



# General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 15, 2013, 7:00pm

Simon Wiesenthal Center, 3rd Floor

1399 S. Roxbury Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035 (Pico and Roxbury)

## I. Call to Order & Roll Call

SORO Board President, Doug Fitzsimmons, called the meeting to order at 7:20PM.

**Board Members Present (16):** Kevin Gres, Beth Ryan, Robyn Braun, Bette Billet, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Ellen Lanet, Paula Waxman, David Mattis, Brian Kite, Barry Levine, Terrence Gomes, Victor Mitry, Doug Fitzsimmons, Grant Cohen and Sarah Sabin.

**Board Members Absent (8):** Kimber Smith, Michael Bloom, Bethie Kohanbash, Nahed Guirguis, Susan Burden, Marj Safinia, Martin Epstein and Hector Garza.

## II. General Public Comment

- a. There will be free trees at the Farmers Market

## III. Applicant for open Board seat

- a. School Representative 2 (student seat, one-year term): Sarah Sabin
  - i. Sarah is a sophomore at Hamilton High School and lives in Beverlywood. Worked at Green Beginnings this summer.
- Moved by Doug Fitzsimmons and seconded by Jon Liberman.
- Sarah was unanimously approved by general consensus. (13 board members voted)

## IV. Community Reports

- a. LA Police Department (Ballesteros & Gonzalez)
  - i. Officer Gonzalez reported on a shooting that took place on 8/12/13 on the Hamilton campus at 9:45 PM. No students were involved. The victim was shot two times and was very uncooperative and not believed to live in this area.
- b. Office of Council President Wesson (Liz Carlin)
  - i. Thanks for another successful Movies in the Park. There were roughly 750 people in attendance. Collaborators were Reynier Village Neighborhood Association, LAPD, Cadets, Fire Department and SORO NC.
  - ii. Next movie is on 8/16/13 in Queen Anne Park where they are expecting 1,000 people and showing Madagascar 3.
  - iii. There will be a special hearing regarding the labor negotiations with DWP.
  - iv. West LAPD is looking for cadets in the middle school and high school age group.
- c. Office of Assemblymember Bloom (Stephanie Cohen)
  - i. SB173 (community college) and SB520 (on-line courses) were made into 2 year bills.
  - ii. Senior scam event for seniors and caregivers on August 9<sup>th</sup> was well attended.
  - iii. Assemblymember Bloom's office has secured the National Guard and CHP for SORO's Public Safety event.
- d. Office of Assemblymember Mitchell (Moy)
  - i. AB309 Approves CalFresh benefits for all homeless youth.
  - ii. AB1323 Fracking bill amended and sent to appropriations.
  - iii. Obamacare Open Enrollment begins on October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- e. LA Fire Department Report (Chief Andrew Wordin)

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Brian Kite**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Beth Ryan**  
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



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Neighborhood Council



- i. No fires in SORO to report. Have a mutual aid agreement and sends strike teams out from Station 68.
- f. Other Neighborhood, City and State offices

**V. Approval of Minutes**

- a. Draft meeting minutes for July 18 and special meeting minutes for July 21, 2013 (Ryan / GB081513-1)
  - Moved by Jon Liberman and seconded by Beth Ryan.
  - Minutes were unanimously approved by general consensus. (14 board members voted)

**VI. Committee Reports**

- a. Acceptance of Board attendance records for July 2012-June 2013 (Ryan / GB081513-2)

AMENDMENT: To wipe record clean and start approval of attendance from this month's meeting.

- Jon Liberman moved the motion and it was seconded by Victor Mityr.
- Amendment was approved by the board.
- Vote Count was: (9 YES/7 NO/0 Abstain).

MOTION: To remove committee reports and just vote on the board member attendance records, add leave of absences and month board member started.

- Ellen Lanet moved the motion and it was seconded by Kevin Gres.
- Motion was approved by the board.
- Vote Count was: (16 YES/0 NO/0 Abstain).

- b. Confirmation of Board committee memberships and absence requests (GB081513-3)
  - Motion unanimously approved by the board with 16 board members voting.

- c. President's report

Bylaws clearly state that a board member can miss no more than 5 board meetings in one year. A board member can not miss more than 3 board meetings in a row. And must attend a minimum of 7 SORO NC committee meetings in a twelve month time period.

