



# Motion to formally adopt a consent agenda as part of the NC's standing rules

**Agenda Item:** GB121814-1  
**Date:** 18 December 2014  
**Proposed By:** Doug Fitzsimmons

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## Full Proposal

Neighborhood Council Board meetings can be quite long. Yet many discussed items pass with unanimous consent.

The Executive Committee is tasked with ensuring that Boardmembers and the public spend their volunteered time as efficiently and effectively as possible at Board meetings. To that end, the Council experimented with a consent agenda (aka consent calendar) at its November 2014 meeting. The feedback has been overwhelmingly positive.

According to the NC bylaws, the President has the final say on the constitution of the General Board agendas and conduct of meetings. In an effort to clearly delineate how a consent agenda would work, however, this motion seeks to add a definition to the Board's standing rules.

Motion templates will be amended to include checkboxes for the author to request that the motion be included or excluded from the consent calendar, although as noted above, the President will make the final decision.

Note that adoption, suspension or repeal of standing rules requires a simple majority.

## Proposed Motion

To adopt the following in the SORO NC standing rules:

- I. The Neighborhood Council may employ a consent agenda for the purpose of speeding meetings. Passage of items placed on the consent agenda shall be determined by a single Board vote, with no Board questions or debate allowed on any item. Public comment shall be allowed on any item on the consent agenda prior to Board action.
- II. Financial motions, bylaws amendments, and interim appointments to the Board may not be placed on the consent agenda.
- III. Prior to adoption, any item or items may be removed without debate from the consent agenda upon Boardmember request. Removed items will be considered individually under the Board's New Business, unless otherwise tabled or withdrawn.
- IV. Boardmembers proposing a motion may ask that their motion be added to or excluded from the consent agenda prior to the posting of the meeting agenda, although the President retains the ability to set the final agenda.

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Kevin Gres**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Beth Hirsch**  
Secretary

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## Considerations

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**Committee review:**  
*(highly recommended)*

Votes For: 3

Against: 0

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**Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:**     \$  
*(applies to funding motions only)*

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### Arguments for:

Potential to speed up meetings dramatically by grouping together uncontroversial motions.

Simple process for a Boardmember to remove any item he/she thinks merits discussion, individual consideration, or amendment.

### Arguments against:

Boardmembers must carefully read all motions prior to the Board meeting (which the Code of Civility requires anyway).

Unless explained, a consent calendar may confuse the public.



# Motion to request resumption of regular City Council Education & Neighborhood committee meetings

**Agenda Item:** GB121814-3

**Date:** 18 December 2014

**Proposed By:** Terrence Gomes

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**Motion language coming shortly.**

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

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# Motion to condemn recent bullying and threats of violence on UCLA's campus

**Agenda Item:** GB121814-6

**Date:** 18 December 2014

**Proposed By:** Executive Committee

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## Full Proposal

Recent demonstrations and debate on the UCLA campus have turned ugly, creating an atmosphere where students and staff have felt unsafe due to their opinions, ethnic background, and religion.

## Proposed Motion

- I. The South Robertson Neighborhood Council champions the right free speech and diversity of opinion. The NC believes, however, that they are best expressed through civil discourse and informed debate.
  
- II. Our universities should be exemplars of both principles. SORO NC strongly condemns those who seek to intimidate or who threaten violence against UCLA faculty, staff, and students who happen to disagree with their aims and beliefs. Every citizen deserves to feel safe when expressing and defending his or her opinion, no matter how unpopular it may be. And every citizen has the right to protection against religious or ethnic harassment.

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Kevin Gres**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Beth Hirsch**  
Secretary

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## Considerations

**Committee review:**  
*(highly recommended)*

Votes For: 3

Against: 0

**Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:** \$  
*(applies to funding motions only)*

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**Arguments for:**

**Arguments against:**

Our local students and faculty shouldn't feel unsafe under any circumstances.

None

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# Motion to adopt the City's recommended Code of Civility into the NC's standing rules

**Agenda Item:** GB121814-7

**Date:** 18 December 2014

**Proposed By:** Doug Fitzsimmons

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**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Kevin Gres**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Beth Hirsch**  
Secretary

**Motion withdrawn**

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## Motion to create a SORO NC Community Grant program for \$5,000

**Agenda Item:** GB121814-8

**Date:** December 18, 2014

**Proposed By:** Terrence Gomes

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### Full Proposal

SORO NC seeks to create an open and competitive community grant program to allow local schools and not-for-profit groups a chance to apply for a portion of NC funds set aside for that purpose. The NC will evaluate the applications based on their comparative merits.

The awards will be made via the City's existing Neighborhood Purposes Grants (NPG) process, and are subject to its rules. Final determination of the awards will be made by the City.

