



Chief Charlie Beck
Los Angeles Police Department
100 West 1st Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

20 January 2011

Dear Chief Beck:

The entire South Robertson Neighborhoods Council was saddened to hear of the recent death of Captain William Eaton.

We worked closely with Captain Eaton in the time he led the West LA division, and were always impressed by his spirit of open cooperation, devotion to duty, deep concern for and understanding of the neighborhood, and above all, his dogged determination to balance the competing demands of a busy station.

Most knew him as a good man and a model officer. We were additionally privileged to know him as a friend.

Please pass on our condolences to his family and fellow officers.

Sincerely,

Doug Fitzsimmons
President

Brian Kite
Vice-President

Gerald Chavarria
Secretary

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Doug Fitzsimmons
President, South Robertson Neighborhoods Council

**South Robertson
Neighborhoods Council**

PO Box 35836
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Motion to approve SORO Inc.'s application for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG)

Agenda Item: GB012011-4
Date: January 20, 2011
Proposed By: Paula Waxman, Hami Garden Project Coordinator

Summary

In 2008 SORONC approved a motion pledging \$3000 towards the building of the Hamilton High School learning garden. Soro Inc. paid \$2935.68 of the pledge to Hamilton High School on behalf of the Soronc, to cover the expense of a chain-link fence. DONE recently refused to issue reimbursement to SORO Inc., citing third party check rules. In order to be reimbursed, SORO Inc. must apply for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG). All such grants need the approval of the applicable NC.

Full Proposal

On October 15, 2009, SORONC approved agenda item GB101509-4, a "Motion to pledge \$3,000 in matching funds for a LA City Community Beautification Grant, to build a sustainable learning garden on the campus of Hamilton High School." Our community was awarded the Community Beautification grant in January of 2010 in the amount of \$5064.72

During 2010, the garden was constructed. Most of the \$5,064.72 in Community Beautification funds were used for materials and labor to install an irrigation system (\$3,121.86), with the remainder used to purchase a storage shed & tools (\$896.47), as well as plants, soil amendments, and other supplies (\$953.12). A small portion of the \$5064.72 grant, less than \$100, went unused.

Based on the \$3,000 pledged by the SORONC, SORO Inc. paid \$2,935.68 to LAUSD who in turn paid an independent contractor for materials and labor to install a chain link fence around the garden. A Demand Warrant request was prepared in late 2010 in the amount of \$2,935.68, and all requested documentation was attached and submitted. (See attached invoice from Hamilton School). However, DONE rejected the request, citing third party check rules.

DONE requested and/or suggested that instead of a Demand Warrant request, an application for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) be submitted, which would effectively circumvent the third party check issue. Such grants may be applied for by 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations, and public schools. Since SORO Inc., the entity to be reimbursed, is a 501(c)(3) organization, they may apply for such a grant.

However, as stated in the Explanation of such grants:

"Neighborhood Councils must evaluate all grant applications in a public meeting, deciding whether to approve or disapprove the proposed grant. If the application is approved, it must then be forwarded to the Department via the Project Coordinator. If all documents are in compliance, the Project Coordinator will forward the application to the Neighborhood Council Funding Unit who will then process a check to the grant recipient."

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Proposed Motion

That the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council approve SORO Inc.'s application for a NPG grant in the amount of \$2935.68 to reimburse them for paying for the Hami Garden fence which was to come out of Soronc's matching pledge of \$3000.00

Considerations

Pro

This corrects what is essentially a technical paperwork problem.

Soro Inc. generously advanced the funds, and it was never the intent that they should not be reimbursed. Failure to repay them could dissuade future assistance by Soro Inc. or other community based organizations.

The funds were spent, the garden was completed, it is a source of pride to the community, the school, and the neighborhood council.

Con

Although the Soronc Board has already approved this expenditure, it is still a significant disbursement of funds by the NC.

Even though the project coordinator had to pay the fence vendor through LAUSD due to district mandates, the rules in place by DONE are most likely there for a reason.