Board members can request a leave of absence. We represent the voters who elected us to serve and represent them. We can not do that if we are not at the table.

Congratulations to David Mattis who got married since the last time we saw him.

- d. Treasurer's report and approval of monthly expenses (Gomes / GB081513-4)
  - Doug Fitzsimmons moved the motion and it was seconded by Jon Liberman.
  - Motion was approved by the board.
  - Vote Count was: (15 YES/0 NO/1 Abstain).
- ii. Financial training
  - Financial training requirements – all board members need to complete the financial training – either online or in person – in order to be able to vote on funding motions



## VII. Unfinished Business

- a. Motion to approve changes to the LA Neighborhood Council Coalition bylaws (Fitzsimmons / GB071813-9)

AMENDMENT: No action to be taken with less than 48 votes.

- Doug Fitzsimmons moved the motion and it was seconded by Paula Waxman.
- Amendment was NOT approved by the board.
- Vote Count was: (5 YES/10 NO/0 Abstain).

AMENDMENT: Any member who votes can only represent one Neighborhood Council.

- Jon Liberman moved the motion and it was seconded by Robyn Braun.
- Amendment was NOT approved by the board.
- Vote Count was: (3 YES/11 NO/2 Abstain).

AMENDMENT: To approve the proposed changes to the LANCC bylaws with the following provisions:

- a. Article I, Section 2, Item 1 currently says that LANCC "...is not intended to usurp or interfere with the role of individual NCs to voice opinions or positions on issues. This organization cannot and will not attempt to speak for any certified neighborhood council on any issue unless specifically empowered to do so by that neighborhood council's governing board. This organization reserves the right to refer to official positions taken by certified neighborhood council." It is a fundamental, animating principle of the organization, and that language should be retained in the revised bylaws.
- b. In the spirit of inclusiveness and transparency, LANCC should run its meetings in accordance with the Brown Act. Doing so would also increase the legitimacy of its decisions within City Hall.
- c. The bylaws and standing rules for the body should be publicly accessible.
- d. Amendments to the bylaws should require ratification by a 2/3 majority of responding member NCs within a two month period after the LANCC body votes to approve.
- e. Article I, Section 3 should include and define composition of a Board of NC Delegates within the organization structure: "The voting membership shall include one representative from each participating NC."
- Doug Fitzsimmons moved the motion and it was seconded by Brian Kite.
  - Amendment was approved by general consensus with 16 board members voting.

MOTION: To approve changes to the LA Neighborhood Council Coalition bylaws (Fitzsimmons / GB071813-9)

- Doug Fitzsimmons moved the motion and it was seconded by Brian Kite.
- Amendment was approved by general consensus with 16 board members voting.

- b. Motion to support the suspension and re-evaluation of DWP's FIT-100 program (Gomes / GB071813-10)
- Jon Liberman moved the motion and it was seconded by Brian Kite.
  - Motion was NOT approved by the board.
  - Vote Count was: (4 YES/10 NO/0 Abstain).

## VIII. New Business

- a. Resolution to support the Peace Picnic (Smith / GB081513-5)



- Jon Liberman moved the motion and it was seconded by Michael Lynn.
  - Motion was unanimously approved by the board with 15 board members voting.
- b. Motion to Fund 2013 SORO NC Town Hall Emergency Preparedness Safety Fair for \$1993.90 (Lynn / GB081513-6)
- WITHDRAWN
- c. Motion to align NC efforts and funding towards the revitalization of South Robertson (Fitzsimmons / GB081513-7)
- Michael Lynn moved the motion and it was seconded by Grant Cohen.
  - Motion was approved by the board.
  - Vote Count was: (14 YES/0 NO/1 Abstain).

**IX. Adjournment**

The SORO NC Board President, Doug Fitzsimmons, adjourned the meeting at 10:21 PM.



## Current Committee Membership

Board members must attend at least 7 committee meetings within a 12 month period.

Note that Bylaws, Robertson Revitalization, Board Development, and Parks & Recreation ad hoc committees may have no more than 6 voting members.

