



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 15, 2015, 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 Treasurer Terry Gomes called the meeting to order at 7:10.

Board Members Present: Giovanni Ferdinand (arrived at 7:48), Roger McCracken, Michael Lynn, Paula Waxman, Michael Bloom (Left at 8:00), Ken Blaker (arrived at 7:49), Nahed Guirguis, Robyn Braun, Barry Levine, Beth Hirsch, Susan Burden (arrived at 7:57), Terrence Gomes, Martin Epstein, Victor Mitry, Leo Portal, Dan Fink

Board Members Absent: Kevin Gres, Kimber Smith, Jon Liberman, Mike Bitton, Jon Liberman, Doug Fitzsimmons, Aimee Zeltzer, Marj Safinia, Noa Zarur

Guests: Alfred Colletta – running for Judge,
Public: Paul Gerst, Erin Wilson, Tal Grinblat, Jonny Norton, Deni Mosser, Sylvia Moore, Harry Rosenfeld, Stephanie Ripps, Nick Sparks,

II. General Public Comment

- Alfred Colletta – Former LA Prosecutor running for Judge
- Ellen Lanet- Expressed concerns about billboard on Mr. C's Hotels
- Representative from Verizon Wireless- inquiring about when they would be placed on the Agenda regarding cell tower on top of 3344 Castle Heights Blvd apartment building. They have outreached to the community.

III. Community Reports

LAPD Report. Eric Jackson – assigned to work with SLO Mario Gonzales.

- Report that violent crime is still low, but property crime is up city and nationwide.
- Passed out flyers and crime prevention tips.
- Questions from public regarding Catalytic converter thefts.

Office of Council President Wesson. Liz Carlin

- Thanked SORO Board for their work in outreaching to the community regarding the Verizon Cell Tower on Robertson Blvd. Project under advisement until February 2nd.
- The Citywide Planning Commission is having a hearing on the West Adams Community Plan on February 11.

Liz gave a report for Joseph Galloway, deputy from Paul Koretz's Office

- Board Project Summary available online for the Robertson Recreation Center.
- Thank you to the Neighborhood Council and the Quality of Life Committee for working with the Alcott Center for Mental Health Services to help the homeless in our area.

IV. Consent Agenda

- Draft meeting minutes of November 19, 2015 (Hirsch / GB012116-1)**
Correction to Treasurer Report Balance. \$38,854.63

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Kevin Gres
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Hirsch
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



Vote 9 – Y, 0 – N, A – 4. Minutes accepted.

b. Draft special meeting minutes of November 19, 2015 (Hirsch / GB0121162)

Vote: 9 – Y, 0 – N, 4 – A. Minutes accepted.

c. Draft meeting minutes of December 17, 2015 (Hirsch / GB012116-3)

Vote: 11 – Y, 0 – N, 2 – A. Minutes accepted.

V. Committee Reports

a. Confirmation of Board committee membership (GB012116-4)

1. Nahed Guirguirs and Ken Blaker to Quality of Life Committee
2. Ken Blaker to Land Use.
3. Ken Blaker to Robertson Revitalization
 - Requests confirmed by general consent

Treasurer Report -

Approval of monthly expenses (Gomes / GB012116-5)

Funds Spent : \$552.82

Funds remaining: \$ 38,854.63.

- Moved by Terry; Roger seconded.
- Vote: 13-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Report accepted.

Land Use. Homeless Count Jan 27th. Need Volunteers. Contact beth Hirsch to Sign up.

Education. New Principal at Hamilton High Fonna Bishop

Green Team. Paula Waxman -Backyard Fruit Harvest. Fruit will be going to SOVA Food Pantry, January 31st.

Public Safety. Car Seat Safety Check Event – Sunday Feb 21st , 8866 West Pico Blvd. 11am to 3pm.

Elections: Beth Hirsch – 13 seats available – Jeff Zimmerman from DONE spoke offering his support to the Committee. Candidate registration begins February 21st online at Empower LA Elections page. Elections are June 5th at this year's SORO Festival.

