



# General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 19, 2019, 7:00pm

Simon Wiesenthal Center, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

1399 S. Roxbury Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035 (northwest corner of Pico)

## I. Call to Order & Roll Call

- a. SORO NC Board President Krystal Návar called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.
- b. **Board Members Present:** Charlie Stein, Richard Bloom, Jared Weston, Linda Theung, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Gloria Dioum, Adam Rich, Bianca Cockrell, Ken Blaker, Krystal Navar, David Menkes, Barry Levine, Terrence Gomes, Martin Epstein, David Reiman, Jessica Barclay-Strobel
- c. **Board Members Absent:** Jonathan Brand, Jason Van Over, Gary Kasbarian, Susan Burden, Paula Peng, Sarah Nachimson, Dan Fink, Steve Chocron

## II. General Public Comment & Brief Board Announcements

## III. Community Reports

- a. Office of State Assemblymember Kamlager
- b. Office of Councilmember Koretz

## IV. Consent Agenda (5 minutes)

- a. Motion to Waive Standing Rule to Allow Motions posted less than 24 hours prior to meeting (Epstein / GB091919-12)
  - i. Moved by Krystal Navar
  - ii. Seconded by Jon Liberman
  - iii. Motion passed by Consent
- b. Draft meeting minutes of August 22, 2019 (Epstein / GB091919-1)
  - i. Moved by Krystal Navar
  - ii. Seconded by Jon Liberman
  - iii. Motion passed by Consent

## V. Committee Reports

- a. Changes to Board committee membership (GB091919-13)
  - i. Jessica to Robertson Revitization
  - ii. All Changes Passed by Consent
- b. Treasurer's report, August Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) (Lieberman / GB091919-2)
  - i. Moved by Jon Liberman
  - ii. Seconded by Michael Lynn
  - iii. Vote: Yes – 16; No – 0; Abstentions – 0.
- c. Committee and liaison reports, events, and legislative issues
  - i. Board Development: Board Retreat on Sunday, Sept. 22 from 4:30-7:00 pm at A Food Affair
  - ii. Outreach: Board volunteers for Peace Picnic on Sunday, Sept. 22 from 2-5pm at Reynier Park

## VI. Special Orders

- a. Confirmation of Committee Chair nominees
  - i. Green Team: Martin Epstein, Chair (GB091919-3)
  - ii. Parks & Recreation: Jon Liberman, Chair (GB091919-4)
  - iii. Public Safety: Michael Lynn, Chair & Adam Rich, Vice Chair (GB091919-5)

## VII. New Business

- a. Motion to request permanent LAPD Transient Unit for West LA Division (Public Safety / GB091919-6)
  - i. Moved by Adam Rich
  - ii. Seconded by Terrence Gomes
  - iii. Vote: Yes – 14; No – 3; Abstentions - 0

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- b. Motion to require City Council not use the term "Subject to the Approval of the Mayor" in Council Motions (Gomes (LANCC) / GB091919-7)
    - i. Moved by Michael Lynn
    - ii. Seconded by Krystal Navar
    - iii. Motion to Table by Adam Rich
      - Seconded by Jon Liberman
      - Vote: Yes – 13; No – 4; Abstentions – 0
  - c. Motion to fund up to \$200 for Quality of Life Open House Event (Weston / GB091919-8)
    - i. Moved by Jon
    - ii. Seconded by Martin
    - iii. Vote: Yes – 17; No – 0; Abstentions – 0
  - d. Motion to host under-utilized SORO NC Committees at Quality of Life (Weston / GB091919-9)
    - i. Motion Withdrawn by Jared Weston
  - e. Motion for SORO NC to sponsor an Active Shooter Presentation and fund up to \$750 for outreach, location fees, and/or refreshments (Public Safety / GB091919-10)
    - i. Moved by Adam Rich
    - ii. Seconded by Charlie Stein
    - iii. Amendment to revise motion to read "That SORO NC sponsor an Active Shooter Presentation by LAPD and provide up to \$750 in funding for Location Fees, Outreach, and/or Refreshments" moved by Terrence Gomes
      - Seconded by Jon Liberman
      - Amendment passed by Consent
    - iv. Vote: Yes – 16; No – 1; Abstentions - 0
  - f. Motion to request LA City Council initiate a study on addressing safety concerns regarding residential parkway landscape regulation (Public Safety / GB091919-11)
    - i. Issued referred to Land Use Committee
- I. Adjournment**
- a. The meeting was adjourned at 9:11 p.m.