Committee	Education	Green Team	Land Use	Outreach	Public Safety	Trans- portation	Finance	Exec	Bylaws	Robertson Revital	Board Dev	NPG	Parks & Rec
Kevin Gres	Co												
Kimber Smith				Co									
Beth Ryan											Ch		
Robyn Braun													
Bette Billet													
Michael Lynn					Co								
Jon Liberman						Co							
Ellen Lanet						Co							
Paula Waxman		Ch											
Michael Bloom					Co								
Bethie Kohanbash													
Nahed Guirguis													
David Mattis													
Brian Kite									Ch				Co
Barry Levine	Co												
Susan Burden													
Marj Safinia				Co						Ch			
Terrence Gomes			Co				Ch					Ch	
Martin Epstein													
Hector Garza													
Victor Mitry			Co										
Org 3													
Doug Fitzsimmons								Ch					Co
Grant Cohen													
Sarah Sabin													



# Board Vote Tally Sheet

Meeting Date: August 15, 2013

Votes taken	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Kevin Gres	Y	C	N	Y	C	Y	N	N	C	C
Kimber Smith	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Beth Ryan	Y	C	N	Y	C	Y	N	N	C	C
Robyn Braun	Y	C	Y	Y	C	Y	N	N	C	C
Bette Billet	Y	C	Y	Y	C	Y	Y	Y	C	C
Michael Lynn	Y	C	Y	Y	C	Y	N	N	C	C
Jon Liberman	Y	C	Y	Y	C	Y	N	Y	C	C
Ellen Lanet	Y	C	N	Y	C	Y	Y	N	C	C
Paula Waxman	Y	C	N	Y	C	Y	Y	Y	C	C
Michoel Bloom	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Bethie Kohanbash	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Nahed Guirguis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
David Mattis	Y	C	Y	Y	C	Y	N	A	C	C
Brian Kite	Y	C	Y	Y	C	Y	Y	N	C	C
Barry Levine	Y	C	Y	Y	C	Y	Y	N	C	C
Susan Burden	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Marj Safinia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Terrence Gomes	Y	C	Y	Y	C	Y	X	A	C	C
Martin Epstein	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Hector Garza	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Victor Mitry	Y	C	Y	Y	C	Y	N	N	C	C
Org 3	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Doug Fitzsimmons	Y	C	N	Y	C	Y	Y	N	C	C
Grant Cohen	Y	C	N	Y	C	Y	N	N	C	C
Sarah Sabin	X	C	N	Y	C	A	N	N	C	C

**Votes taken**

1. School Representative 2 seat
2. Draft Minutes (GB081513-1)
3. Amendment to wipe all past attendance clean and start records as of today (GB081513-2)
4. Amendment to remove committees from attendance records, add leave of absence, start date (GB081513-2)
5. Confirmation of committee memberships and absence requests (GB081513-3)
6. Approval of monthly expenses (GB081513-4)
7. Amendment regarding quorum at LANCC (GB081513-9)
8. Amendment regarding one member one vote at LANCC (GB081513-9)
9. Amendment regarding Doug Fitzsimmons' changes to LANCC by-laws (GB081513-9)
10. Motion regarding LANCC by-laws (GB081513-9)



## Board Vote Tally Sheet

Meeting Date: August 15, 2013

Votes taken	11	12	13	14
Kevin Gres	C	W	N	Y
Kimber Smith	X	I	X	X
Beth Ryan	C	T	N	Y
Robyn Braun	C	H	N	Y
Bette Billet	C	D	Y	Y
Michael Lynn	C	R	N	Y
Jon Liberman	C	A	N	Y
Ellen Lanet	C	W	Y	Y
Paula Waxman	C	N	Y	Y
Michoel Bloom	X		X	X
Bethie Kohanbash	X		X	X
Nahed Guirguis	X		X	X
David Mattis	C		N	Y
Brian Kite	C		N	Y
Barry Levine	C		Y	Y
Susan Burden	X		X	X
Marj Safinia	X		X	X
Terrence Gomes	C		N	Y
Martin Epstein	X		X	X
Hector Garza	X		X	X
Victor Mitry	C		A	A
Org 3	X		X	X
Doug Fitzsimmons	C		N	Y
Grant Cohen	C		N	Y
Sarah Sabin	C		X	X

- 11. Peace Picnic (GB081513-5)
- 12. Withdrawn (GB081513-10)
- 13. Town Hall Emergency Preparedness Safety Fair (GB081513-6)
- 14. Motion to align NC efforts and funding toward the revitalization of South Robertson (GB081513-7)