Board Notes

Votes For:

Against:

Abstain:

Proposed Amendments:



Adoption of Orphaned Areas

Agenda Item: GB012011-5
Date: January 20, 2011
Proposed By: Terrence Gomes

SORONC to adopt the three-orphaned areas in the northwest, southwest, and southeast areas of the Neighborhood Council District.

Full Proposal

It is the right of all stakeholders of the City of Los Angeles to be represented by a Neighborhood Council. With the threat of budget cuts, it is essential to have someone to help direct the limited city services to an area. This is one of the key roles of the NC. There are two areas that border SORONC that are known as orphaned areas, areas that are not represented by a NC. (See attachments) These areas should be included in the SORONC boundaries due to physical borders that separate these areas from neighboring neighborhood councils. These borders include the borders of Culver City, Beverly Hills, and the 10 Freeway.

Proposed Motion

The SORONC Board votes to approve the following:

- I. The SORONC Board approves to adopt the two orphaned areas as outlined on the attached map.
- II. Directs the Executive Board to work with DONE, BONC, and the City Engineer to incorporate these areas into the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council's boundaries.
- III. To authorize \$500 for flyers and lawn signs to notify and welcome these new areas to the SORONC.

Considerations

Pro

We have been asked by city officials to weigh in on issues in these areas.

We have been offering services to stakeholders in these areas.

Stakeholders are allowed representation from the Charter.

Con

Stakeholders may not want our help.

We may not have enough resources to service these areas.

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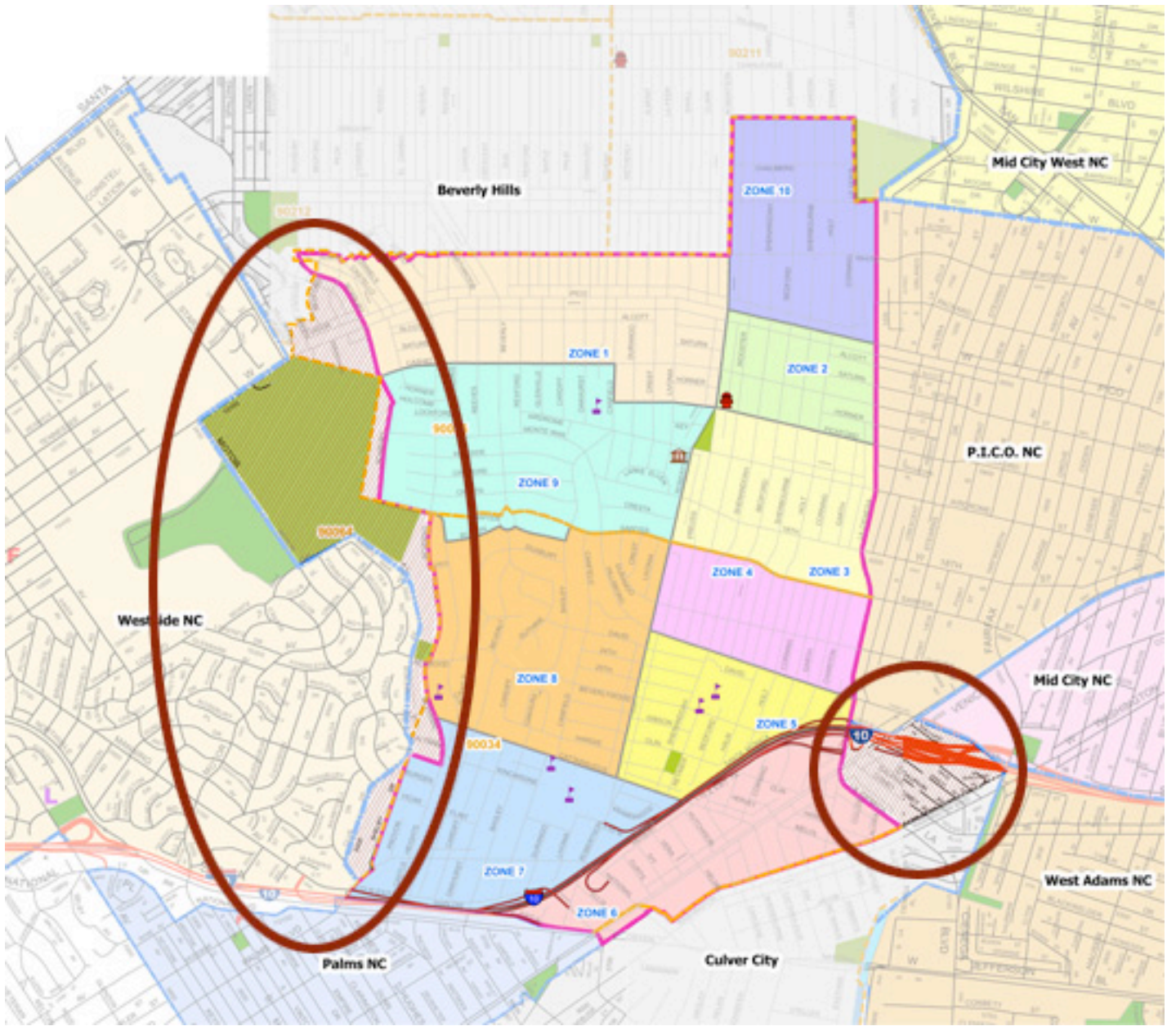
Board Notes

