



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 17, 2013, 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 once quorum was met at 7:24pm.

Board Members Present (18): Kevin Gres, Kimber Smith, Robyn Braun, Bette Billet, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Ellen Lanet, Paula Waxman, Michael Bloom, Nahed Guirguis, Barry Levine, Marj Safinia, Terrence Gomes, Victor Mitry, Jessica Kurzban, Doug Fitzsimmons, Grant Cohen and Sarah Sabin

Board Members Absent (6): Beth Ryan, David Mattis, Brian Kite, Susan Burden, Martin Epstein and Hector Garza.

II. General Public Comment

a. John Jake, President, Olympic Park NC announced that he is running for Assembly District 54 vacated by Holly Mitchell.

b. Joe Hari congratulated SORO NC Board and President, Doug Fitzsimmons, on EmpowerLA Award and presented certificates from City. SORO NC to be acknowledged in City Council chambers along with other EmpowerLA Award recipients on Wednesday, October 24th.

III. **Jessica Kurtzban** considered for remaining term of Organizational Seat 3.

- Motion to appoint Jessica to Board made by Doug Fitzsimmons and seconded by Jon Liberman.
- Motion approved by unanimous vote with 15 board members voting.

IV. Presentation and Board Discussion

a. Carol Chaker, Director of Donor Marketing, United Way of Greater LA
• 2013 *Home Walk* to support Pathways out of Poverty on 11/23/13

V. Community Reports

- a. LAPD Report (Ballesteros and Gonzales)
- Division working aggressively to shut down illegal marijuana dispensaries in SORO.
 - Male victim robbed by casual acquaintance met earlier the same evening at Helms Bakery establishment.
 - Unknown suspect opened fire on man seated in a car at Livonia and Kincardine. Motivation for shooting is unknown. Intended victim unharmed.
 - Shots fired reported on Saturday, 10/12, at La Cienega and Sawyer.
 - Late night on Tuesday, 10/15, a suspected gang member walked up to two young men standing outside on the 1900 block of Shenandoah and opened fire. The young men are not gang-affiliated. No one was injured. Motivation is unknown.
 - Grand theft auto is still on the rise. Community strongly advised to "Hide it. Lock it. Keep it."
 - Kimber Smith inquired about apparent stabbing outside Robertson Rec Center on evening of Monday, September 30th. Kimber in company of Beth Ryan made police report of significant fresh blood splattered on parked car, lamppost and blood trail extending from Gym north up Preuss to childcare room. Officers had no knowledge

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Martin Epstein
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



of report but agreed to follow up.

b. Office of the Mayor Eric Garcetti (Daniel Tamm)

- Mayor issued first Executive Directive establishing *Great Streets Program* to improve infrastructure along targeted city corridors. Doug had already spoken with Mayor's office to advocate for South Robertson Corridor. Marj invited Deputy Tamm to take a walking tour along the boulevard.

c. Office of Council President Wesson (Liz Carlin)

- The Plan for a Healthy Los Angeles will be added to the City's General Plan Framework Element elevating health as a priority for future growth and development.
- Taste of Soul to take place Saturday, 10/19. SORO NC will join other NCs and city services at the Wesson pavilion.

d. Office of Councilmember Koretz (Jeffrey Ebenstein)

- Department of Transportation (DOT) has new system for tracking complaints and performance that is integrated throughout city departments.
- New multi-billion dollar fund to redo roads. Seeking input from NCs.
- Doug had constructive meeting with senior staff from LAPD, CD 5 and CD 10 on marijuana dispensaries.

e. Office of Assemblymember Richard Bloom (Stephanie Cohen)

- Meeting with local cities on pre-K and kindergarten preparedness and bike-share programs.
- Offering town hall meetings of Affordable Care Act
- Cohen charged with health care, education, seniors, and veteran affairs issues.

f. Office of Senator Holly Mitchell (Ellen Moy).

- Affordable Care Act town hall November 2nd at Trinity Baptist Church.
- Moy charged with Small business, healthcare, education and environmental issues.

VI. Approval of Minutes

- a. Draft Board minutes for September 17, 2013 (Ryan / GB101713-1)
 - Approved by general consensus.
- b. Board attendance for 3rd Quarter 2013 (Ryan / GB101713-2)
 - Approved by general consensus.

