



# General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 21, 2011, 7:00pm

Hamilton Senior High School Cafeteria

2955 S. Robertson Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90034

## I. Call to Order and Roll Call

SORO NC Board President Doug Fitzsimmons called the meeting to order at 7:10.

**Board Members Present:** Rachel Lester, Kimber Smith, Harold Bock, Robyn Braun (8:10), Bette Billet, Michael Lynn, Paula Waxman, Terrence Gomes, Brian Kite, Barry Levine, Troy Richardson, Marjan Safinia, Sam Jagger, Victor Mitry, Doug Fitzsimmons, Erick Morales

**Board Members Absent:** Nick Burkhart, Joe Gjonola, Benjamin Bellet, Nahed Guirguis, Martin Epstein, Susan Burden

**Guests:** Mario Gonzalez, Raymond Yu, Elizabeth Carlin, Joseph Hari, Sarah Shaw, Beth Ryan, Mary Beth Fielder, Daniel Lee

## II. General Public Comment

Raymond Yu spoke about Nisei Week Japanese Festival (August 13-21, 2011) and the Nisei Grand Parade on Sunday, August 14 at 5:30pm in Little Tokyo. More info at [niseiweek.org](http://niseiweek.org).

Beth Ryan reported on the Stepping Forward program, just completing its fourth week. Career Week begins with two sessions (2-3pm and 4-5pm) on August 2. Volunteers should email Beth.

## III. Community Briefing

Sarah Shaw of JMB Realty presented early outlines of the proposed Century City Center project, now modified from a largely residential development to office space. The project will have 40% less square footage (7000 sqft), and be a mix of traditional office space with open business incubator areas. Goal is LEED Platinum certification.

The Draft EIR will be completed in Winter 2011-12, and a final EIR in Spring 2012. Project opening will be in late 2014. JMB pledged to have an open, inclusive process and will involve the NC throughout.

With the project's re-conception, JMB is working with the DOT to expand their traffic study. Eastern boundary not yet set (likely east of Robertson), but they will notify the NC when it is. Southern boundary will be south of the 10 Freeway.

Board and public concerns largely revolved around traffic impact to Motor, Robertson and Pico, as well as need for increased Fire Station coverage, given recent reductions by LAFD.

## IV. Old Business

### Confirmation of Board committee memberships and absences (GB072111-1)

Nahed Guirguis requested an official absence for July and August 2011.

Troy Richardson joins Outreach; Sam Jagger joins Land Use.

- Doug moved to confirm, Brian seconded.
- **Vote: Y-15, N-0, A-0. Changes confirmed.**

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Brian Kite**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Vacant**  
Secretary

**South Robertson  
Neighborhoods Council**

PO Box 35836  
Los Angeles, CA 90035

P: (310) 295-9920  
F: (310) 295-9906  
E: [info@soronc.org](mailto:info@soronc.org)

[soronc.org](http://soronc.org)





**Draft Board Meeting Minutes of June 16, 2011 (Chavarría / GB072111-2).**

- Barry moved to accept the draft minutes as corrected, Terry seconded.
- **Vote: Y-12, N-0, A-3. Minutes accepted.**

**Treasurer Report**

Report submitted; no credit card expenses this month due to DONE's accounting reconciliation.

**V. Community Reports**

**LAPD.** SLO Gonzalez reported that there had been no major incidents or increases in crime over the last month.

**Office of Councilmember Wesson.** Liz Carlin reported that 800 people had attended the Movie in the Park at Reynier and thanked the NC for its support. Helms Bakery complex is also holding outdoor movie nights (info at [helmsbakerydistrict.com](http://helmsbakerydistrict.com)).

Fresh & Easy is proposing a mini-store on La Cienega. P.I.C.O. NC PLUM committee will be addressing it at a future meeting. The proposed In & Out on La Cienega failed to secure the necessary properties.

**Office of Councilmember Koretz.** No report

**Office of the Mayor.** Joseph Hari spoke about the upcoming Town Hall with Mayor Villaragosa on Monday, Sept. 12 at the West LA Municipal Building. Time is not yet set, but it will probably be in the evening.

He would also like to meet with groups from the NC to better understand our priorities and concerns. He will also have reps at the August 2 BONC hearing and will follow up on potholes that were reported, but not filled.

**Office of Senator Price.** No report

**Robertson Recreation Center.** No report

**VI. Committee Reports**

**Executive.** Gerald Chavarría has regrettably resigned from the Board, and the Secretary position is therefore currently open.

LVNOC reps for Robertson Rec redevelopment will be Brian Kite and Doug Fitzsimmons, and committee meetings will begin soon.

Doug reminded the Board that Board members and the public are bound by our code of conduct in meetings. Board members who have not completed Ethics training or whose training has expired should do so immediately.

**Land Use.** Next meeting will be rescheduled; tentatively Thursday Aug 4.

**Education.** No July meeting

**Green Team.** A \$1000 grant from the Kellogg Foundation has been awarded for Hamilton High greening projects. Working closely with Stepping Forward.

**Public Safety.** Will address safety reports at Robertson Rec Center and continue work on neighborhood emergency planning. Emergency and Child at Play signs distributed.

**Outreach.** No June meeting



**WRAC.** Motion about Convention Center and Stadium proposal coming in August.

## VII. New Business

### Presentation by Move to Amend

Mary Beth Fielder and Daniel Lee provided background on the issue.

### Motion for a non-binding resolution supporting an amendment to the U.S. Constitution to deny personhood and its rights to corporations (Levine / GB072111-3)

- Michael moved to table the motion until August to provide time to solicit opposing viewpoints; Terry seconded.
- **Table vote: 6-Y, 10-N, 0-A. Motion to table failed.**

Proposed amendment by Michael:

“The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council recommends a non-binding resolution to support an amendment to the United States Constitution that would deny personhood and its rights to corporations, as well as stating money is not equal to free speech.”

