



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 16, 2015, 7:00pm

Simon Wiesenthal Center 3rd Floor

1399 S. Roxbury Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

SORO NC Board President Doug Fitzsimmons called the meeting to order at 7:27 for Public Comment and then officially at 8:04, when Mike Lynn and Robyn Braun were able to attend and the Board had quorum.

Bette Billet retires. Today is her last day sitting on the SORONC Board.

Board Members Present: Melissande Colton, Bette Billet, Michael Lynn, Jon Lieberman, Doug Fitzsimmons, Michael Bloom, Robyn Braun, Aimee Zeltzer, Beth Hirsch, Marj Safinia, Terrence Gomes, Martin Epstein, Barry Levine.

Board Members Absent: Kevin Gres, Giovanni Ferdinand, Kimber Smith, Paula Waxman, Victoria Martin, Nahed Guirgula, Susan Burden, Victor Mitry, Leo Portal, Sherilyn Correa, Grant Cohen

Guests: Bill Christopher, Robyn Dominquez

II. General Public Comment

Bill Christopher – developer representing FOX Studios. Put community on notice of new development pending. Possible expansion or redevelopment.

Barry Levine – Beautification of Shenandoah Elementary School. Need volunteers.

Marj Safinia – Reminder about upcoming Water Conversation Town Hall May 17th.

Beth Hirsch – Pet Adoption event from LA Animal Services. Palm Emergency Preparedness DAC both events on April 25th.

Mike Lynn – The Movie San Andreas will provide swag and other giveaways for the SORO Festival's Emergency Expo. Final reminder for CPR Class Saturday and Sunday April 18th and 19th. Need to fill several openings.

Doug Fitzsimmons – April 25th at the Food Center Q&A with the Mayor, NC Congress in September, Budget Committee Meeting on Sun May 3rd 1pm at Foo's Palace.

Michael Bloom /Terry Gomes – gave quick overview of what they've been learning in the Civic University classes. History and importance of Neighborhood Councils and how they fit into and influence the City processes.

Robyn Dominquez – Asked that SORONC support Crestview regarding the Robertson Rec Center project.

III. Community Reports

a. Office of Assemblymember Bloom (Cohen) updates on legislation:

- Bill on City redevelopment.
- Grant program on nutrition for childhood obesity
- Bill for education for foster care youth and homeless youth
- Assembly Member Bloom will try to attend SORO's Water Town Hall

b. Office of Council President Wesson (Carlin) –

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Kevin Gres
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Hirsch
Secretary

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- The Councilman is planning a series of NC Town Halls to help craft changes to the NC system. Need attendance and constructive input from SORONC. Ideas will be discussed and used at the NC Congress in September
- Presented Bette Billet's Certification of Appreciation for her work on the NC since it began, NC Board Members expressed their appreciation for her service, dedication, advice and support over the years. The Certificate was signed by the entire City Council.

IV. Consent Agenda

- a. Draft meeting minutes of March 19, 2015 (Hirsch / GB041615-1)
 - b. Motion to improve safety on SORO streets (Lieberman / GB041615-2)
 - c. Motion to approve the Land Use committee's online form for project Developers (Land Use / GB041615-3) **REMOVED FOR DISCUSSION**
 - d. Motion to support Council File 14-0366-S2: No Business Tax Registration Certificates (BTRCs) for non-compliant marijuana dispensaries (Fitzsimmons / GB041615-4)
 - e. Motion to advocate for a searchable online database of BTRCs for City businesses (Fitzsimmons / GB041615-5)
 - f. Motion to support Council File 14-1624: City aid with community improvement projects (Fitzsimmons / GB041615-6)
 - g. Motion to support Council action to allow Neighborhood Councils to have adequate presentation time at City meetings (Gomes / GB041615-7) **REMOVED FOR DISCUSSION**
 - h. Motion to support a hiring exemption for the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (Gomes / GB041615-8)) **REMOVED FOR DISCUSSION**
 - i. Motion to endorse the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate's FY 2015-16 white paper (Gomes / GB041615-9) **REMOVED FOR DISCUSSION**
- Items removed from Consent Agenda are moved to New Business.***

