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Michael Lynn
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Ryan Spivey
Vice-President

Terrence Gomes
Treasurer

Jason Plummer
Secretary

Stuart Weiss
Corresponding Secretary

General Board Meeting Draft Minutes

Thursday, September 17, 2026 @ 6:30pm

Location: [Claude Pepper Recreational Senior Citizens Center](#)
[1762 S. La Cienega Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90035](#)

1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Michael Lynn at 6:42 PM

2. Pledge of Allegiance led by Beth Klein

3. Roll Call

Board members present: Baila Romm, Stuart Weiss, Terrence Gomes, Michael Lynn, Michelle Bega, Abby Pollitt, Joe Lisuzzo, Jason Plummer, Sandy Block, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz, Ronald Steinhoff, Ryan Spivey, Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Noah Tabibnia

Board members absent: Ronak Tumari, David Bruk, Barry Levine, Aaron Sinai, Daniel Romm, Rachael Petru, Megan Goldring

Board member that left earlier: Sandy Block left the meeting at 7:49 PM

4. General Public Comment:

A USC student introduced himself and explained that he was attending the meeting for a school assignment.

5. Brief Board Announcements

a. Items for Committee Agendas and other Brief Board Announcements

Michael Lynn asked whether any Board members had items they wanted another committee to consider.

Baila Romm announced the passing of Amy Haberland a beloved community member who had been active in public safety matters and frequently reported issues in her neighborhood. Baila requested that Council Districts 5 and 10 participate in a memorial and provide a certificate of appreciation to the decedent's husband.

Ryan Spivey announced that he would send an email requesting that Board members submit headshots for publication on the SORO NC website to improve transparency and help the public identify Board members.

Michael Lynn stated that he would arrange for business cards to be provided to new Board members.

Beth Klein expressed concern that some votes had been conducted too quickly and requested that the Board allow for more in-depth discussion before voting on items. She noted that motions can be made to continue an item for further discussion when Board members do not feel sufficiently informed.

6. Community Reports

- a. LA Police Department (Cohen) - 41706@lapd.online / (Ojeda) - 36393@lapd.online
- b. LA Fire Department- Battalion 18 lafdbattalion18@lacity.org
- c. Office of Councilwoman Yaroslavsky, CD-5 (Rodriguez) - cairo.rodriguez@lacity.org

Cairo Rodriguez discussed a two-part proposal by Councilwoman Yaroslavsky intended to expand homeownership opportunities by making condominiums, townhomes, and starter homes more affordable. The proposal would include streamlining the approval process for eligible condominium projects and examining additional incentives or ways to reduce development costs.

Rodriguez also discussed the City's preparation for the upcoming rainy season and announced a community book fair on October 10 at the Memorial Park area on West Olympic Boulevard, as well as a Pico-Robertson neighborhood sanitation event on October 11.

- d. Office of Councilwoman Hutt, CD-10 (Guevara) - mayra.guevara@lacity.org

Mayra Guevara reported that Council District 10 was working with the city to address storm drains before the rainy season. She mentioned residents should provide the locations of storm drains requiring attention so the office could coordinate with the appropriate City departments. She also reported that the Council District office had responded to a graffiti complaint and removed the graffiti. Guevara announced that the street closure for the Wilshire Division carnival would begin on September 23 at 8:00 AM, with the streets expected to reopen early Monday morning. She also announced a December 6 holiday festival featuring snow and holiday lights, scheduled for 2:00–8:00 PM, with additional events planned throughout the district. Guevara further reported that there had been no fires in Council District 10 and that the office had worked with Caltrans on related matters.

- e. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Erving) - commission@empowerla.org
- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Manzo)- alfonso.manzo@lacity.org
- g. Office of Mayor Bass (Hatcher) - konstantin.hatcher@lacity.org / (Moret) allen.moret@lacity.org

Allen Moret discussed public safety, homelessness, and neighborhood services. Moret stated that the Mayor's Office remained focused on protecting synagogues, schools, and other community institutions and encouraged residents to report suspicious activity to the appropriate authorities or call 911 in

an emergency. He also stated that the mayor has made clear that antisemitism has no place in Los Angeles. Furthermore, he explained that the mayor's homelessness strategy focuses on connecting people experiencing homelessness with housing, health care, substance-use treatment, and other services. He stated that the mayor supports investigations into alleged misuse of homelessness funds and emphasized the importance of accountability. Residents were encouraged to report encampments and request outreach services through the appropriate City channels.

h. Office of County Supervisor Mitchell, 2nd District (Park) - DPark@bos.lacounty.gov

The representative discussed Los Angeles County's preparations for the upcoming storm season, including maintenance of storm-control infrastructure, monitoring of areas at risk of flooding and mudslides, and preparations for evacuations and emergency shelters. Residents with questions about mud or debris-flow risks were encouraged to contact Los Angeles County Public Works and speak with an engineer. Flyers regarding emergency preparedness and an upcoming County town hall were made available.

