



# General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 17, 2012, 7:00 pm  
Simon Wiesenthal Center 3rd Floor  
1399 S. Roxbury Dr., Los Angeles, CA 90035

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## I. Call to Order and Roll Call

SORO NC Board President Doug Fitzsimmons called the meeting to order at 7:02.

**Board Members Present:** Kimber Smith, Harold Bock, Robyn Braun, Bette Billet, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Armando Roman, Meredith Levine, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Troy Richardson, Marjan Safinia, Martin Epstein, Susan Burden, Victor Mitry, Aron Klein, Doug Fitzsimmons, Erick Morales

**Board Members Absent:** Rachel Lester, Nahed Guirguis, Brian Kite, Sam Jagger, Paula Waxman

**Guests:** SLO Mario Gonzalez, Officer Gettinger, Elizabeth Carlin, Rebecca Bernal, Earl Massey

## II. General Public Comment

Raymond Yu announced that the Expo Line at Jefferson and La Cienega opened in April and the Robertson/ National stop will open June 20<sup>th</sup>. Visit [www.metro.net](http://www.metro.net) for additional information.

## III. Community Reports

### LAPD Report.

Robbery occurred at Beverlywood and Helms where a lady was kicked and her cell phone was stolen. Remember to watch your surroundings. If anyone comes to your door make sure that you ask for their ID's. "Car Break-ins" Don't keep valuables inside your car. There are robberies all throughout SORO and if you would like to have a neighborhood watch contact the LAPD. Visit [www.soronc.org](http://www.soronc.org) for contact information.

### Office of Council President Wesson.

Email about LAPD and Fire Dept. youth basketball. USC Gallin Center  
If you know anyone that might benefit there is a food distribution at Pico and Cochran the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday each month -- fruits, vegetables and other staples.  
Movies in the Park will be August 3<sup>rd</sup> at Reynier Park. There will be popcorn, hotdogs and giveaways. Skateboards, bikes etc will be raffled off.

### Office of Councilmember Koretz.

Doug spoke on the behalf of David Giron. Koretz' office is working on securing as much money as possible for neighborhood councils.

### Office of Senator Price.

Rebecca announced June 2<sup>nd</sup> Champion for Small Business (contractors preparedness for submitting bids). June 10<sup>th</sup> "Youth in Culver City" will be conducting a fingerprinting event for kids.

### Office of Senator Bass.

Earl Massey wanted to check in to see what is going on with SORO during the district changes.

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Brian Kite**  
Vice-President

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

**Martin Epstein**  
Secretary

**South Robertson  
Neighborhoods Council**

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## V. Approval of Minutes

**Draft Board Meeting Minutes of 17 April 2012 (Epstein / GB062112-1)**

- Amended minutes accepted by general consent

## VI. Committee Reports

### **Executive.**

The date for NC elections needs to be voted on.

### **Treasurer Report.**

Funds remaining: \$6,901.23.

- Barry moved; Harold seconded
- Vote: 14-Y, 0-N, 1-A. Report accepted.

### **Land Use.**

Pico Glatt Kosher Market discussion moved to next meeting.

### **Education.**

Discussed that tutors are in need, and fresh fruit distribution at Shenandoah Elementary.

### **Green Team.**

OCEAN GYRES, Guest speaker, Ann Cummins from Agalita Marine Research presented at the meeting.

### **Public Safety.**

Announced June 4<sup>th</sup> disaster preparedness and that SORO funded CPR Classes.

### **Outreach.**

Marj said there are three important messages, "Check out SORONC.org; The SORO festival June 11<sup>th</sup>"; SORO NC Council just entered into a relationship with KCET, their new focus on the SORO project will be in need of stories, photos, etc. Email Marj or Kimber for more details.

### **Transportation.**

Meetings are the last Thursday of the month at the Robertson recreation center at 7pm.

### **Westside Regional Alliance of Councils.**

This group looks at regional issues that affect the west side. They handle: developing retail and the Mayor's budgets, and are finding many issues with how the city handles collections.

## VII. Special Orders

### **Application of Jon Liberman for Zone 7 seat (GB051712-4)**

- Marj moved; Mike seconded.
- Vote: 15-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Application of Aron Klein for Organization seat (GB051712-5)**

- Marj moved; Mike seconded.
- Vote: 16-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Motion passed unanimously.



## New Business

### Motion to oppose variance request for proposed 7-Eleven at Robertson and Cadillac (Safinia / GB051712-6)

Doug asked that at all be respectful of others in the 7-Eleven discussion. Ms. Dickerhoff is the representative from 7-Eleven. Ms. Dickerhoff wanted to address emails from the community and the commenter's here this evening. The demographics of the community are those people who don't drive and the effort to go door to door for signatures yielded 300 signatures in support. 7-Eleven is a dry store. Getting an alcohol license is not as easy as it seems, and that's not what they're looking for here – they are not going to have alcohol. Ms. Dickerhoff reiterated that what 7-Eleven is looking for is a commercial corner variance for hours of operation. The issue of pan-handlers was addressed and Ms. Dickerhoff reminded the gathering that they are not at all locations. The 7-Eleven at Airdrome and Robertson is a very unfortunate situation because it is still under an old franchise contract. They are trying to bring in a new franchisee.

The corner has been vacant for the last 20 years and the only other interest for this location is an automotive garage that would bring in far more traffic. Janet and Ray are the current owners of 2356 Robertson Boulevard and stated that 7-Eleven was the only suitable buyer. Marj asked if this was a company 7-Eleven or a franchise and Ms. Dickerhoff said it was a franchise.