**Moved by Terry, Seconded by Jon
Consent Agenda accepted.**

V. Committee Reports

b. President's report – Doug Fitzsimmons - Changes to February and March Board Minutes and possibility of hiring a Temp to record minutes –
Matters were discussed with community input. Recommendations were to make no changes to the minutes. Committee felt that the level of detail was adequate for the purposes of the minutes as minutes do not reflect all the discussion or all the opinions expressed, but a simple recording of matters and votes taken. Terry Gomes will research costs of hiring a temp to record minutes, however, Board Secretary, Beth Hirsch has expressed that she would like to continue taking the minutes. Matter of hiring temp will be tabled to a later date as it may be needed.

c. Treasurer's report & monthly expenses approval (Gomes / GB031915-10)

- Funds remaining: \$,18,112.26.

Jon moved, Mike seconded.

Vote: Y – 13, N- 0, A – 0. Report accepted.

Land Use. Terry Gomes –

- 166 development projects in the works
- Continued Board Training
- Terry worked with the Councilmans office to workout parking and new permits for Got Kosher's expansion into full restaurant. Increased parking and beautification for the Pico Robertson corner area.



- Levonia Glatt Market is also expanding
- Homeless Camper parking issues

VI. Special Orders

a. Nomination of two NC Budget Advocates (GB041615-12)

Doug nominated Terry Gomes and Jon Leiberman who have been serving as Budget Representatives and Advocates for past terms.

Moved and seconded.
Positions elected by consent.

VII. New Business

a. Motion to approve recommendations for the 2016 Election Stipulation Worksheet (Executive / GB041615-13)

Created in Executive Committee. Board discussion and recommendations: Concerns regarding online voting. Beth Hirsch was concerned that this would disadvantage older candidates or non-English speaking candidates that tend not to be as online, social media proficient. It was argued by Doug and Marj that online voting would encourage more participation from the community and any problems with disenfranchised candidates or voters could be worked out during campaigning.

Moved and Seconded:
Motion passes by consent.

b. Motion to approve the Land Use committee's online form for project Developers (Land Use / GB041615-3)

Board discussion - Bette suggested changes to line 4. To make 'Community Benefits' more clear. Marj suggested to add an "Other" line at the end.

Motions passes by consent with the provision that LUED would bring form back for final vote once form has been revised.

c. Motion to support Council action to allow Neighborhood Councils to have adequate presentation time at City meetings (Gomes / GB041615-7)

Moved by Jon. Seconded by Beth
Motion passes by consent.

d. Motion to support a hiring exemption for the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (Gomes / GB041615-8)

Moved by Doug. Seconded by Jon.
Motion passes by Consent.

e. Motion to endorse the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate's FY 2015-16 white paper (Gomes / GB041615-9) Motion passes by consent.

Martin moved, Melissande seconded.
Motion passes by consent.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.



Vote Tally

1: moved | 2: seconded | Y: yes | N: no | A: abstain | R: recuse | X: missed vote
C: passed by general consent

Votes taken	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15
Kevin Gres	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Kimber Smith	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Melissande Colton	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Giovanni Ferdinand	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Bette Billet	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Michael Lynn	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Jon Liberman	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Doug Fitzsimmons	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Paula Waxman	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Michoel Bloom	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Victoria Martin	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Nahed Guirguis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Robyn Braun	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Aimee Zeltzer	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Beth Hirsch	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Susan Burden	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Marj Safinia	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Terrence Gomes	C	Y	C	C		C	C	C							
Martin Epstein	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Victor Mitry	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Leo Portal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Sherilyn Correa	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Barry Levine	C	Y	C	C	C	C	C	C							
Grant Cohen	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
School Rep 2															

Votes taken

1. Consent Agenda (GB041615-1, 2, 4, 5, 6)
2. Approval of monthly expenses (GB041615-10)
3. Nomination of two NC Budget Advocates (GB041615-12)
4. Motion to approve recommendations for the 2016 Election Stipulation Worksheet (Executive / GB041615-13)
5. Motion to approve the Land Use committee's online form for project Developers (Land Use / GB041615-3)
6. Motion to support Council action to allow Neighborhood Councils to have adequate presentation time at City meetings (Gomes / GB041615-7)
7. Motion to support a hiring exemption for the Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (Gomes / GB041615-8)
8. Motion to endorse the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate's FY 2015-16 white paper (Gomes / GB041615-9) Motion passes by consent.