## 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 |
|-------------------------|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
| Charlie Stein           | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Richard Bloom           | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Jonathan Brand          | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| Jared Weston            | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Linda Theung            | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | N  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Michael Lynn            | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Jon Liberman            | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Gloria Dioum            | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Ken Blaker              | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Krystal Návar           | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Jason Van Over          | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| Gary Kasbarian          | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| David Menkes            | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Barry Levine            | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Terrence Gomes          | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | N  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Paula Peng              | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| David Reiman            | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | N  | Y  | Y  | C  | N  |
| Sarah Nachimson         | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| Adam Rich               | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Bianca Cockell          | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | N  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Susan Burden            | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| Dan Fink                | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |
| Martin Epstein          | C  | C  | C  | Y  | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | Y  |
| Jessica Barclay-Strobel | C  | C  | C  | IE | C  | C  | C  | Y  | Y  | Y  | C  | IE |
| Steve Chocron           | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  | X  |

### Votes taken

1. Waiver of Standing Rule to Reduce Motion Posting Time (GB091919-12)
2. Meeting Minutes – August 2019 (GB091919-1)
3. Changes to Board committee membership (GB091919-13)
4. Approval of Treasurer’s report (GB091919-2)
5. Approval of Green Team Chair (GB091919-3)
6. Approval of Parks and Recreation Chair (GB091919-4)
7. Approval of Public Safety Chair and Vice-Chair (GB091919-5)
8. Permanent LAPD Transient Unit (GB091919-6)
9. Tabling of Request to Eliminate Use of Subject to Approval of the Mayor (GB091919-7)
10. \$200 for Quality of Life Open House (GB091919-8)
11. Approval of Active Shooter Amendment to include LAPD (GB091919-10a)
12. Approval of Active Shooter Presentation and \$750 for outreach (GB091919-10)



# Motion to approve 2020 General Board schedule

**Agenda Item:** GB121919-6  
**Date:** December 19, 2019  
**Proposed By:** Krystal Návar

## Background

This motion seeks to establish an approved meeting calendar for 2020.

The following informational calendar includes the “regular date” (the customary third Thursday of each month) as well as notations and possible conflicts and alternate dates. In developing the list of potential conflicts, a best effort was made to survey US Federal, Jewish, Christian, Sikh, Hindu, 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.

| Regular 2020 Date   | Possible Conflict | Possible Alternate(s) |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| <b>January 16</b>   |                   |                       |
| <b>February 20</b>  |                   |                       |
| <b>March 19</b>     |                   |                       |
| <b>April 16</b>     | Passover          | <b>April 23</b>       |
| <b>May 21</b>       |                   |                       |
| <b>June 18</b>      |                   |                       |
| <b>July 16</b>      |                   |                       |
| <b>August 20</b>    |                   |                       |
| <b>September 17</b> |                   |                       |
| <b>October 15</b>   |                   |                       |
| <b>November 19</b>  |                   |                       |
| <b>December 17</b>  | Chanukah          | <b>December 10</b>    |

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## Proposed Motion

Adopt the 2020 General Board meeting schedule (“Regular 2020 Dates” shown above.)



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## Considerations

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**Arguments for:**

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

**Arguments against:**

The dates may still need to be amended as emergencies arise.



# Motion to support proposed 16-unit TOC apartment building at 1450 S Reeves St

**Agenda Item:** GB121919-7  
**Date:** December 19, 2019  
**Proposed By:** LUED Committee  
**Include motion in  
Consent Agenda?** No

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## Background

The project team presented this proposed 16-unit apartment building to the Land Use and Economic Development (LUED) committee at their November 12, 2019 meeting. The applicant's entitlement request is for a Tier 3 TOC (Transit Oriented Communities) apartment building. 2 units will be set aside as Extremely Low Income affordable units. The remaining 14 units will be market rate units. In addition to the base incentives of increased density, decreased parking, and increased Floor Area Ratio (FAR), the project utilizes the following 3 additional on-menu TOC incentives.