Terry asked if they have spoken to DOT. Christina Reeder, the 7-Eleven real estate specialists said they have not at this stage. Joe asked how many are franchises or are owned by 7-Eleven in the LA area. Christina said that 5 are 7-Eleven corporate owned. Kimber asked if the store at La Cienega and Sawyer is a franchise or 7-Eleven-owned. This location is a franchise. Joe asked about garbage pickup time. Ms. Dickerhoff said 7-Eleven will try to get a time commitment where pick up will be when most people are awake. Robyn asked if they're going to limit the number of students at the facility at a time – per Ms. Dickerhoff, the number of kids allowed will be up to the operator. Barry asked if guns exist in the stores. 7-Eleven corporate does not permit guns in the store. Betty asked about night staffing – Christina said up to 2 employees would work per night. Officer Gonzales said they don't usually comment on these situations, but they receive numerous calls for transients and pan-handlers from 7-Eleven. Officer Gonzales said “where there is alcohol there is trouble,” and “people who commit crimes are drawn to 24 hour establishments.” Betty asked why the letters are addressed to the zone administrator. Kimber asked that Ms. Dickerhoff report back to 7-Eleven to let them know about the community sentiment against this project. Robyn asked why a dry-store would benefit from being opened after 11pm, and Ms. Dickerhoff said that alcohol is not the majority of sales in their stores. Joe asked “if the variance is denied, will the 7-Eleven still be built.” Ms. Dickerhoff responded yes, within about 2 months depending on when zoning is approved.

The following community members spoke at the meeting in opposition to this agenda item:

Annie Jeeves  
Rwian Bell  
Leonora Schloss  
Michele Wytko  
Nancy Knupfer  
Barbara Perry  
Cheryl Perkey  
Ellen Isaacs  
Charles Frankel  
Lindi Vandervalde  
Henry Sack



Karen Brown  
Diane Schwartz  
Simon Trasler  
Myrna Morales  
Tasia Stern  
Jill Smith  
Bing Lan  
Victoria Frankel  
Craig Korlan  
Marjorie Grace-Sayers  
Einat Ronen  
Deni Mosser

The following community members had questions regarding the agenda item:

John Reiner

- Marj moved; Bette seconded.
- Motion vote: 16-Y, 0-N, 1-A. Motion approved.

**Amend motion to secede from WRAC (Levine / GB051712-7)**

- Doug moved; Barry seconded.
- Motion vote: 8-Y, 3-N, 3-A. Motion approved.

**Motion to request WRAC apologize to Move to Amend (GB051712-7)**

- Bette moved; Marj seconded.
- Motion vote: 7-Y, 5-N, 2-A. Motion approved.

**Motion to add election date resolution to agenda**

- Motion vote: 14-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Accepted by general consent

**Motion to select either October 28<sup>th</sup> or November 4<sup>th</sup> for 2012 SORO NC elections (Safinia / GB051712-8)**

- Motion vote: 2-28th, 11-4th, 0-A. Motion approved.

## **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, Econ 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	Transportation	Finance	Exec	Bylaws	Econ Revital	Board Dev	Parks & Rec
Rachel Lester		█										
Kimber Smith				█			█					
Harold Bock	█				█	█						
Robyn Braun					█							
Bette Billet		█	█	█					█	█		
Michael Lynn					█		█					
Jon Liberman												
Zone 8												
Paula Waxman	█	█					█					
Armando Roman		█										
Meredith Levine				█								
Nahed Guirguis												
Terry Gomes			█		█		█	█	█	█		
Brian Kite			█				█	█	█			█
Barry Levine	█	█		█		█	█			█		
Troy Richardson				█								
Marj Safinia			█	█			█			█		
Sam Jagger			█									
Martin Epstein		█										
Sue Burden			█									
Victor Mitry			█									
Aron Klein												
Doug Fitzsimmons				█		█	█	█	█	█		█
School 1												
Erick Morales	█	█		█		█					█	



## 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	16	17
Rachel Lester																	
Kimber Smith	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X								
Harold Bock	C	2Y	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X								
Robyn Braun	X	X	X	X	Y	Y	N	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Bette Billet	C	Y	Y	Y	2Y	N	1N	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Michael Lynn	2C	Y	2Y	2Y	X	X	X	X	X								
Jon Liberman	X	X	X	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Zone 8																	
Paula Waxman																	
Armando Roman	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Meredith Levine	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Nahed Guirguis																	
Terry Gomes	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	C	28 <sup>th</sup>								
Brian Kite																	
Barry Levine	C	1Y	Y	Y	Y	2Y	Y	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Troy Richardson	C	Y	Y	Y	A	Y	Y	C	A								
Marj Safinia	1C	Y	1Y	1Y	1Y	Y	2Y	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Sam Jagger																	
Martin Epstein	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	N	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Sue Burden	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	A	A	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Victor Mitry	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	N	N	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Aron Klein	X	X	X	X	Y	A	A	C	4 <sup>th</sup>								
Doug Fitzsimmons	C	Y	Y	Y	Y	1Y	Y	C	28 <sup>th</sup>								
School 1																	
Erick Morales	C	A	Y	Y	Y	X	X	X	X								

### Votes taken

1. Draft meeting minutes of April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012 (GB051712-1)
2. Approval of monthly expenses (GB051712-3)
3. Application of Jon Liberman for Zone 7seat (GB051712-4)
4. Application of Aron Klein for Organization seat (GB051712-5)
5. Motion to oppose variance request for proposed 7-Eleven at Robertson and Cadillac (GB051712-6)
6. Amend motion to secede from WRAC (GB051712-7)
7. Motion to request WRAC apologize to Move To Amend (GB051712-7)
8. Motion to add election date resolution to the agenda
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