- Michael moved to consider the amendment; no second.
- **Amendment not considered.**
- Marj calls the question; Barry seconded.
- **Call the question vote: 7-Y, 9-N, 0-A. Discussion continues.**
- Barry moved to consider the motion; Marj seconded.
- **Motion vote: 10-Y, 6-N, 0-A. Motion approved.**

### Motion to send letters to elected officials expressing our support for the constitutional amendment (Levine / GB072111-4)

- Robyn to consider the motion; Kimber seconded.
- **Vote: 10-Y, 6-N, 0-A. Motion approved.**

### Motion to approve a \$3000 Neighborhood Purpose Grant for 2011 Peace Picnic (Bock / GB072111-5)

- Kimber calls the question; Barry seconded.
- **Call the question vote: 16-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Discussion ends.**
- Robyn moved to consider the motion; Marj seconded.
- **Motion vote: 0-Y, 13-N, 3-A. Motion fails.**

### Motion to hire a monthly note-taker (Gomes / GB072111-6)

- Motion withdrawn

### Vote to elect new SORO NC Secretary (GB072111-7)

- Vote continued until next meeting.

### Motion to approve Green Team strategic plan (Waxman / GB072111-8)

- Motion continued until next meeting.

### Update and discussion about boundary adjustment petition

Doug updated the Board on the disposition of the July 5th BONC hearing and presented potential compromise options.

### Individual votes to support potential compromise options (Executive / GB072111-9)

Motion **amended without objection** to add:

"f. That SORO NC would consider adopting the east side of La Cienega only, with Mid-City NC adopting the unrepresented residential areas."

Motion **divided into six parts without objection:** items 9a, 9b, 9c, 9d, 9e, 9f.

- Harold moved to consider motions 9a-f; Bette seconded.



- **Motion 9a vote: 14-Y, 1-N, 1-A. Motion approved.**
- **Motion 9b vote: 0-Y, 16-N, 0-A. Motion fails.**
- **Motion 9c vote: 0-Y, 16-N, 0-A. Motion fails.**
- **Motion 9d vote: 0-Y, 16-N, 0-A. Motion fails.**
- **Motion 9e vote: 0-Y, 16-N, 0-A. Motion fails.**
- **Motion 9f vote: 0-Y, 16-N, 0-A. Motion fails.**

**Motion to send a letter to BONC regarding irregularities in SORO NC's boundary adjustment petition process (Executive / GB072111-10)**

- Kimber moved to consider the motion; Terry seconded.
- **Motion vote: 14-Y, 1-N, 1-A. Motion approved.**

**Motion to authorize an ad hoc committee to speak for SORO NC on boundary issues and take such action as it deems appropriate (Executive / GB072111-11)**

- Kimber moved to consider the motion; Marj seconded.
- **Motion vote: 15-Y, 1-N, 0-A. Motion approved.**

**Discussion of proposed LA DWP rate increase**

- Discussion continued to next meeting

## **VIII. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m.



## Board Committee Membership

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

Note that Bylaws, Econ Revitalization, and Board Development meet infrequently. Those three ad hoc committees may only have 6 voting members.

Committee	Edu- cation	Green Team	Land Use	Out- reach	Public Safety	Bylaws	Econ Revital	Board Dev	Parks & Rec
Rachel Lester									
Kimber Smith									
Harold Bock									
Robyn Braun									
Bette Billet									
Michael Lynn									
Nick Burkhart									
Joe Gjonola									
Paula Waxman									
Zone 10									
Ben Bellet									
Nahed Guirguis									
Terry Gomes									
Brian Kite									
Barry Levine									
Troy Richardson									
Marj Safinia									
Sam Jagger									
Martin Epstein									
Sue Burden									
Victor Mitry									
Organization 3									
Doug Fitzsimmons									
School 1									
Erick Morales									



## Vote Tally

1: moved | 2: seconded | Y: yes | N: no | A: abstain | R: recuse | X: missed vote

Votes taken	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Rachel Lester	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	N	N	N	N	N	A	Y
Kimber Smith	Y	Y	N	N	Y	2Y	1Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	1Y	1Y
Harold Bock	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	1Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Robyn Braun	X	X	Y	N	N	1N	Y	1N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Bette Billet	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	2Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Michael Lynn	Y	Y	1Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Nick Burkhart																
Joe Gjonola																
Paula Waxman	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Zone 10																
Ben Bellet																
Nahed Guirguis																
Terry Gomes	Y	Y	2Y	N	N	N	Y	2N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	2Y	Y
Brian Kite	2Y	A	N	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N
Barry Levine	Y	1Y	N	2Y	1Y	Y	2Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Troy Richardson	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Marj Safinia	Y	2Y	N	1Y	2Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	2Y
Sam Jagger	Y	Y	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Martin Epstein																
Sue Burden																
Victor Mitry	Y	A	Y	N	N	N	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
Organization 3																
Doug Fitzsimmons	1Y	Y	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y
School 1																
Erick Morales	Y	A	N	N	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	N	N	N	N	N	Y	Y

### Votes taken

1. Committees and absences
2. Draft meeting minutes
3. Table: U.S. Amendment resolution
4. Call question: U.S. Amendment resolution
5. U.S. Amendment resolution
6. U.S. Amendment letter
7. Call question: Peace Picnic
8. Peace Picnic
9. Boundary option 9a
10. Boundary option 9b
11. Boundary option 9c
12. Boundary option 9d
13. Boundary option 9e
14. Boundary option 9f
15. BONC letter
16. Boundary ad hoc committee