VI. Special Orders

a. Nomination of Dan Fink for Vice-Chair of the Quality of Life Committee (GB012116-6)

Beth moved nomination; Mike Lynn seconded.

- Nomination approved by general consent

VII. Unfinished Business

a. Open public comment on the proposed cell tower at Robertson Blvd.

1 comment (by email) in favor of the placement of the tower from Suzanne Laff, felt it was important for more enhanced service for business and residents of the area.

4 letters opposing tower were submitted by Deni Mosser from neighbors that could not attend.

8 comments in opposition to the tower included:

- concerns that tower is too large for the scale of the neighborhood



- Tower will be an eyesore
- increase in crime, littering and graffiti,
- deterrent to much need redevelopment on Robertson Blvd which is affecting property values,
- anger with the property owner for not developing the property, feel the tower leaves them with significant revenue and no incentive to develop.
- Community is not convinced that there is a need, reception seems fine,
- will reduce surrounding property values
- possible health effects,
- permanent structure that cannot be moved,

Terry Gomes - Chair of Land Use expressed that the board was working hard to convince absentee landlords to be open to developing vacant properties. That after public comment tonight the Land Use Committee would put it on next the next LUED February Agenda and discuss bringing it back to the board in March.

VIII. New Business

- a. **Motion to approve \$4,500 for 2016 NC Election budget (Hirsch / GB012116-7)**

Moved by Paula Waxman. Seconded by Robyn Braun.

- **Vote: 14 – Y, 0 – N, 0 – A. Motion passes.**

- b. **Community Impact Statement and Letter to Council President Herb Wesson to move Ethics Commission recommendation of 6 to 1 matching funds out of committee and to the full Council (Levine / GB012116-8)**

Moved by Robyn Braun. Seconded by Paula Waxman.

Public Comment from Sylvia Moore from California Common Cause-

Made a plea for the board to vote for this to make city elections more fair to candidates that cannot or would not have access to special interest funding.

Discussion by the board – about funding and where it would come from.

Was determine that it would most likely come from the general the General Fund.

- **Motion approved by general consent.**

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.



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
Kevin Gres	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
Kimber Smith	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
Mike Bitton	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
Giovanni Ferdinand	X	X	X	X	C	Y	C								
Roger McCracken	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	C								
Michael Lynn	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	C								
Jon Liberman	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
Doug Fitzsimmons	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
Paula Waxman	Y	Y	A	Y	C	Y	C								
Michael Bloom	A	A	Y	Y	C	X	X								
Ken Blaker	X	X	X	X	C	Y	C								
Nahed Guirguis	A	A	Y	Y	C	X	Y								
Robyn Braun	A	A	A	Y	C	Y	C								
Aimee Zeltzer	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
Beth Hirsch	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	C								
Susan Burden	X	X	X	X	C	Y	C								
Marj Safinia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
Terrence Gomes	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	C								
Martin Epstein	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	C								
Victor Mitry	A	A	Y	Y	C	Y	C								
Leo Portal	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	C								
Dan Fink	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	C								
Barry Levine	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	Y	C								
Noa Zarur	X	X	X	X	X	X	X								
School Rep 2															

Votes taken

1. Draft meeting minutes November 19, 2016 (GB012116-1)
2. Draft special meeting minutes of November 19, 2015 (GB0121162)
3. Draft meeting minutes of December 17, 2015 (GB012116-3)
4. Approval of monthly expenses (GB012116-5)
5. Confirmation of Board committee membership (GB012116-4)
6. Nomination of Dan Fink for Vice-Chair of the Quality of Life Committee (GB012116-6)
7. Motion to approve \$4,500 for 2016 NC Election budget (GB012116-7)
8. Community Impact Statement and Letter to Council President Herb Wesson to move Ethics Commission recommendation of 6 to 1 matching funds out of committee and to the full Council (GB012116-8)