



# Motion to support variance request for 2200 Guthrie Drive

**Agenda Item:** GB011409-3

**Date:** January 14, 2009

**Proposed By:** Land Use Committee

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## Summary

The owners of 2200 Guthrie Drive would like to construct an emergency generator in their backyard. Due to the location of the backyard of this property certain variances are required.

## Full Proposal

The owners of 2200 Guthrie Drive would like to construct an emergency generator in their backyard. Due to the location of the backyard of this property certain variances are required.

## Proposed Motion

That SORONC write a letter supporting the applicant's request for a variance.

## Considerations

### Pro

The requested variance(s) are nominal.

### Con

There was a concern that the emergency generator may not contain proper spill containment apparatus.

The Land Use Committee recommends that this motion be passed.

**Doug Fitzsimmons**  
President

**Jon Liberman**  
Vice-President

**Ann Hammond**  
Secretary

**Terrence Gomes**  
Treasurer

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**



# Motion to send comment letter on the Museum of Tolerance Draft Environmental Impact Report

**Agenda Item:** GB011409-4  
**Date:** January 14, 2009  
**Proposed By:** Daniel J. Fink

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## Summary

The SORO NC Board will submit a comment letter on the Museum of Tolerance Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR), EAF No: ENV-2007-2476-DEIR.

## Full Proposal

On April 15, 2008, the SORO NC Board approved a comment letter on the Museum of Tolerance's Initial Study. The City has now released the full 2,892 page DEIR. Many important land use issues are contained in the DEIR, and are not adequately addressed.

These included the improper segmentation of the Museum of Tolerance expansion project from that of the adjoining yeshiva; many exceptions, rewritings, variances, and deviations from the General Plan, the West Los Angeles Community Plan, and the zoning portions of the Los Angeles Municipal Code, including the building of a commercial structure on land currently zoned for residential use; serious and unmitigated impacts on the Museum's neighbors, including aesthetics, traffic, parking, noise, and odors; terrorism and security issues which were not addressed by the DEIR; and inadequate consideration of project alternatives, especially the off-site alternative.

This project would represent a dangerous precedent within SORO NC in terms of radical changes in and deviations from the laws, rules, guidelines and regulations meant to govern land use and to protect neighbors from each other, to allow a diverse community to live in harmony.

These issues must be addressed in a revised and recirculated DEIR.

## Proposed Motion

The SORO NC Board will submit a comment letter on the Museum of Tolerance DEIR to the Los Angeles Department of City Planning. (This letter will be submitted under separate cover.)

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## Considerations

### Pro

It is incumbent upon SORO NC to comment on land use issues in its territory. The proposed project is so radical that, if built, it will be a dangerous precedent for land use and development in SORO NC and in the City of Los Angeles.

Second argument in favor.

### Con

The Museum is a valued member of the Los Angeles and SORO NC communities which serves to memorialize the Holocaust and to teach tolerance. It should be allowed to expand as it wants to meet its and the community's needs.

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**



# Motion to fund \$500 for Canfield Elementary Smart Boards

**Agenda Item:** GB011409-5

**Date:** January 14, 2008

**Proposed By:** Barry E. Levine

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## Summary

Friends of Canfield have request funding of \$500.00 towards the purchase of Smart Boards for all their classrooms..

## Full Proposal

The Education Committee unanimously recommends the approval of funding \$500.00 towards the acquisition of Smart Boards (as described in pdf attachment)

## Proposed Motion

SORONC fund \$500.00 to Friends of Canfield for the purchase of Smart Boards

## Considerations

### Pro

Stimulates learning in a SORO NC school.

Will make Canfield better able to educate it's students

### Con

Expensive technology that may not be as valuable as it is expensive.

Offers Canfield a technology not available in other schools

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**

**Against:**

**Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**

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# Motion to fund up to \$200 for CD-5 Candidates Forum Moderation

**Agenda Item:** GB011409-6  
**Date:** January 14, 2009  
**Proposed By:** Marjan Safinia

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## Summary

That SORO NC fund up to \$200 to have The League Of Women Voters moderate the 2009 Town Hall – a Candidates Forum for the Council District 5 seat.

## Full Proposal

SORO NC's 2009 Town Hall event will be a Candidates Forum for the Council District 5 seat. The event will be held on Thursday 5th February 2009.

We would like to have The League of Women Voters moderate the forum as we have done in previous years. \$200 is a suggested donation to the League for these services.

## Proposed Motion

- I. That SORO NC fund up to \$200 to The League of Women Voters to moderate the 2009 SORO NC Town Hall event, a Candidates Forum for CD-5 to be held on 5<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

## Considerations

Pro	Con
Impartiality and experience	Cost

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## Board Notes

**Votes For:**                      **Against:**                      **Abstain:**

**Proposed Amendments:**



# Motion to Create a Standing Rule on Abstentions

**Agenda Item:** GB011409-7  
**Date:** January 14, 2008  
**Proposed By:** Jon Liberman

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## Summary

To define how Abstentions are to be handled on Board Votes.

## Full Proposal

At our December Board Meeting we had a vote where there were a large number of abstentions. (Y 2, N8, A6) This called into question whether the vote was final and the motion failed, or whether the motion was still alive and subject to further votes. The question was referred to the City Attorney who advises DONE. The advice received was that we should seek certainty by installing a Standing Rule which would define the procedural consequences of an abstention. There are two possible alternatives towards handling abstentions. One alternative is to count each abstention as a positive vote. The second alternative is to not count an abstention as a vote. The Executive Committee discussed both alternatives and felt that it would be cleaner and more transparent to treat abstentions as a non-vote.

## Proposed Motion

- I. To create a standing rule to become effective with the February, 2009 General Board meeting.
- II. For purposes of whether a motion is to be considered as having passed the Official Action as defined in our bylaws will be modified by not counting abstentions as a vote for the item under consideration.

## Considerations

### Pro

Brings clarity to our procedures.

### Con

Allows someone by not voting to kill a motion that a majority of the board might want to have a decision on.

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