



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 21, 2016, 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 7:18pm.

Board Members Present: Charlie Stein, Mike Bitton, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Doug Fitzsimmons, Adam Rich, Michael Bloom, Ken Blaker, Krystal Navar, Aimee Zeltzer, Gary Kasbarian, Beth Hirsch, Barry Levine, Martin Epstein, Victor Mitry, Dan Fink

Board Members Absent: Kimber Smith, Giovanni Ferdinand, Bryan Warman, Nahed Guirguis, Marj Safinia, Susan Burden, Frank Shelton, Yvette Edidin, Noa Zarur

Guests: Public from Crestview, Beverlywood and Reynier Village, HarSimran Khalsa from the Sikh Dharma

II. General Public Comment

HarSimran announced upcoming Peace Picnic Sept 18th. 1- 4pm at Robertson Recreational Center. Asked for SORO volunteer support and participation from Outreach.

III. Community Reports

LAPD Report. SLO Mario Gonzales – Crime reports

- Captured suspects that were responsible for multiple car thefts of Catalectic converters
- Look out for parcel package thefts
- Look out for thieves pretending to be city workers
- Car thefts are up
- Robberies up, some arrests have been made

Office of Councilmember Koretz.

- Paul Koretz spoke. Welcomed new board members. Thanked all who voted in the election.
- Thanked outgoing members. Passed out certificates and took photos
- Gave certificates to new board members
- Announced installation of 50 new trash cans on Pico Blvd.
- Announcing the ground breaking for the new Robertson Recreational Center
- Thanked the Westside Police Dept for their work
- Working to decrease Homelessness
- Family Reunification Program for the homeless
- Cracking down on Airbnb to save available housing stock
- Answered Questions.

Office of Assemblymember Ridley-Thomas. - Brian Adams Ross

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Kevin Gres
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Hirsch
Secretary

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Neighborhoods Council**

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- Announced that they have dropped the proposal to the Governor regarding the “Millionaire’s Tax” but have replaced it with a petition asking the Governor to declare a statewide State of Emergency on Homelessness.
- Need 250,000 signatures. Asked for NC support.

IV. Consent Agenda

Draft meeting minutes of June 16, 2016 (Hirsch / GB072116-1)

- **Moved by Jon. Seconded by Ken.**
- **All items on the Consent Agenda accepted by general consent**

V. Committee Reports

a. Confirmation of Board committee membership (GB072116-2)

- Gary Kasbarian – joined Public Safety and Quality of Life
- Ken Blaker joined Outreach
- Charlie – joined Outreach, Land Use
- **Requests confirmed by general consent**

b. Executive. Doug Fitzsimmons –

- Regarding Robertson Rec Center – We need to find new place to hold at least 4 meetings a month and move our storage bins to.
- Need to set date for Vision Strategy Retreat in September

c. Treasurer Report. Terrence Gomes -

Funds Spent: 17,712.53 Funds remaining: \$0.00

Approval of monthly expenses (Gomes / GB072116-3)

- **Jon moved to accept the report; Aimee seconded.**
Vote: 14-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Report accepted.

VI. Special Orders

a. Election of Board officer candidates

Charlie Stein Expressed opposition, according to the by-laws, to Terrence Gomes being placed on the Ballot for Treasurer.

Charlie objects as Terry is not an elected Board member.

Jon agreed and expressed concern that the Treasurer was third in line as Board President did not feel that it was appropriate for a non-elected Board member to be in that position.

Doug said that in his interpretation of the by-laws they do not specifically state that a member of the executive committee must be a Board member, which is why he agreed to allow it.

Jon asked that a motion be brought to table the vote until someone could contact the City Attorney.

Ken noted that according to the bylaws we must have the Executive Board seated within 60 days of General Board Elections
Terry withdrew as a candidate

Doug offered up again to the Board for anyone who was interested to run for any of the positions or change positions

Beth Hirsch withdrew as VP candidate as no one was running for the two secretarial positions. She did not want to leave them vacant.



Aimee Zeltzer indicated that she would like to be considered for President.

Michael Lynn asked **Terry** to reconsider his withdrawal as Treasure Candidate

Made the argument that Terry was one of the best treasurers in the NC system and could not be replaced. Also, did not agree with Charlie's interpretation of the bylaws.

Jon stated that he was more than qualified to assume the role.

Terry agreed to step back in as a candidate and made the argument that if we didn't get a Treasurer soon our NC funds would be in jeopardy.

Jon also expressed concern that DONE (Empower LA) may not certify Terry.

More back and forth about the how this was addressed in the bylaws.

Doug asked for a Motion to table it until next month. No Response.

Martin Epstein Agreed to run for Corresponding Secretary.

- i. **For President: Doug Fitzsimmons and Aimee Zeltzer Write in (GB072116-4)**
 - **Vote: Doug 14, Aimee 2**
- ii. **For Vice President: Ken Blaker, Beth Hirsch (removed) (GB072116-5)**
 - **Vote: Ken, Unanimous with 16**
- iii. **For Treasurer: Yvette Edidin, Terrence Gomes, Jon Liberman (GB072116-6)**
 - **Vote: Terry 7, Jon 7, Yvette 2**
- iv. **For Secretary: Beth Hirsch (GB072116-7)**
 - **Vote: Beth - Unanimous 16**
- v. **Corresponding Secretary: Martin Epstein write in (GB072116-8)**
Vote: Martin - Unanimous 15, Yevette as write 1

Doug passed out 2nd Round Ballot for John and Terry. Resulted in a 7 - 7 tie again. As per bylaws President tossed a coin that resulted in Jon's favor. Jon Liberman is new Treasurer.

