



# General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 20, 2017, 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 7:15.

**Board Members Present:** Charlie Stein, Alex Mosby, , Giovanni Ferdinand, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Doug Fitzsimmons, Michael Bloom, Ken Blaker, Nahed Guirguis, Gary Kasbarian, Beth Hirsch, Barry Levine, Marj Safinia, Martin Epstein, Victor Mitry, Dan Fink, Linda Theung.

**Board Members Absent:** Steve Chocron, Bryan Warman, Adam Rich, Krystal Návar, Tom Eliopoulos, Sue Burden, Yvette Edidin, Noa Zarur

**Guests:** Ellen Lanet, Harold Johnson- LAX

## II. General Public Comment & Board Announcements

Brief statement from Barry Levine expressing his extreme disappointment and concern that the board did not pass last month's motion to call for equal protection for all travelers to the U.S. (Exec / GB021617-14)

## III. Community Reports

**LAPD Report.** SLO Mario Gonzalez –

- Burglary of a business on Robertson
- Snatch and grab
- Series of car breakins in Castle Heights Area
- Car thefts
- Attempted Rape on 24<sup>th</sup> Street in Castle Heights

**Office of Council President Wesson.** Elizabeth Carlin

Two motions introduced by Herb Wesson to the Departments of City Management And City Planning requested by the SORO Neighborhood Council to assist in their efforts to reimagine South Robertson Blvd as a business district.

**Office of Councilmember Koretz.** Joseph Galloway –

- Motion to look into possible City waste regarding Wells Fargo Bank City of LA accounts
- Asked for help to get the word out regarding the new construction at Robertson Recreation Center Scheduled to begin in June.

**Office of Empower LA.** Jasmine Elberbary

- Reminder that June 7<sup>th</sup> is the deadline to write checks and the last day to use NC bank card is June 11<sup>th</sup>
- Civic U Youth again this summer

## IV. Presentation and Board Discussion

**Guest Presentation** - Video and Spoken presentation by Harold Johnson on LAX Landside Access Modernization Program (LAMP)

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Ken Blaker**  
Vice-President

**Jon Liberman**  
Treasurer

**Beth Hirsch**  
Secretary

**Martin Epstein**  
Corresponding Secretary

**South Robertson  
Neighborhoods Council**

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Major changes proposed to traffic congestion, creating moving walkways, public transportation (Metro), parking, car rentals depots and restaurants. More at <http://www.connectinglax.com/>. Asked for eventual letters of support for the project from the neighborhood councils.

## V. Consent Agenda

- a. Draft meeting minutes of 16 March 2017 (Hirsch / GB042017-1)
- b. Approval of First Quarter 2017 General Board Attendance (Hirsch / GB042017-2) **Tabled**
- c. Motion to support the LAX Landside Access Modernization Program (Fitzsimmons / GB042017-3)
- d. Motion to support immigration policies which improve visa issuance (Blaker / GB042017-4) **Removed by Barry and Moved to new business**
- e. Motion to support the City's proposed Temporary Construction Wall Sign measure (Fitzsimmons / GB042017-5)
  - **Moved by Barry Levine and Seconded by Martin Epstein**
  - **All remaining items on the Consent Agenda accepted by general consent**

## VI. Committee Reports

- a. **Changes to Board committee membership (GB042017-6)**
  - **Steven Chocron to Land Use Committee**
  - **Requests confirmed by general consent**

### President's Report.

Asking for a temporary Land Use Committee leader to help Krystal Navar if she needs to go on temporary maternity leave.

### Treasurer Report.

Funds remaining: \$ 22,828.90.

### Approval of monthly expenses (Liberman / GB042017-7)

- **Marj Safinia moved to accept the report; Michael Lynn seconded.**
- **Vote: 14-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Report accepted.**

**Great Streets** First part of Funds are in, First Community Meeting on the project will be held May 21<sup>st</sup> 1pm. Next large outreach will be the Soro Festival.

**Soro Festival** – Report on Design. Request for Booth sales, Sponsorship and Volunteers.

**Quality of Life.** Computer Literacy Program is in full swing. First of LA Times inserts begins Sunday May 30<sup>th</sup>.