The representative also discussed a recently released after-action report concerning the January 2025 Palisades and Eaton fires. The County Board of Supervisors introduced a motion calling for regular reporting on the implementation of the report's recommendations, including identifying responsible parties, required resources, and potential barriers. The motion also called for a third-party administrator to track progress and improve coordination among the agencies involved.

The representative reported that Los Angeles County was applying to take over responsibility for the 2027 homeless count and other functions previously handled by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). The County was also developing its own homelessness department and conducting audits related to homelessness funding.

The representative discussed the coyote population and stated that coyotes cannot legally be relocated or trapped for relocation. Coyotes that pose an immediate threat may be addressed by appropriate authorities. Residents were also advised not to leave food or water outside, as doing so can attract coyotes and encourage them to remain in residential areas.

i. Office of County Supervisor Horvath, 3rd District (Amanda Laflen) - ALaflen@bos.lacounty.gov

j. Office of State Assemblymember Bryan, AD-55 (Persoff) -Michelle.Persoff@asm.ca.gov

Michelle Persoff reported that Assemblymember Isaac Bryan had helped secure \$2.5 million for the area and was working with Council District 5 on cleanup efforts. She also stated that the office would continue following up on requests involving Caltrans.

- k. Office of State Senator Smallwood-Cuevas, SD-28 (Hickambottom) - Ann.Hickambottom@sen.ca.gov

Ann Hickambottom reported that, as of September 5, two bills were awaiting action by the Governor. The representative also discussed the Senator's focus on labor-rights issues and announced that additional community coffee events were being planned, including an event on October 3.

Beth Klein asked why Senator Smallwood-Cuevas had abstained from voting on SB 79 despite the district's support for the bill. The representative stated that she could not answer the question but would present the issue to the Senate

- l. Office of Congressman Kamlager-Dove, CD-37 (Benarroch) - Jackson.Benarroch@mail.house.gov
- m. Office of LAUSD School Board District 1 – (Walker) jewett.walkerjr@lausd.net
- n. Budget Advocates (Jay Handel) sgrest@aol.com

Jay Handel reported that the mayor's budget letter was expected by the end of the month and would provide directions to City departments regarding the next fiscal year's budget. Handel stated that Budget Advocates was conducting a community survey and encouraged residents to participate through the Budget Advocates website.

Handel reported that Budget Advocates was meeting with City departments to discuss next year's budget and was studying the potential impact of the 2028 Olympics, convention-center renovations, federal funding reductions, and homelessness expenditures. He emphasized the need for audits, transparency, and accountability in City spending.

7. Board Membership- Selections, Removals, & Resignations

- a. Announcement of the resignation of Judit Maull from the SORO NC General Board and the opening of the Resident Zone 5 Board Seat (Term ending June 2029) for appointment application

Michael Lynn announced the resignation of Judit Maull from the SORO NC General Board and the opening of the Resident Zone 5 Board seat for applications.

8. Committees, Liaisons and Alliances

- a. Committee, Liaisons and Alliance Reports
 - l. Standing Committees: Executive (Lynn); Land Use Cohen); Public Safety (Gomes/Romm); Outreach (Lynn); Transportation (Plummer); Budget & Finance (Gomes); Bylaws (Spivey); Board Development (Plummer)

Executive Committee: Michael Lynn noted that the Congress of Neighborhood Councils would take place on Saturday.

Outreach Committee: Michael Lynn noted that the matter regarding the outreach committee would be around the agenda.

Budget & Finance Committee: Terrence Gomes reported that related matters were included on the agenda.

Bylaws Committee: Ryan Spivey reported that a meeting was being planned, possibly for November 4.

II. Ad-hoc Committees: Trees

III. Liaisons and Alliances: LANCC (Gomes), WRAC (Lynn), LADWP (Plummer), Budget Advocates (Steinhoff), City Attorney (Lynn), Homelessness (Katz).

LANCC: Terrence Gomes reported that he had not received any updates regarding tree removal. He also noted that September is emergency preparedness month against floods.

WRAC: Michael Lynn provided no additional report.

LADWP: Jason Plummer reported on discussions concerning water treatment and a presentation on the website. He also mentioned efforts to reduce reliance on Metropolitan Water District supplies.