Neighborhood Purposes Grants (NPG) may only be offered to 501(c) (3) non-religious organizations, and LAUSD Schools. For the current fiscal year 2014-2015, July 1, 2014 to June 30, 2015 the application acceptance date will be from January 1, 2015 to February 8, 2015. The deadline for application submission will be February 8, 2015 12:00PM PST. All submissions will be sent electronically to [npggrants@soronc.org](mailto:npggrants@soronc.org). The awarding of the grants will be conducted during the SORONC February 19, 2015 General Board meeting. NPG funding may be offered to any stakeholder or project only once in a fiscal year. NPG grants will be awarded from a maximum pool of \$5000.00 (five thousand dollars). After review by the NPG Ad-Hoc Committee, NPG applications are forwarded to the SORONC Board for evaluation. Board-approved NPG requests will be forwarded to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) for their approval. Actual funding can take as long as three months. Please plan accordingly. Any fraud will be investigated by the Los Angeles City Attorney. Inadequate, incomplete, or inaccurate applications will not be considered.

We strongly recommend applicants read the Neighborhood Purposes Grant Applicant Packet (<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/NeighborhoodPurposesGrant-application-Nov2012.pdf>). This document describes the application process and requirements for submission of a NPG.

Applications available:  
[http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/npg-application-fill\\_in.pdf](http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/npg-application-fill_in.pdf)

Applicants are also required to submit a letter outlining their written plan of outreach, accountability, and final accounting of your project or event.

### Application steps

**The application acceptance date will be from January 1, 2015 to February 8, 2015. The deadline for application submission will be February 8, 2015 12:00PM PST. All submissions will be sent electronically to [npggrants@soronc.org](mailto:npggrants@soronc.org).**

Prepare the NPG application and letter, and assemble required documentation.

Send completed documents before the deadline to [npggrants@soronc.org](mailto:npggrants@soronc.org).

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Kevin Gres**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Vacant**  
Secretary

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On February 12, 2015 the NPG Ad-Hoc Committee and the SORONC Executive Committee will meet to review the application(s) received. The application(s) received will either be approved for acceptance, or rejected, and forward to the SORONC General board for review at their February 19, 2015 meeting. All qualified applications will receive an email notifying the applicant of the status of the applications and an award if any.

At the February 19, 2015 General Board meeting, applicants will be given an opportunity to address the SORONC Board to describe the project and answer Board questions. SORONC Board will approve, or disapprove the application. Upon approval, the Treasurer will submit the Board-approved NPG application within 10 days to DONE for funding, subject also to their approval.

Approved applicants for the NPG will be required to give a monthly report at the SORONC General Board meeting to give updates as to status of progress of the project.

Upon completion of the project or event, a detailed letter of final accounting will be submitted within 30 days after the event or completion of the project to the SORONC Board at their next scheduled General board meeting for evaluation.

### **Proposed Motion**

- I. The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council moves to approve the Community Grant process outlined above, to start January 1, 2015
- II. The NC will allocate \$5,000 in Fiscal Year 2014-15 for the program.

### **Considerations**

**Pro**

**Con**

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### **Board Notes**

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**



# Motion to approve 2015 General Board meeting calendar

**Agenda Item:** GB121814-9

**Date:** 18 December 2014

**Proposed By:** Doug Fitzsimmons

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## Full Proposal

In an effort to allow full community and Board input into SORO NC's General Meeting dates, this motion seeks to establish an approved meeting calendar for 2015.

In the past, some stakeholders and Board members have expressed concern about meeting scheduling. The NC has endeavored to avoid conflicts with other events, holidays, and celebrations, but it hasn't always been possible. Opening the schedule to public discussion—while it still may not fully satisfy all parties—will ensure a more transparent process.

The following informational calendar includes the "regular date" (the customary third Thursday of each month) as well as notations on possible conflicts and alternate dates. In developing the list of potential conflicts, a best effort was made to survey U.S. Federal, Jewish, Christian, and Islamic celebrations. Any omissions are unintentional.

The Board may opt to adopt the regular calendar as it stands or modify it through amendments to this motion. Note that none of the normal dates fall on a Federal or State holiday.

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Vice-President

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Secretary

Regular 2014 Date	Possible Conflict	Possible Alternate(s)
<b>January 15</b>		
<b>February 19</b>	Rosh Chodesh Adar	Thursday, Feb 26
<b>March 19</b>		
<b>April 16</b>	Yom HaShoah	Thursday, April 23 (Yom HaAtzma'ut)
<b>May 21</b>		
<b>June 18</b>	Rosh Chodesh Tamuz	Thursday, June 25
<b>July 16</b>		
<b>August 20</b>		
<b>September 17</b>		
<b>October 15</b>		
<b>November 19</b>		
<b>December 17</b>		

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## Proposed Motion

- I. To adopt the 2015 SORO NC General Board meeting schedule ("normal dates") shown above.
- II. This motion does not supersede any aspect or procedure set forth in the NC bylaws, particularly Article VIII, Section 1, Item 2: Special Board Meetings.

## Considerations

**Committee review:** Votes For: 3 Against: 0  
*(highly recommended)*

**Amount previously allocated in Committee's working budget:** \$  
*(applies to funding motions only)*

### Arguments for:

Setting a yearly meeting calendar allows for community input into our schedule.

Meeting on a consistent date (i.e., the third Thursday of the month) may be more easily remembered by stakeholders.

### Arguments against:

The dates may still need to be amended as emergencies arise or if we are unable to secure a meeting location on those dates (however unlikely).

Although this calendar sets the dates for regular meetings, special meetings may be need to be called that go beyond the schedule listed here.