



# General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, March 16, 2017, 7:00pm

Simon Wiesenthal Center 3rd Floor  
1399 S. Roxbury Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035

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## I. Call to Order and Roll Call

SORO NC Board President Doug Fitzsimmons called the meeting to order at 7:10.

**Board Members Present:** Charlie Stein, Alex Mosby, Steve Chocron, Giovanni Ferdinand, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Doug Fitzsimmons, Adam Rich, Michael Bloom, Ken Blaker, Krystal Návar, Tom Eliopoulos, Beth Hirsch, Barry Levine, Marj Safinia, Sue Burden, Victor Mitry, Yvette Edidin, Noa Zarur

**Board Members Absent:** Bryan Warman, Nahed Guirguis, Gary Kasbarian, Martin Epstein, Dan Fink,

**Guests:** Bayer Family, Aaron Downes

## II. General Public Comment & Board Announcements

- Charlie Stein - LA Marathon Sunday 4/19
- Barry Levine – CicLAvia 4/26 9-4pm
- Doug Fitzsimmons - Meeting on Cannabis regulation - Wed 4/22 at City Hall

## III. Community Reports

**LAPD Report.** SLO Mario Gonzalez and Officer Tony Perez

- Crosswalk issues on Pico Blvd
- Officer Gonzales retiring in July 2017.
- Crime reports – Numerous Robberies, burglaries and thefts.

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

- Solar panel program
- Grass removal
- Thanked Councilman Koretz for the Manionization Ordinance
- Offered Solar panel truck for the SoRo festival

**Office of Councilmember Koretz.** Joseph Galloway

- Board congratulated Councilman Koretz for his recent win.
- Speed Bump program (submit requests)
- Several DBS issues including enforcement of short term rental laws regarding operating in R1 residents.
- Vehicle dwelling and homeless encampment regulations
- Traffic signal on Pico will be delayed, will hire a traffic officer to monitor the area

**Office of Neighborhood Empowerment – Jasmine Elbarbary**

RSVP to Empower LA awards. SORO NC has been nominated for the Homelessness Town Hall.

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Ken Blaker**  
Vice-President

**Jon Liberman**  
Treasurer

**Beth Hirsch**  
Secretary

**Martin Epstein**  
Corresponding Secretary

**South Robertson  
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## IV. Presentation and Board Discussion

### Presentation topic

Description of the discussion.

## V. Consent Agenda

- a. **Motion to support proposed LA County Pharmaceutical and Sharps Collection and Disposal Stewardship Ordinance (WRAC / GB021617-13)**
  - b. **Motion to call for equal protection for all travelers to the U.S. (Exec / GB021617-14)**
    - Removed
    - (moved to unfinished Business)
  - c. **Draft meeting minutes of 19 January 2017 (Hirsch / GB031617-1)**
  - d. **Draft meeting minutes of 16 February 2017 (Hirsch / GB031617-2)**
  - e. **Motion of support for the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates 2017 white paper (Exec / GB031617-3)**
  - f. **Motion to support the creation of an LA Cannabis Licensing Commission (Fitzsimmons / GB031617-4)**
    - Removed
    - (*Moved to new Business*)
  - g. **Motion to request baseline data on population density and zoning capacities for growth (WRAC / GB031617-5)**
  - i. **Motion to support the LAPD Back to Basic Car proposal (WRAC / GB031617-6)**
    - Removed
    - (*Moved to new Business*)
- **Moved by Beth Hirsch. Seconded by Jon Liberman**
  - **All remaining items on the Consent Agenda accepted by general consent**

## VI. Committee Reports

- a. **Confirmation of Board committee membership (GB031617-7)**
  - Jon Liberman joins the By-Laws Committee and Robertson Revitalization Committee
- **Requests confirmed by general consent**

### President's Report.

Reminder that all correspondence regarding NC Business is public information even if it is in a private email. And will be subject to public request. Only use SORO NC email accounts to do NC business. Also, no email chains of more than 6 people on subjects that may come before the board.

Nominations are now open for The Susan Bursk Community Service Award and the Green Citizenship Awards to be given out at the SoRo festival in June.



