	C	C	Y			
Robyn Braun	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N			
Bette Billet	C	C	N	C	C	N	Y			
Michael Lynn	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Jon Liberman	C	C	N	C	C	C	N			
Ellen Lanet	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N			
Paula Waxman	C	C	Y	C	C	C	Y			
Michoel Bloom	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Bethie Kohanbash	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Nahed Guirguis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
David Mattis	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N			
Brian Kite	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N			
Barry Levine	C	C	N	C	C	C	Y			
Susan Burden	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Marj Safinia	C	C	N	C	C	C	Y			
Terrence Gomes	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N			
Martin Epstein	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N			
Hector Garza	C	C	N	C	C	C	Y			
Victor Mitry	X	X	X	X	X	X	X			
Org 3										
Doug Fitzsimmons	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N			
School 1										
Erick Morales	A	A	A	X	X	X	X			

Votes taken

- 11. Amendment for GB041813-9
- 12. Motion for GB041813-9
- 13. Motion for GB041813-10
- 14. Motion for GB041813-12
- 15. Motion for GB041813-11
- 16. Amendment for GB041813-13
- 17. Motion to table GB041813-13