- Reduced Side Yard – 30% reduction at the north and south side yards from 9 feet to 6.3 feet
- Increased Height – 22-foot increase from 45 feet to 67 feet
- Reduced Open Space – 25% reduction from 1,600 square feet to 1,200 square feet

(The TOC program, a result of Measure JJJ passed by voters in 2016, encourages developers to build more affordable housing and to locate said housing near transit by offering incentives, which the developer can select from a menu.)

The subject property, located at 1450 S Reeves St, on the east side of Reeves St, north of Cashio St and south of Alcott St. The block is comprised of mostly 3-4 story apartment buildings on [Q]R3-1-O zoned lots.

The project site is 6,491.6 square feet. The proposed building is 6 stories and 15,693 square feet. 17 parking stalls are located on 2 levels of underground parking.

The applicant noticed residents within 500 feet of the property for the November LUED meeting.

## Proposed Motion

Submit a letter in support of the application to City Planning Department staff Jeanalee Obergfell ([jeanalee.obergfell@lacity.org](mailto:jeanalee.obergfell@lacity.org)) to be included in case file for the TOC apartment building at 1450 S Reeves St; DIR-2019-5516-TOC.

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## Considerations

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

Votes For: -

Against: -

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### Arguments for:

The project utilizes the TOC Guidelines to add 2 affordable units, as well as 14 market rate units, to the housing stock. 16 proposed units – 1 existing units = 15 additional units

The project is located a 2-min walk from the Pico Blvd and Beverwil Dr.

### Arguments against:

One single-family residence will be demolished.

The building will be 2 stories taller than most neighboring buildings.



Jeanalee Obergfell  
Department of City Planning  
200 N. Spring Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

20 December 2019

Re: Case Number DIR-2019-5516-TOC

Dear Ms. Obergfell,

I am writing on behalf of the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (“SORO NC”) to comment on the proposed 16-unit TOC apartment building at 1450 S Reeves St.

At a duly-noticed meeting of the General Board on December 19, 2019, SORO NC voted 00 yes / 00 no / 00 abstain to recommend that the applicant’s project be approved. The addition of 16 units, 2 of which are designated Extremely Low Income affordable units, to a transit-rich area of Los Angeles is much needed.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about this comment letter.

Sincerely,

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Krystal Návar  
President, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

Cc: Aviv Kleinman, Office of Council Member Paul Koretz

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# Motion to fund up to \$1,500 for joint SORO NC and Palms NC 2020 Town Hall

**Agenda Item:** GB121919-8  
**Date:** December 19, 2019  
**Proposed By:** Linda Theung  
**Include motion in Consent Agenda?** No

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## Background

The SORONC bylaws state that “[a] community meeting or town hall in which government leaders and representatives speak to stakeholders shall be held at a minimum of once per year with at least a fourteen (14) day notice.”

The last SORONC town hall was in 2016, and the topic was homelessness. This year, the Outreach Committee unanimously agreed that housing is one of the most important issues in our city right now, and constituents in SORONC are affected by everything from lack of affordability to lack of inventory. To that end, members of the committee recommended that the fiscal year town hall address housing as its main topic. The official synopsis of the town hall is as follows:

*Housing is one of the most pressing and complex issues facing Los Angeles—if not the United States. Residents face a lack of affordable housing, displacement, lack of inventory, and homelessness. This town hall, cohosted by South Robertson Neighborhoods Council and Palms Neighborhood Council, examines the intersecting elements of housing, including gentrification, density, zoning, demand, and current policy that influences where and how we live in LA.*

*Panelists include representatives from city departments or council offices, tenant advocates, researchers working on housing and urban studies, and/or developers. The town hall aims to offer diverse perspectives about the housing crisis in this city, as well as empowering attendees to act on solutions to the problem and increase community engagement and involvement on land use issues*

This funding motion is to cover the costs associated with hosting and spreading the word about the Town Hall, so that we may organize a successful event.

