



# General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, September 20, 2012, 7:00pm  
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 7:10.

**Board Members Present:** Harold Bock, Robyn Braun, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Paula Waxman, Armando Roman, Marjan Safinia, Martin Epstein, Susan Burden, Victor Mitry, Aron Klein, Doug Fitzsimmons, Erick Morales, Troy Richardson, Nahed Guirguis

**Board Members Absent:** Sam Jagger, Barry Levine, Terry Gomes, Brian Kite, Kimber Smith, Bette Billet

**Guests:** SLO Mario Gonzalez, Elizabeth Carlin, David Giron

## II. Community Reports

### LAPD Report.

Gonzalez discussed the search warrants served and details of the nine arrests. Officer Gray got information from community members to begin this successful investigation. Burglaries are down. Though there is a pattern of robbers knocking on the front door and if nobody answers, they break in the back door. Car break-ins continue to be a big problem. Mobile RV homes on Cattaraugus Ave. continue to be a problem. Notices were issued on 9/20 to the occupants.

### Office of Councilmember Wesson

Liz announced that the 18<sup>th</sup> battalion emergency preparedness event is this Sunday at Park La Brea, and you all are invited. If you or someone you know is interested in being more involved with emergency preparedness, there are Mobile Unit opportunities that need assistance. Let me know or see the contact information on the flyer that was distributed prior to the start of the meeting.

Councilman Wesson's office wanted to acknowledge this year's peace picnic. The attendance this year was noticeably higher than in previous years. Thank you again SORO for your continued support for the Peace Picnic.

Medical marijuana is back on council's calendar and action on this issue is expected by Oct 7<sup>th</sup>. Liz didn't have specifics at this time and noted that once it is scheduled for the council's agenda there will be a detailed description that will be posted. If you'd like to attend let her know and she will accommodate parking

### Office of Councilmember Koretz.

David discussed the peace picnic success and wished all a happy high holiday. David reminded everyone that they are still waiting for the priority list and it is helpful for the council office to stay abreast of priority.

A quick update on Robinson Park: it is still going to be modernized, though this will take time. The park is not closing.

There was a motion to rename the Palms recreation center after the first lady elected at 22 and it is possible to do this by a considerable donation.

**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



### III. Approval of Minutes

#### Draft meeting minutes of July 17, 2012 (Epstein / GB092012-1)

- Jon moved; Harold seconded.
- **Vote: 15-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Motion passed by general consent.**

#### Draft special meeting minutes of August 29, 2012 (Epstein / GB092012-2)

- Jon moved; Harold seconded.
- **Vote: 15-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Motion passed by general consent.**

### IV. Committee Reports

#### Confirmation of Board committee memberships and absence requests (GB092012-3)

Jon asked to be added to Land Use, Outreach, and Bylaws

- Doug moved; Martin seconded.
- **Vote: 15-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Motion passed by general consent.**

#### President's Report.

Rachael and Harold have resigned from the board (Doug had kind words and wished them the best of luck).

As of tonight 3 people are running and there are 16 seats. Doug urged everyone to run again and hoped that all the seats would be contested. The deadline for filing is Sept 28<sup>th</sup>. File on the website and please don't put it off, as we do need to get more people. Doug encouraged us all to get the word out about the event on Sunday. There will be lots of food; emails have been sent out; signs have been posted.

Tony had a comment and was going to be available to answer questions after the meeting.

Doug discussed the request for feedback from the board on the presentation for last orientation.

Tony discussed the upcoming congress on Saturday.

#### Treasurer's report and approval of monthly expenses (Gomes / GB092012-4)

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

#### Land Use.

We met on August 7<sup>th</sup> and we discussed the proposed motion to consider a Conditional Use Permit application for the expansion of an auto repair facility at 8661 W. Pico Blvd

#### Public Safety.

Emergency supplies are delivered and are being supplemented with outside donations. Crime is down 2.7 percent. Michael discussed the events for the next meeting and discussed the importance of the certification classes. Doug discussed the reviving of programs designed to get civilians to help in police efforts. More information will be forthcoming.



**Green Team.**

The panel discussion about genetically modified foods (GMOs) on September 6th was highly successful, drawing over 80 people. The Hamilton students who organized and help run the event deserve particular praise.

**Outreach.**

We've been working to get folks out for the election. We are still working on the medallions.

**Transportation.**

We'll be meeting next week about the Century City Center. We will be talking about major development on the west side and the impact on traffic in our area.

**Board Development.**

There are upcoming Candidate events and the entire board is encouraged to attend. We need volunteers for the Oct. 28<sup>th</sup> voting day at Shenandoah Elementary from 11am-4pm.