**Treasurer Report.**

Funds remaining: \$23,385.68

**Approval of monthly expenses (Lieberman / GB031617-8)**

**Set Finance Committee Meeting for Sunday April 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

- Marj Safinia moved to accept the report; Noa Zarur.
- Vote: 17-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Report accepted

**Committee and Liaison Reports, Events, and Legislative Issues.**

**Quality of Life.** Beth Hirsch

- SoRo Community Festival preparations have begun. Sunday June 4<sup>th</sup> 11-4pm
- Digital and Computer Literacy Program has its Launch this Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup> 1:30 to 4pm. Classes begin March 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Outreach/Robertson Revitalization.** Marj Safinia/Doug

- Great streets Build Grant.
- Numerous calls and meetings with City Consultants
- Designed an outreach plan
- Approximately 7 public meetings planned for outreach.
- Surveys
- West Adams Community Plan. There will be a Motion in Council to ask Planning to give development funds to the NC for zoning issues that may arise.

## VII. Special Orders

- a. **Application of Carlo Matricardi and Steve Chocron for vacant Zone 3 Representative seat / interim appointment through next NC election (GB031617-9)**

**Brief comments from Candidates. Brief questions from the Board.**

**Vote: Carlo M. 4. Steve C. 14. Steve Chocron wins the seat.**

**Doug moved; Michael seconded.**

- Nomination approved by general consent

## VIII. Unfinished Business

- a. **Motion to call for equal protection for all travelers to the U.S. (Exec / GB021617-14) *item b removed from Consent agenda.***

**Presentation by Doug Fitzsimmons:**

Vigorous and emotional Board Questions and debate. Many on the board felt that the motion was inappropriate for the NC to weigh in on as it was mainly a federal issue and not a local one. Doug explained that SORO has one of the largest Iranian populations in the city and therefore would affect us locally.

- **Moved by Beth Hirsch. Seconded by Marj Safinia.**
- **Motion was made by Tom Eliopoulos to table the Motion indefinitely.**
- **Seconded by Mike Lynn.**
- **Vote to table: Y – 8, N – 10, A – 0. Amendment Fails.**
- **Amendment proposed by Victor Mitry to add the word “legally” enter the U.S.**



- **Seconded by Jon Liberman.**
- **Vote: Y – 6. N - 12. A – 0. Amendment Fails.**
- **Call to Vote: Y – 8, N – 10, A – 0. Motion to end debate fails.**

**Debate continued:** regarding the current executive orders by our President: Many felt that it is inappropriate to discuss a divisive issue like this. That the notion should be debated in higher government and not by the NC.

Jon Liberman made the comment that although that may be a good point, a community, no matter how small, should be able to come together and discuss an issue of values with civility.

- **Vote: Y – 9. N – 9. A – 0. Tied Motion Fails.**

**f. Motion to support the creation of an LA Cannabis Licensing Commission (Fitzsimmons / GB031617-4)**

- **Doug moved it. Jon Seconded it.**
- **Motion passed by consent**

**Motion to support the LAPD Back to Basic Car proposal (WRAC / GB031617-6)**  
*Moved from consent agenda.*

- **Moved by Jon Liberman. Seconded by Beth Hirsch.**

Charlie Stein feels that the City Council should dictate what the Police budget should be used for. Feel LACC should give the LAPD their budget and let the department decide how to spend it.

Beth Hirsch asked if Charlie knows for sure that the Police don't want the budget for the extra cars. Aren't the Police in support of this proposal.

Yvette made the comment that no one would vote for an increase without knowing where the funds would go.

**Vote: Y – 12. N – 3. A – 2. Motion Passes.**

## **VIII. New Business**

**a. Motion to support condo project at 1415-1421 Reeves St & 9573 Alcott St (Land Use / GB031617-10)**

**Presentation by Krystal Navar.** – Project is by-right, company has provided adequate parking and the Land Use Committee recommends the project.

