



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 26, 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 7:10.

Board Members Present: Charlie Stein, Alex Mosby, Steve Chocron, Giovanni Ferdinand, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Doug Fitzsimmons, Adam Rich, Ken Blaker, Nahed Guirguis, Krystal Návar, Gary Kasbarian, Tom Eliopoulos, Beth Hirsch, Barry Levine, Marj Safinia, Martin Epstein, Victor Mitry, Linda Theung

Board Members Absent: Bryan Warman, Sue Burden, Dan Fink, Yvette Edidin,

Guests: Usbaldo Ramirez – Hamilton High, South Robertson Youth Leadership Group

II. General Public Comment & Board Announcements

Usbaldo Ramirez – Hamilton High School, South Robertson Youth Leadership Group Announced the Community Art Show beginning November 12 at the Robertson Public Library.

III. Community Reports

Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (Empower LA) – Jasmine Elbarbarry

- Presented the Empower LA Award to SORONC for its work on the Homelessness Town Hall in November 2016
- SORO NC is being officially honored for our 15 year anniversary on November 7th.

Office of Council President Wesson. Elizabeth Carlin

- Annual Winter Wonderland – Date TBD. Need volunteers.

Office of Councilmember Koretz. Joseph Galloway

- **Robertson Recreation Center** – Delays in the beginning of the construction due to pending approvals from the City Attorney's Office.
- **New Trash cans available for CD 5 - 10** reserved for South Robertson Blvd. Please apply by end of the October. (Beth Hirsch applied)
- **Speed Hump** – installation on Livonia Ave, between Pickford and Airdrome.
- **Irving Schachter Park** – received new play equipment and water fountain.

Office LAFD - Terry Gomes – CERT for Battalion 18

- Asking for support from the Neighborhood Councils to ask for funding to hire an additional 4 CERT instructors to train NC's on Disaster Preparedness and Safety.

Office of LAPD – New West LA LAPD Area Captain Valencia Thomas – Introduced herself and thanked the community for their continued support.

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Ken Blaker
Vice-President

Jon Liberman
Treasurer

Beth Hirsch
Secretary

Martin Epstein
Corresponding Secretary

**South Robertson
Neighborhoods Council**

PO Box 35836
Los Angeles, CA 90035

P: (310) 295-9920
F: (310) 295-9906
E: info@soronc.org

soronc.org





V. Presentation and Board Discussion

Presentation topic LA Bureau of Sanitation - Bryan Choorut,

a. **Major sewer repair project along La Cienega and Crescent Heights Blvds.** LA Bureau of Engineering scheduled to begin next month. With a Break during the holidays. Will resume again in January. For questions regarding the project please visit san.lacity.org or call the City of Los Angeles Public Affairs Office at **213-978-0333**.

V. Consent Agenda

- a. **Draft meeting minutes of 17 August 2017 (Hirsch / GB102617-1)**
 - b. **Motion to address tree removals under the Sidewalk Repair Program (WRAC / GB102617- 2)**
 - c. **Motion to call for City divestment from Wells Fargo Bank (WRAC / GB102617-3) - (Removed to New Business)**
 - d. **Motion to address issues with RecycLA Franchise Waste Program (WRAC / GB102617-4) - (Removed to new Business)**
 - e. **Motion to reduce parking requirements for therapy practices (WRAC / GB102617-5)**
- **Moved by Jon Liberman. Seconded by Beth Hirsch.**
 - **Remainder of Consent Agenda accepted by general consent**

VI. Committee Reports

- a. **Changes to Board committee membership (GB102617-6)**
 - **None**

President's Report.

Had final **Great Streets Presentation to the community**. Was a huge success! Presentation is available on line and plans have been submitted to the city. Updates on projects will be presented at future board meetings.

Board Terms have been extended by the city for one year to 2019.

Treasurer Report.

- b. **Approval of monthly expenses (Liberman / GB102617-7)**

Funds remaining - August – 36,483.90.

- **Moved by Doug Fitzsimmons. Seconded by Martin Epstein.**
- **Vote: 18-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Report accepted.**

Funds remaining: September - \$36,445.73.

- **Vote: 17-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Report accepted.**

Outreach/ Great Streets. Meeting October 30th. Last one until January 2018.

VII. Special Orders

- a. **Nomination of Adam Rich as Public Safety Vice-Chair (Public Safety / GB102617-8)**
 - **Moved by Marj Safinia. Seconded by Beth Hirsch.**
 - **Nomination accepted by general consent.**



- b. Selection of two Boardmembers for DONE's Civic U 2.0 (Mondays from 6–9 pm, January 8, 22, 29 and February 5) (GB102617-9)
 - Ken Blaker and John Liberman are nominated.
 - Nominations accepted by general consent.

VIII. New Business

- a. Motion to oppose installation of a wireless telecommunication facility at 2512 S. Robertson (Land Use / GB102617-10)

Motion Presentation by Doug Fitzsimmons in opposition of the previously rejected Cell Tower installation project. Recommendation Letter will be sent to New ZA hearing scheduled in January in addition to the 108 letters that were sent to the ZA from the public all in opposition to the cell tower placement.

Presentation of New proposal by Verizon – Bill Desden (sp)

changing the height from 54ft to 52ft, from a pine tree to a Eucalyptus tree. Bill D. asked a high school student who attended the event to speak to issues he experienced of poor Verizon coverage at Hamilton High School. Verizon explained even though they already have many cell towers in the area, they still need to cover approximately one square mile around the Beverlywood area in the center of the SORO district. Verizon claims that there is no other available location to put the tower. Two board members who live in the Beverlywood area gave antidotal stories of poor cell tower coverage.

Board Questions and Debate – Most board members expressed concerns about the damage the tower would do to the vacant restaurant property that Verizon would place the tower on. The potential harm to our Great Streets project. The cost to a developer if they had to remove or work around the tower placement. That this would most likely impede potential development and ruin the parking lot area which would also keep it from being developed as a restaurant.

Public comment – Numerous members of the community spoke; heated interruptions of Verizon's presentation all in opposition and disagreement of the project placement and the claims that Verizon has no other place to put the tower. Numerous concerns about the harm it could do to the future of the development of the property and the Robertson Blvd Strip.

Moved by Doug Fitzsimmons. Seconded by Beth Hirsch.

Vote: Y – 11. 3 – N. 2 – A. One Recusal.

- b. Motion to sponsor and fund a “Coffee with A Cop” event up to \$500 (Public Safety / GB102617-11)

Moved by Marj Safina. Seconded by Giovanni Ferdinand.

Vote: 16 – Y. 0 – N. 0 – A.

- c. Motion to call for City divestment from Wells Fargo Bank (WRAC / GB102617-3) - *(Removed from Consent Agenda)* Tabled until next General Board meeting.
- d. Motion to address issues with RecycLA Franchise Waste Program (WRAC / GB102617-4) - *(Removed from Consent Agenda)* Tabled until next General Board meeting.



IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50pm.



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

Votes taken

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2. Approval of monthly expenses (Liberman / GB102617-7) August
3. Approval of monthly expenses (Liberman / GB102617-7) September
4. Nomination of Adam Rich as Public Safety Vice-Chair (Public Safety / GB102617-8)
5. DONE's Civic U 2.0 (Mondays from 6–9 pm, January 8, 22, 29 and February 5) (GB102617-9)
6. Motion to oppose installation of a wireless telecommunication facility at 2512 S. Robertson (Land Use / GB102617-10)
7. Motion to sponsor and fund a “Coffee With A Cop” event up to \$500 (Public Safety / GB102617-11)