Votes For:

Against:

Abstain:

Proposed Amendments:



Potential areas to be annexed



Motion to approve 2011 General Board meeting calendar

Agenda Item: GB012011-6
Date: 20 January 2011
Proposed By: Doug Fitzsimmons

The motion seeks to establish a calendar for regular General Board meetings in 2011

Full Proposal

In an effort to allow full community and Board input into SORO NC's General Meeting dates, this motion seeks to establish an approved meeting calendar for 2011.

In the past, some stakeholders and Board members have expressed concern about meeting scheduling. The NC has endeavored to avoid conflicts with other events, holidays, and celebrations, but it hasn't always been possible. Opening the schedule to public discussion—while it still may not fully satisfy all parties—will ensure a more transparent process.

The following informational calendar includes the "regular date" (the customary third Thursday of each month) as well as notations on possible conflicts and alternate dates. In developing the list of potential conflicts, a best effort was made to survey U.S. Federal, Jewish, Christian, Coptic, Islamic, Baha'i and Buddhist celebrations. Any omissions are unintentional.

The Board may opt to adopt the regular calendar as it stands or modify it through amendments to this motion. Note that none of the normal dates fall on a Federal or State holiday.

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| Regular 2011 Date | Possible Conflict | Possible Alternate(s) |
|--------------------|--|--------------------------------------|
| January 20 | Tu B'Shvat | — |
| February 17 | | |
| March 17 | St. Patrick's Day Ta'anit Esther Month of Fasting (Mar 2-20) | Thursday, Mar 24 |
| April 21 | Pesach III Festival of Ridvan (Apr 21– May 2) | Thursday, Apr 14 Thursday, Apr 28 |
| May 19 | | |
| June 16 | | |
| July 21 | | |
| August 18 | | |





| | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------|
| September 15 | | |
| October 20 | Shemini Atzeret Birth of the Bab | Thursday, Oct 27 |
| November 17 | | |
| December 15 | | |

Proposed Motion

- I. To adopt the 2011 SORO NC General Board meeting schedule ("normal dates") shown above.
- II. This motion does not supersede any aspect or procedure set forth in the NC bylaws, particularly Article X, Special Board Meetings.

Considerations

Pro

Setting a yearly meeting calendar allows for community input into our schedule.

Meeting on a consistent date (i.e., the third Thursday of the month) may be more easily remembered by stakeholders.

Con

The dates may still need to be amended as emergencies arise or if we are unable to secure a meeting location on those dates (however unlikely).

Although this calendar sets the dates for regular meetings, special meetings may be need to be called that go beyond the schedule listed here.

Board Notes

Votes For:

Against:

Abstain:

Proposed Amendments: