



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 18, 2014, 7:00pm
Simon Wiesenthal Center 3rd Floor
1399 S. Roxbury Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035

I. Call to Order and Roll Call

SORO NC Vice President Kevin Gres called the meeting to order at 7:15.

Board Members Present: Kevin Gres, Kimber Smith, Melissande Colton, Giovanni Ferdinand, Bette Billet, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Paula Waxman, Michael Bloom, Robyn Braun, Aimee Zeltzer, Beth Hirsch, Susan Burden, Terrence Gomes, Victor Mitry, Leo Portal, Sherilyn Correa, Barry Levine

Board Members Absent: Doug Fitzsimmons, Marj Safinia, Victoria Martin, Nahed Guirguis, Martin Epstein, Grant Cohen

Guests: Cedar Landsman the Director of Outreach and Development for
The Relational Center

Owner of Undergrind Cafe

II. General Public Comment

- Board Member Barry Levine opened discussion about the double (possibly fatal) shooting on Dec 17th, 8900 block of Robertson and Kramerwood, suspects still at large
- Michael Bloom, let everyone know he has free menorahs from Assembly member Bloom's office

III. Community Reports

No Community reports due to holiday schedule

IV. Presentation and Board Discussion

Presentation topic: The Relational Center,
A new non-profit community wellness center on South Robertson Blvd.
Mission to help create more empathetic communities
Offers services such as:

- yoga, dance, poetry and art classes,
- Massage and other healing arts
- Professional counseling, psychotherapy and support groups for families, couples and individuals
- Community outreach activities and support of existing action groups, civic engagement organizations, teen organizations and schools. (Anti bullying programs)
- Meeting rooms and office workspace areas available for public use
- Membership fees based on a sliding scale according to need and income
 - o Questions from the Board regarding funding and credentials (Annenberg Foundation)
 - o Terry expressed boards concerns about their frosted over windows/not appearing to be open to public. Cedar explained that it

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Kevin Gres
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Beth Hirsch
Secretary

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was done by the building management, not the center's choice and they were working to get it changed.

- **Undergrind Cafe:** Officially introduced themselves and thanked the SORO community for their support as they were opening and for the Kickstarter funding support.

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Sherelyn and Giovania entered the meeting late

V. New Business

Motion to formally adopt a consent agenda as part of the NC's standing rules (Fitzsimmons / GB121814-1)

1. **Moved by Terry and 2nded Barry**
2. **Vote: 12-Y, 0-N, 4-A. Motion passes.**

VI. Consent Agenda

- Draft meeting minutes of November 20, 2014 (Hirsch / GB121814-2)
- **Minutes moved from Consent Calendar by Kimber**, due to some board members still unsure about how consent works, some members want to be able to abstain from voting on minutes for meetings they did not attend.
- **Vote: 13 -Y, 0 -N, 3-A. Minutes approved.**

VI. Committee Reports

- **Confirmation of Board committee membership (GB121814-4) tabled**
- **Treasurer's report & monthly expenses approval (Gomes / GB121814-5)**
- New Funding Motion form, - all funding motions have to be sent into the dept for approval before voting
- \$359.41 spent this month. Funds remaining \$35,225.11

(Michael Bloom left the meeting)

1Kimber moved to accept Treasury report, Beth seconded
Vote: 15 – yes 0, N, 0-A. Report approved.

- **Upcoming committee events and legislative issues**
Board strategy and budget retreat on January 11
General discussion about time: Board seemed to agree on an afternoon meeting.

VIII. New Business

- **a. Motion to condemn recent bullying and threats of violence on UCLA's campus (Gres / GB121814-6)**
Withdrawn by Kevin- Tabled
- **b. Motion to adopt the City's recommended Code of Civility into the NC's**
Withdrawn by Terry
- **Standing Rules (Gomes / GB121814-7)**
Withdrawn by Terry
- **Motion to create a SORO NC Community Grant program for \$5,000 (Gomes / GB121814-8)**
Moved by Jon, Seconded by Terry



General discussion: Kimber concerned that there is not enough time in the fiscal year to spend this \$5000., also concerned that therefore it would be unavailable for use in other committees or categories. Want more flexibility. Terry argued that the NPG money is supposed to be spent on community projects by the board. Money is not being spent at all.

Vote: 10-Y, N-3, 2-A

(Aimee left the meeting)

- **Motion to approve 2015 General Board meeting calendar (Fitzsimmons / GB121814-9)**

Moved and seconded

Discussion on all possible conflicts and none found)

Motion to amend Adding Jan 11th (Board retreat) to Calendar and fixing Typo from 2014 to 2015.

Vote on entire Motion to approve Calendar: 16 - yes, 0 – N, 0- A

Final Note from Kevin: All motions are supposed to be read ahead of time, before Board meetings and all Technical questions emailed to Kevin Gres ahead of time.

IX. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.



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	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Kimber Smith	A	A	Y	A	Y										
Melissande Colton	A	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Giovanni Ferdinand	X	X	X	N	Y										
Bette Billet	Y	Y	Y	N	Y										
Michael Lynn	Y	A	Y	Y	Y										
Jon Liberman	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Doug Fitzsimmons	X	X	X	X	X										
Paula Waxman	Y	A	Y	N	Y										
Michael Bloom	Y	Y	Y	X	X										
Victoria Martin	X	X	X	X	X										
Nahed Guirguis	X	X	X	X	X										
Robyn Braun	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Aimee Zeltzer	Y	Y	Y	X	X										
Beth Hirsch	Y	Y	Y	A	Y										
Susan Burden	A	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Marj Safinia	X	X	X	X	X										
Terrence Gomes	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Martin Epstein	X	X	X	X	X										
Victor Mitry	A	A	Y	Y	Y										
Leo Portal	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Sherilyn Correa	X	X	X	Y	Y										
Barry Levine	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y										
Grant Cohen	X	X	X	X	X										

Votes taken

1. Motion to Formally Adopt a Consent Agenda (GB121814-1) Motion Passes
2. Draft Meeting Minutes November 20, 2014 (GB121814-2) Passes
3. Approval of monthly expenses (GB121814-4) Passes
4. Motion to Create a SORO NC Community Grant \$5000. (GB121814-8) Passes
5. Motion to Approve 2015 General Board Meeting Calendar GB121814-9) Passes