Homelessness: Marlene Katz reported that the committee had finally held a meeting. She discussed a presentation from the Koreatown community center regarding available support services and encouraged anyone seeking assistance to attend an upcoming meeting.

- b. Motion to confirm Rachael Petru as the SORO NC Transportation Committee Vice Chair (GB091726-01)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Michelle Bega.

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Jason Plummer - **Yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Marlene Katz - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivey - **Yes**, Mitch Cohen - **Yes**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passes.

- c. Motion to appoint a SORO NC representative to the WRAC Homelessness Committee (GB091726-02)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Ryan Spivey.

Ryan Spivey would like to nominate himself

Joseph Mollaie questions whether hard questions will be asked and Ryan Spivey assures he will be asking the hard questions

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Jason Plummer - **Yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Marlene Katz - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivey - **Yes**, Mitch Cohen - **Yes**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passes.

- d. Opportunity for Board members to Join and/or Change Membership of Standing Committees (GB091726-03)
No changes

9. Special Orders

- a. Motion to accept August 20, 2026, General Board Meeting Draft Minutes (GB091726-04) **Correction of three Board members votes to be recorded as “ineligible”**

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Ryan Spivey.

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Jason Plummer - **Yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Marlene Katz - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivey - **Yes**, Mitch Cohen - **Yes**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passes.

Chair calls for recess at 8pm, without objection

Chair resumes the meeting at 8:03 PM

- b. Motion to Reconsider the Vote on the Motion relating to the August 20, 2026, Agenda, Item 11e (GB082026-14), moved as “Motion to support the application by 19841Ventura and Hope, LLC (Harvest of Beverly Wood, DCR Record No. LA-R-26-310051-ANN), to operate a new cannabis store at 2622 South Robertson Blvd.” (GB091726-05)

Ryan Spivey requested that the motion to reconsider the previous cannabis-related vote be withdrawn. There were no objections

10. Unfinished Business:

- a. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to send a letter to CD 5 Councilwoman Yaroslavsky and the Los Angeles Zoning Administrator recommending approval of the construction of a new seven-story, 78' height, 55,567sf apartment building on a vacant lot at 1416 S. Beverly Dr., on the condition of review of the impact on the water supply, sewer and electrical systems servicing the site (GB091726-06)

Chair returned the matter to the Land Use Committee for further consideration, without objection.

11. Consent Agenda

- a. None

12. New Business

Multiple Item Public Comment:

- a. Motion to approve the August 2026 Monthly Expenditure Report (GB091726-07)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Ryan Spivey.

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Jason Plummer - **Yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Marlene Katz - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivey - **Yes**, Mitch Cohen - **Yes**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passes.

- b. Motion for the SORO NC to have an outreach table at the Robertson Recreation Center Fall Festival event in late October, and fund up to \$250 for refreshments (GB091726-08)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Michelle Bega.

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Jason Plummer - **Yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Marlene Katz - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivey - **Yes**, Mitch Cohen - **Yes**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passes.

- c. Motion to submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of Council File 26-0906-S4, if amended, with the following text as a Summary:
"The South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) supports the motion in Council File 26-0906-S4 in principle. However, we also maintain that CERT classes should not be mandatory and should include additional training on how board members are to work with the public in the event of a disaster. CERT must be adequately funded for the additional training. If mandatory, Neighborhood Council board members must have their time financially compensated for the trainings."
(GB091726-09)

Moved by: Terrence Gomes; Seconded by: Baila Romm.

Beth Klein, Ronald Steinhoff, Joseph Mollaie, Jason David, Mitch Cohen, and Baila Romm discussed whether CERT training should be mandatory for Neighborhood Council members and whether compensation language should remain in the proposed CIS. Beth Klein expressed concern that mandatory training could discourage participation. Jason David explained that the Council file had been amended to remove the mandatory training requirement. Chairman Michael Lynn announced the original motion would ultimately be moved as written.

Roll Call Vote: Baila Romm - **Yes**, Stuart Weiss - **Yes**, Terrence Gomes - **Yes**, Michael Lynn - **Yes**, Michelle Bega - **Yes**, Abby Pollitt - **Yes**, Joe Lisuzzo - **Yes**, Jason Plummer - **Yes**, Beth Klein - **Yes**, Marlene Katz - **Yes**, Ronald Steinhoff - **Yes**, Ryan Spivey - **Yes**, Mitch Cohen - **Yes**, Joseph Mollaie - **Yes**, Shirley Traum - **Yes**, Noah Tabibnia - **Ineligible**

15 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain. Motion passes.

13. Items Removed from Consent Agenda

None

14. Meeting Adjourned by Chair, without objection, at 8:22 PM