**V. Special Orders (15 minutes)**

**a. Vote to temporarily extend the terms of the current Executive Committee through the seating of the new Board in 2012 (GB092012-5)**

- Jon moved; Paula seconded.
- **Vote: 15-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Motion passed by general consent.**

**VI. Unfinished Business (90 minutes)**

**a. Motion to Support the Koretz/Wesson Resolution calling for a Moratorium on Hydraulic Fracturing (Waxman / GB081612-5)**

- Aron moved; Erick seconded
- **Vote: 15-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Motion passed by general consent.**

**VII. New Business (90 minutes)**

**a. Motion to consider a Conditional Use Permit application for the expansion of an auto repair facility at 8661 W. Pico Blvd. (Gomes / GB092012-6)**

After discussion about the project with the applicants and Chris Koontz from CD 5, the following amendment language was proposed:

To support the application for a conditional use permit (CUP) covering the proposed building at 8661 W. Pico Blvd. (Planning case number ZA-2011-1896-CU). The SORO NC Board prefers to see the business signage brought to current code.

- Jon moved; Paula seconded
- **Amendment vote: 7-Y, 7-N, 0-A. Amendment fails.**

- Marj moved; Victor seconded
- **Motion vote: 12-Y, 2-N, 0-A. Motion passes.**

**b. Motion to clarify duties of NC liaisons (Bylaws / GB092012-7)**

Jon offered the following language change, which was accepted by Doug as a friendly amendment:

...and be a vigorous advocate *in good faith* for Board positions...

- Jon moved; Robyn seconded
- **Vote: 14-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Motion passed by general consent**

**c. Motion to add ethics training requirement for Board members voting on financial and Land Use issues (Bylaws / GB092012-8)**



Some Board members were concerned about loss of quorum and ability to pass the funding motion for street banners later in the meeting.

**Motion tabled pending language review**

d. **Motion to clarify term expiration for Board officers, chairs, and liaisons**  
(Bylaws / GB092012-9)

**Motion tabled due to time**

e. **Motion to amend Code of Civility to encourage Board engagement**  
(Bylaws / GB092012-10)

**Motion tabled due to time**

f. **Motion to fund up to \$900 to re-hang SORO NC street banners** (Safinia / GB092012-11)

- Robyn moved; Troy seconded
- **Vote: 13-Y, 0-N, 0-A. Motion passed**

### **VIII. Adjournment**



## IX. 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
Zone 1 Rep												
Kimber Smith												
Harold Bock												
Robyn Braun												
Bette Billet												
Michael Lynn												
Jon Liberman												
Zone 8 Rep												
Paula Waxman												
Armando Roman												
At Large Rep 1												
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 Rep 1												
Erick Morales												



## X. 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
Zone 1														
Kimber Smith														
Harold Bock	2C	2C	C	Y	C	C	N	Y	Y	X				
Robyn Braun	C	C	C	Y	C	C	N	N	2Y	1Y				
Bette Billet														
Michael Lynn	C	C	C	2Y	C	C	N	N	Y	Y				
Jon Liberman	1C	1C	C	Y	1C	C	1Y	Y	1Y	Y				
Zone 8														
Paula Waxman	C	C	C	Y	2C	C	2Y	Y	Y	Y				
Armando Roman	C	C	C	Y	C	C	Y	Y	Y	Y				
At Large Rep 1														
Nahed Guirguis	C	C	C	Y	C	C	Y	Y	Y	Y				
Terry Gomes														
Brian Kite														
Barry Levine														
Troy Richardson	C	C	C	Y	C	C	N	Y	Y	2Y				
Marj Safinia	C	C	C	1Y	C	C	Y	1Y	Y	Y				
Sam Jagger														
Martin Epstein	C	C	2C	Y	C	C	Y	Y	Y	Y				
Sue Burden	C	C	C	Y	C	C	N	Y	Y	Y				
Victor Mitry	C	C	C	Y	C	C	N	2Y	Y	Y				
Aron Klein	C	C	C	Y	C	1C	X	X	X	X				
Doug Fitzsimmons	C	C	1C	Y	C	C	N	Y	Y	Y				
School Rep 1														
Erick Morales	C	C	C	Y	C	2C	Y	Y	Y	Y				

### Votes taken

1. Draft meeting minutes of July 17<sup>th</sup> 29, 2012 (Epstein / GB092012-1)
2. Draft special meeting minutes of August 29, 2012 (Epstein / GB092012-2)
3. Confirmation of Board committee memberships and absence requests (GB092012-3)
4. Treasurer's report and approval of monthly expenses (Gomes / GB092012-4)
5. Vote to temporarily extend the terms of the current Executive Committee through the seating of the new Board in 2012 (GB092012-5)
6. Motion to Support the Koretz/Wesson Resolution calling for a Moratorium on Hydraulic Fracturing (Waxman / GB081612-5)
7. AMENDMENT for CUP for auto repair facility (Gomes / GB092012-6)
8. Motion to consider a Conditional Use Permit application for the expansion of an auto repair facility at 8661 W. Pico Blvd. (Gomes / GB092012-6)
9. Motion to clarify duties of NC liaisons (Bylaws / GB092012-7)
10. Motion to fund up to \$900 to re-hang SORO NC street banners (Safinia / GB092012-11)