VII. Committee Reports

- a. Confirmation of Board committee memberships and absence requests (GB101713-3)
 - No changes requested.
- b. Treasurer's report and approval of monthly expenses (Gomes / GB101713-4)
 - Motion approved by unanimous vote with 18 board members voting.
- c. Nomination of Grant Cohen as Chair of Green Team (Green Team / GB101713-5)
 - Approved by general consensus with 18 board members voting.
- d. Selection of additional financial signatory (GB101713-6)
 - Motion to appoint Michael Bloom, Mike Lynn, and Jon Liberman (as alternate).
 - Approved by general consensus with 18 board members voting.
- e. Selection of two Budget Representatives for FY 2013-14 (GB101713-7)
 - Motion to appoint Terry Gomes and Jon Liberman
 - Approved by general consensus with 18 board members voting.

f. President's Report

- Update on medical marijuana dispensaries within SORO boundaries including sanctions and complaints about illegal activity taking place



- near sacred spaces and 15 illegal dispensaries in area.
- Had two meetings with JMB Realty to discuss fixing problems on Robertson Blvd re: traffic, spill over into Beverlywood and EIR just released.
- Bethie Kohanbash has officially resigned from the board.
- Elections for SORO NC taking place on Sunday May 18th. Half of the board will be up for election. Board Development committee will work on elections – let Beth know if you are interested in being on the committee or have input on elections.
- All committees need to add Robertson development – Big Idea – to agendas and report at next General Board meeting on plans.

g. Upcoming committee events and legislative issues

- Outreach – Marj reported on the upcoming Town Hall. Discussed having Robertson development and traffic study as topics but Doug met with DOT earlier this week and they will not be ready by 11/12 and need more time to consider.
Town Hall will be old school town hall – invitations to Mayor Garcetti, City Council president Herb Wesson and councilmember Paul Koretz.
- Public Safety – On Sunday Nov 3rd, Andrew Leavenworth will host a search and rescue drill at 3 PM.

VIII. New Business

a. Motion to support the Koretz/Bonin Motion calling for a moratorium on hydraulic fracturing (Waxman & Cohen / GB101713-8)

State and Federal legislation dictating terms of fracking. Fluids are patented so can't know if fracking does or does not contaminate aquifers. Old wells are not monitored. Old wells filled with fracking fluids. No research on fracking liquids leaking into substrata. Billion dollar clean up exercise in valley. Halt until proven safe.

- Vote Count was: (12 YES/4 NO/0 Abstain)
- Motion was approved by the board.

b. Motion to make Board Development a standing committee (Ryan / GB101713-9)

- Motion was approved by general consensus with 16 board members voting.

c. Motion to amend the SORO NC bylaws to clarify grievance process (Bylaws / GB101713-10)

- Motion was approved by unanimous vote with 16 board members voting.

IX. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.



Current Committee Membership

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

Note that Bylaws, Robertson Revitalization and Parks & Recreation are ad hoc committees and may have no more than **6** voting board 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													
Michael Bloom					Co								
Vacant Seat													
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										
Jessica Kurtzman													
Doug Fitzsimmons								Ch					Co
Grant Cohen		Ch											
Sarah Sabin													



Board Vote Tally Sheet
Meeting Date: October 17, 2013

Votes taken	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	10
Kevin Gres	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	Y	C	Y
Kimber Smith	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	Y	C	Y
Beth Ryan	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Robyn Braun	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	Y	C	Y
Bette Billet	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	X	X	X
Michael Lynn	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N	C	Y
Jon Liberman	2Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N	C	2Y
Ellen Lanet	Y	C	C	A	C	C	C	Y	C	Y
Paula Waxman	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	Y	C	Y
Michael Bloom	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	N	C	Y
Vacant Seat	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Nahed Guirguis	Y	C	C	A	C	C	C	Y	2C	Y
David Mattis	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Brian Kite	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Barry Levine	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	2Y	C	Y
Susan Burden	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Marj Safinia	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	Y	C	Y
Terrence Gomes	Y	1C	C	1Y	C	C	C	N	C	Y
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	C	Y	C	C	C	X	X	X
Jessica Kurtzman	X	C	C	A	C	C	C	Y	C	Y
Doug Fitzsimmons	1Y	C	C	Y	1C	1C	1C	Y	1C	1Y
Grant Cohen	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	1Y	C	Y
Sarah Sabin	Y	C	C	Y	C	C	C	Y	C	Y

Votes taken

1. Appointment of Jessica Kurtzman
2. Draft minutes (GB101713-1)
3. Board Attendance Quarterly Vote (GB101713-2)
4. Treasurer's Report and monthly expenses (GB101713-3)
5. Nomination of Grant Cohen as Chair of Green Team (GB101713-5)
6. Selection of additional financial signatory (GB101713-6)
7. Selection of two Budget Representatives for FY 2013-14 (GB101713-7)
8. Moratorium on hydraulic fracking (GB101713-8)
9. Motion to make Board Development a standing committee (Ryan/GB101713-9)
10. Motion to amend the SORO NC bylaws to clarify grievance process (Bylaws / GB101713-10)