## VII. Special Orders

- a. **Application of Daniel Braum and Linda Theung for vacant Organization Representative seat / interim appointment through next NC election (GB042017-8)**

Brief talks by Linda and Daniel.

- **Vote: Daniel Braum – 5 and Linda Theung – 11.**
- **Linda Theung wins the Seat.**



**b. Nominations for 2 City Budget Representatives for Fiscal Year 2017-18 (GB042017-9)**

**Jon Liberman Nominated himself and Terrence Gomes.**

Some objections raised to Terrence Gomes being our representative.

- **Nomination of Jon approved by general consent**
- **Ken Blaker moved that we table Terry Gomes Application until next month. Seconded by Gary Kasbarian.**
- **Passed by General Consent.**

**VIII. New Business**

**a. Motion to support hotel project at 1434 S Robertson (Land Use / GB042017-10)**

**Presentation of Proposed project by Eric Lieberman – QES, Inc.**

- **Moved by Jon Liberman. Seconded by Victor Mitry.**
- **Motion passes by consent.**

**b. Motion to fund \$1000 Neighborhood Purposes Grant for Movies in the Park (Outreach / GB042017-11)**

- **Moved by Martin Epstein. Seconded by Jon Liberman.**
- **Vote: 14 – Y. 0 – N. 0 – A.**

**\*\*\*\*\*Motion to move Budget item G. up on the agenda. \*\*\*\*\***

- **Agreed by consent.**

**g. 2016-2017 budget amendment and FY 2017-2018 budget approval (Finance / GB042017-16)**

Jon and Doug presented the proposed budget and changes.

- **Moved by Charlie Stein. Seconded by Beth Hirsch**
- **Vote: Y – 14. N – 0. A - 0.**

**c. Motion to fund up to \$1200 for outreach regarding possible changes to Reynier Park (Parks / GB042017-12)**

- **Moved by Jon Liberman. Seconded by Michael Lynn.**

**Board Debate: Concerns about park usage being fair and the realities of reaching the Spanish speaking community.**

- **Vote: Y - 10. N - 5. A- 0.**

**d. Motion to Fund up to \$1500 for Promotional Items for the Safety Expo @ SOROFEST (Public Safety / GB042017-13)**

- **Moved by Alex Mosby. Seconded By Victor Mitry.**
- **Vote: 14 – y. 0 - N. 0- A.**

**e. Motion to Fund up to \$400 for Labor for the Safety Expo Canopy Setup @ SOROFEST (Public Safety / GB042017-14)**



- Moved by Jon Liberman. Seconded by Ken Blaker.

Marj proposed an amendment to change the language of the Motion that it not go to the non-profit or else we would have to create an NPG motion instead.

- Amendment approved by consent.
- Vote: 14 – Y. N – 0. A – 0.

**f. Motion to recommend change to an odd-year NC election cycle (Exec / GB042017-15)**

Empower LA asked for more specificity –  
Exec committee met and came up with this proposal of extending terms as per one of the recommendations by the City.

Moved by Jon Liberman. Seconded by Ken Blaker.  
Vote: 13 – y. 3 – N. 0- A.

**h. Motion to amend Article V of bylaws regarding filling seats when no applicant is present (Bylaws / GB042017-17)**

- Moved by Jon Liberman. Seconded by Marj Safinia.

**Board Debate:** General feeling that this is already covered in our by laws and by our rules of order.

- Vote: Y – 6. N - 9. A – 0.

**i. Motion to amend bylaws regarding recusals that cause loss of quorum (Bylaws / GB042017-18)**

- Moved by Michael Lynn. Seconded by Marj Safinia.

Doug proposed an amendment to strike c. and d. leaving “The board members departure would cause a loss of qorum, the motion shall be shall be deemed tabled.”

- Amendment seconded by Alex Mosby.
- Amendment passes by consent.
- Vote: Y – 15. N – 0. A – 0.