- **Moved by Adam. Seconded by Michael Bloom.**
- **Vote: Y – 13. N – 2. A – 2. Motion passes to support project.**

**b. Motion to amend bylaws regarding qualifications for Executive Officer positions (Bylaws / GB031617-11)**

- **Moved by Jon Liberman. Adam seconded.**
- **Vote: Y – 18, N – 0. A -1. Motion passes.**



- c. **Motion to revise the Bylaws section regarding removal of Board members (Bylaws / GB031617-12)**
  - **Moved by Beth Hirsch. Seconded by Noa.**
  - **Vote: Y – 11. N – 6. A – 2. Motion Fails.**
  
- d. **Motion to update Bylaws Article V, Section 4 (using leap years to establish NC staggered election terms) (Bylaws / GB031617-13)**
  - **Moved by Charlie Stein. Seconded by Noa Zarur.**
  - **Motion by Doug to table until next meeting.**
  - **Seconded by Jon Liberman.**
  - **Passed by consent.**
  
- e. **Motion to fund \$215 for website hosting for WRAC (Exec / GB031617-14)**
  - **Moved by Sue Burden. Seconded by Victor Mitry.**
  - **Vote: Y – 18. N – 0. A – 0. Motion passes.**

## **IX. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00pm.



## 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	S	C
Charlie Stein	C	C	Y	Y	Y	N	N	A	C	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	X	
Alex Mosby	C	C	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	C	Y	A	N	C	Y	X	
Steve Chocron										A	Y	Y	C	Y		
Giovanni Ferdinand	C	C	X	N	N	N	Y	Y	C	N	Y	Y	C	Y	X	
Bryan Warman																
Michael Lynn	C	C	Y	Y	N	Y	N	N	C	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	X	
Jon Liberman	C	C	Y	N	Y	N	Y	Y	C	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	X	
Doug Fitzsimmons	C	C	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	C	Y	Y	N	C	Y		X
Adam Rich	C	C	Y	Y	N	Y	N	Y	C	N	Y	Y	C	Y		X
Michael Bloom	C	C	Y	Y	Y	N	N	Y	C	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	X	
Ken Blaker	C	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	C	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	X	
Nahed Guirguis																
Krystal Návar	C	C	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	C	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	X	
Tom Eliopoulos	C	C	Y	Y	N	Y	N	A	C	N	Y	A	C	Y	X	
Gary Kasbarian																
Beth Hirsch	C	C	Y	N	N	Y	Y	N	C	Y	Y	N	C	Y		X
Barry Levine	C	C	Y	N	N	Y	Y	Y	C	A	Y	Y	C	Y	X	
Marj Safinia	C	C	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	C	Y	Y	N	C	Y		X
Susan Burden	C	C	Y	N	N	N	Y	Y	C	Y	Y	A	C	Y	X	
Martin Epstein																
Victor Mitry	C	C	Y	N	Y	Y	N	Y	C	X	Y	N	C	Y	X	
Dan Fink																
Vacant																
Yvette Edidin	C	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	Y	C	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	X	
Noa Zarur	C	C	IE	Y	N	N	N	Y	C	Y	Y	N	C	IE	X	

### Votes taken

1. Consent agenda March 16, 2017
2. Confirmation of Board committee memberships and absences (GB031617-7)
3. Approval of monthly expenses (GB031617-8)
4. Application of Carlo Matricardi and Steve Chocron for vacant Zone 3 Representative seat (GB031617-9)
5. Motion to call for equal protection for all travelers to the U.S. (Exec / GB021617-14) *item b removed from Consent agenda*
6. Vote to table indefinitely – fails.
7. Amendment proposed by Victor Mitry to add the word “legally”, fails.
8. Call to Vote: Y – 8, N – 10, A – 0. Motion to end debate fails.
9. Motion to support condo project at 1415-1421 Reeves St & 9573 Alcott St (Land Use / GB031617-10)



10. Motion to support the creation of an LA Cannabis Licensing Commission (Fitzsimmons / GB031617-4)
11. Motion to support the LAPD Back to Basic Car proposal (WRAC / GB031617-6) *Moved from consent agenda.*
12. Motion to amend bylaws regarding qualifications for Executive Officer positions (Bylaws / GB031617-11)
13. Motion to table update Bylaws Article V, Section 4 (using leap years to establish NC staggered election terms) (Bylaws / GB031617-13)
14. Motion to fund \$215 for website hosting for WRAC (Exec / GB031617-14)