Costs may include:

- Application fee for Hamilton High School (Beyond the Bell)
- Custodial and sound technician fees for Hamilton High School (to be arranged and agreed with Principal Pensamiento)
- Moderator
- Yard signs to promote event
- Printing flyers
- Facebook and Instagram ads
- Light refreshments
- Miscellaneous costs

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## Proposed Motion

That SORO NC fund up to \$1,500 for costs associated with the production and outreach for the joint SORO NC and Palms NC 2020 Town Hall.

## Considerations

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

Votes For: 6

Against: 0

**Amount previously  
 allocated in Committee's  
 working budget:**

\$750

### Arguments for:

Housing is one of the most pressing issues today and deserves to be discussed as a community.

Partnering with Palms NC, which shares similar land-use conditions as SORO NC in terms of impacted housing and development, will allow both NCs to attract a bigger audience.

There appears to be significant interest in this topic not only within SORO boundaries, but throughout all of the city, county, and state.

### Arguments against:

Cost. The event might run more than previously allocated in the budget.



# Motion to fund up to \$1,000 for 2020 LA City Council District 10 Candidate Forum

**Agenda Item:** GB121919-9  
**Date:** December 19, 2019  
**Proposed By:** Jessica Barclay-Strobel  
**Include motion in Consent Agenda?** No

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## Background

The 8 neighborhood councils that have constituents in L.A. City Council District 10 will be hosting a candidate forum tentatively scheduled from 10 AM to 1 PM on January 25, 2020. Currently 5 candidates have qualified for the race.

Liaisons from SORO NC and the 7 other neighborhood councils have identified potential moderators and venues that can accommodate at least 250 people and are accessible by public transportation. Funding for the forum would cover expenses such as venue rental, interpreters, and outreach (design and distribution of physical flyers and online postings). Six of the neighborhood councils have already committed funding to the forum, with the remaining two neighborhood councils (including SORO NC) scheduled to vote in the next few weeks.

To save on costs, neighborhood councils are seeking volunteers who can: (1) conduct outreach by asking libraries, schools, and businesses within City Council District 10 to post flyers announcing the forum; or (2) help out at the event by greeting attendees, setting up, or breaking down after the forum ends.

## Proposed Motion

SORO NC shall approve funding up to \$1,000 for a LA City Council District 10 Candidate Forum in 2020.

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## Considerations

### Arguments for:

Forum will be one of the few live events in which the public can learn about all the candidates before the March 3, 2020 election.

Neighborhood council liaisons have been diligently planning to keep expenses low.

### Arguments against:

SORO NC funds could be used for other purposes.

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# Motion to fund up to \$500 for Food and Refreshments for the Los Angeles Homeless Count 2020 Volunteers in South Robertson.

**Agenda Item:** GB121919-10  
**Date:** December 19, 2019  
**Proposed By:** Michael Lynn

## Background

The 2020 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count is a joint effort of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA), Continuum of Care, The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, The Los Angeles Mayor, and Los Angeles City Council. In gathering census data of how many homeless neighbors we have in LA County, we can better engage homelessness in our great city and take care of our fellow Angelenos who need a helping hand. The Regional Homeless Count of the West Los Angeles area will take place over a three-day period in January 2020 at a date and time to be determined. The Alcott Center for Mental Health, as well as the Quality of Life and Public Safety Committees, have hosted the Homeless Count in South Robertson in previous years. SORO NC has typically provided food and refreshments for the volunteers.

## Proposed Motion

1. SORO NC should adopt the following:
  - I. That the SORO NC will fund up to \$500.00 for refreshments and food for the South Robertson based volunteers at the Regional Homeless Count in January 2020.

## Considerations

**Committee review:** Votes For: N/A Against: 0  
*(highly recommended)*

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

### Arguments for:

Event utilizes many volunteers out in the field, requiring food and refreshments.

Counting homeless in SORO helps direct appropriate resources to deal with the situation in our community

### Arguments against:

Money can be used elsewhere.

Past efforts have not resulted in lower homelessness in our area.

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