**j. Motion regarding Board Members changing seats (Bylaws / GB04201719)**

- Moved by Marj Safinia. Seconded by Jon Liberman.

No Board member can hold more than one seat.

- Motion withdrawn.

**k. Motion to revise the Bylaws regarding notifications and posting (Bylaws / GB042017-20)**

Moved by Jon Liberman. Seconded by Gary Kasbarian.

Revise by laws to say that “we will abide by the Neighborhood Council policy of at least one pubic posting.”

Tabled Vote . Out of time. Need to table this vote and the rest of the motions.



**l. Motion to revise the Bylaws regarding timeframe to reconsider a motion (Bylaws / GB042017-21) Tabled.**

**m. Motion to revise the Bylaws to allow for removal of Stakeholders as members (Bylaws / GB042017-22) Tabled**

**n. Motion to revise the Bylaws section regarding removal of board members (Bylaws / GB042017-23) Tabled.**

**o. Motion to amend Article V of bylaws regarding the definition of “Stakeholder groups” (Bylaws / GB042017-24) Tabled.**

## **IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55pm.



## Vote Tally

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

| Votes Taken        | 01 | 02 | 03 | 04 | 05 | 06 | 07 | 08 | 09 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | D | L | J |
|--------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|---|---|---|
| Charlie Stein      | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  | X |   | C |
| Alex Mosby         | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | N  | N  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Steve Chocron      | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |   |   |   |
| Giovanni Ferdinand | C  | C  | IE | C  | C  | IE | IE | IE | IE | C  | IE | X  | X  | X  | X  | X |   | C |
| Bryan Warman       | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |   |   |   |
| Michael Lynn       | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | C  | Y  | X |   | C |
| Jon Liberman       | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Doug Fitzsimmons   | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Adam Rich          | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |   |   |   |
| Michael Bloom      | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  | N  | N  | C  | Y  | X |   | C |
| Ken Blaker         | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Nahed Guirguis     | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | IE | IE | IE | IE | C  | IE | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Krystal Návar      | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |   |   |   |
| Tom Eliopoulos     | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |   |   |   |
| Gary Kasbarian     | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | X |   | C |
| Beth Hirsch        | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Barry Levine       | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Marj Safinia       | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Susan Burden       | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |   |   |   |
| Martin Epstein     | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Victor Mitry       | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Dan Fink           | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  | Y  | N  | C  | Y  |   | X | C |
| Linda Theung       | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | -  | Y  | N  | C  | Y  |   |   |   |
| Yvette Edidin      | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |   |   |   |
| Noa Zarur          | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |   |   |   |

### Votes taken

- Consent Agenda (GB042017-1 - 5)
- Confirmation of Board committee memberships and absences (GB042017-6)
- Application of Daniel Braum and Linda Theung for vacant Organization Representative seat / interim appointment through next NC election (GB042017-8)**
- Nominations for 2 City Budget Representatives for Fiscal Year 2017-18 (GB042017-9)**
- Approval of monthly expenses (GB042017-7)
- Motion to support hotel project at 1434 S Robertson (Land Use / GB042017-10)**
- M Motion to fund \$1000 Neighborhood Purposes Grant for Movies in the Park (Outreach / GB042017-11)**
- 2016-2017 budget amendment and FY 2017-2018 budget approval (Finance / GB042017-16)**
- Motion to fund up to \$1200 for outreach regarding possible changes to Reynier Park (Parks / GB042017-12)**
- Motion to Fund up to \$1500 for Promotional Items for the Safety Expo @ SOROFEST (Public Safety / GB042017-13)**
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12. **Amendment to (GB14)**
13. **Motion to recommend change to an odd-year NC election cycle (Exec / GB042017-15)**
14. **Motion to amend Article V of bylaws regarding filling seats when no applicant is present (Bylaws / GB042017-17)**
15. **Motion to amend bylaws regarding recusals that cause loss of quorum (Bylaws / GB042017-18)**
16. **Amendment to (GB18)**
17. **Motion regarding Board Members changing seats (Bylaws / GB04201719 WITHDRAWN)**
18. **Note: Motions (GB20-24) tabled.**