b. Confirmation of Committee Chair nominees

- i. **Green Team: Paula Waxman, Chair & Barry Levine and Martin Epstein, Vice -Chairs (GB072116-9)**
 - **Passed by consent**
- ii. **Land Use: Krystal Návar, Chair (GB072116-10)**
 - **Passed by consent.**
- iii. **Outreach: Marj Safinia and Charlie Stein, Co-Chairs (GB072116-11)**
 - **Passed by consent.**



- iv. **Public Safety: Mike Lynn, Chair & Michael Bloom, Vice-Chair (GB072116-12)**
Passed by consent.
- c. **Election of Board liaisons and other roles**
 - i. **Second Financial Signatory: Mike Lynn (GB072116-13)**
 - Passed by consent.
 - ii. **Westside Regional Alliance of Councils (WRAC): Doug Fitzsimmons (GB072116-14)**
 - passed by consent.
 - iii. **LA Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC): Terrence Gomes, Jon Liberman (GB072116-15)**
 - passed by consent.
 - iv. **Budget Representative: Terrence Gomes, Jon Liberman (GB072116-16)**
 - Passed by consent.
 - v. **Dept. of Public Works: Terrence Gomes, Charlie Stein (GB07211617)**
 - Passed by consent.
 - vi. **Office of City Attorney: Charlie Stein (GB072116-18)**
 - Passed by consent.
 - vii. **Dept. of Animal Services: Jon Liberman (GB072116-19)**
 - Passed by consent.
 - viii. **Five (5) authorized Community Impact Statement submitters: Executive Committee members (GB072116-20)**
 - Passed by consent.
 - ix. **Call for candidates and possible vote(s) for other liaison positions (GB072116-21)**
Jon for SORO Community Foundation.
Beth Hirsch - DWP
CPAB – Terry, Michael Lynn, Michael, and Gary
Both passed by General consent.

VII. New Business

- a. **Motion to submit a Community Impact Statement in support of the Baseline Mansionization Ordinance Amendment (Land Use / GB07211622)**

Krystal presented the Motion that came out of a working group meeting commissioned by the Land Use Committee in response to community request that SORO weigh in with a CIS on the latest version of the recommendations coming from the City Planning Commission.

Public Comment: Numerous public comment regarding the Motion. It was not positive. Public Objected to all the exceptions listed. Asked the board to amend, reconsider or not to submit the CIS at all.

There was no public there to speak up for larger houses.

- **Moved by Mike, Seconded by Adam.**

Board debate:



Working group defended their points. Ken and Jon spoke up for larger homes as inevitable with modern life.

Doug thanked the working group for moving so quickly and absorbing a lot of information in a short time, but cannot support the exceptions as written. Asked that we do a blanket endorsement of the commission's recommendations.

Barry moved that we should amend the Motion to support the City Planning Commission's recommendations as is.

Seconded by Mike Lynn.

Substitute Motion Amendment Language – replace I. and II. With
“The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council supports the proposed Baseline Mansionization changes adopted by the City Planning Commission”

- **Vote on Amendment: Y- 5, N – 9, A- 1. Fails.**
- **Vote on calling the question: Y – 10, N - 4, A – 0**
- **Vote on Motion: Y – 8, N - 6, A – 0. Motion passes.**

- Motion for Letter of Support on Proposal to Allow Counties to put a Measure on the ballot for a ½ Percent Tax on incomes over \$1 million to Combat Homelessness (Hirsch / GB072116-23)**
 - ***Pulled due to Governor denying approval of the trailer bill.***
- Motion to establish standing rule regarding email access for non-Boardmembers (Executive / GB072116-24)**

Amendment to strike III. To add *non-board member committee chairs and liaisons* to I. and II.

- **Passed by consent.**

And “*board liaisons would also be required to take required ethics training.*”

- **Moved by Charlie and seconded by Ken.**
- **Passed by consent.**

- **Motion vote to adopt into standing rules: Passed by consent.**

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:24pm.



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
Charlie Stein	C	C	Y	N	Y	C	C	C							
Kimber Smith	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Mike Bitton	C	C	Y	Y	Y	C	C	C							
Giovanni Ferdinand	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Bryan Warman	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Michael Lynn	C	C	Y	Y	Y	C	C	C							
Jon Liberman	C	C	Y	Y	Y	C	C	C							
Doug Fitzsimmons	C	C	Y	Y	N	C	C	C							
Adam Rich	C	C	Y	N	Y	C	C	C							
Michael Bloom	C	C	Y	N	Y	C	C	C							
Ken Blaker	C	C	Y	N	Y	C	C	C							
Nahed Guirguis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Krystal Navar	C	C	Y	N	Y	C	C	C							
Aimee Zeltzer	C	C	Y	N	Y	C	C	C							
Gary Kasbarian	C	C	Y	N	Y	C	C	C							
Beth Hirsch	C	C	Y	N	N	C	C	C							
Barry Levine	C	C	Y	Y	N	C	C	C							
Marj Safinia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Susan Burden	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Martin Epstein	C	C	X	A	Y	C									
Victor Mitry	C	C	Y	X	X	X	X	X							
Dan Fink	C	C	Y	N	N	C	C	C							
Frank Shelton	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Yvette Edidin	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							
Noa Zarur	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X							

Votes taken

1. Consent Agenda/Draft meeting minutes of June 2016 (GB072116-1)
2. Confirmation of Board committee memberships and absences (GB072116-2)
3. Approval of monthly expenses (GB072116-3)
Election of New Exec committee (GB072116-4 thru 8) See Attachment
Election of Committee Chairs and Board Liaisons / GB072116-9 thru 21)
4. Baseline Mansionization Ordinance Amendment (Land Use / GB07211622)
5. GB072116 – 23 Pulled permanently.
6. Motion to establish standing rule regarding email access for non-Boardmembers (Executive / GB072116-24)