

Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Board Meeting  
 Wednesday, March 4, 2009, 7:30 pm  
 Lake Balboa Studios  
 7412 Balboa Blvd.  
 Lake Balboa, CA 91406

D. Bernardoni	Pres., Residential Representative	P
E. Doxsee	Youth Rep.	P
Sylvia Silva	Residential Rep.	A (excused)
Amber Savastio	Communications Officer, Business Rep.	P
Linda Pruett	2 <sup>nd</sup> VP, EP Committee Chair	P
Ivan Tjoe	1 <sup>st</sup> VP, Residential Rep.	A (excused)
Steve Leffert	Secretary	P
Clay McFarland	Treasurer, Business Rep.	P
Bahman Mojallal (Moe)	At-Large Appointed Rep.	P
Elmer Jespersen	Senior Rep.	P
Teresa Pollock	Residential Rep.	P
Allen Nelson	Business Rep.	P
Jack Baird	Residential Rep.	P
Lisa Reveen	Animal Welfare Comm., Organization Rep.	A (excused)
Joyce MacKinnon	Organizational Rep.	P
Bill McRae <sup>a</sup>	Outreach & Marketing Comm. Chair	P

a Arrived at 7:43 PM

1. Welcome and Introductions
  - a. D. Bernardoni opens the meeting at 7:35 p.m.
2. Roll Call, Adoption of Agenda and Approval of Minutes of the December 3, 2008 Meeting
  - a. **C. McFarland introduces a motion to adopt the agenda.**  
**MOTION BY C. McFARLAND**  
**SECONDED BY E. DOXSEE**  
**Resolved: 11-0-1 in favor of motion. D. Bernardoni abstains.**
  - b. **I. Tjoe introduces a motion to approve the minutes of the February 4, 2009 meeting.**  
**MOTION BY S. LEFFERT**  
**SECONDED BY A. NELSON**  
**Resolved: 10-0-1 in favor of motion. D. Bernardoni and A. Savastio abstain.**
3. Announcements and Reports
  - a. LAPD representative – LAPD officers met with representatives from Tony Cárdenas’ office at the tunnel at Sherman Way to look at new security cameras. The new captain’s name is Captain Egan. The number of residential burglaries has increased.

- b. Linda Pruett – Officer Hamm distributed Neighborhood Watch reports. She encourages the members of the audience to pick up a copy.
  - c. Lynda Levitan, rep. from Tony Cárdenas' office – She is working with Capt. Fitzpatrick to find a source of electricity for the cameras to be installed in Sherman Way Tunnel. Women's Self Defense Workshop will be on the 21<sup>st</sup> of March at 11 a.m. at the Fernangeles Recreation Center. Pet Care Fair will be on April 18 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
  - d. S. Leffert – St. Patrick's Day Hike and Beach Party will be at Gladstone's on Sunday, March 15. The registration begins at 9 a.m. The hike starts at 11 a.m. Pre-register for the lowest fees. Speed limits are going to be raised to 40 or 45 mph on Victory, Saticoy, Balboa, and Sherman Way. Go to [www.surveyla.org](http://www.surveyla.org) to submit suggestions for properties that the city should survey for historical significance.
  - e. L. Pruett – The Emergency Preparedness Committee spoke at a local high school. They will be doing a Cert 1 class in April there. Please attend the EP Committee and the Communications Committee meetings. The dates are posted on the back of the agenda.
4. Public Comment
- a. Community of Friends – Lee Millman/New Directions – Matthew Pauley – They are in the process of converting two buildings on the Sepulveda North Hills Veterans' Administration Campus property into a home for disabled veterans. The address is 16111 Plummer. They have applied for a zone variance requesting a change from hospital use to housing and are awaiting the outcome of the hearing. New Directions provides services for the veterans, including medical, job training, and drug and alcohol rehabilitation. They are here to inform the council about the project, not to request anything.
  - b. Moe Mirmehdi, rep. from Self Exploration Leadership Program – He is developing a program called Walk and Talk for Seniors. He also helps people in danger of losing their homes to renegotiate the terms of their mortgages. He will report back to the council with news about the development of the project, and he would like to ask for LBNC's support.
  - c. Jeff Stansfield - Red Cross – The new emergency operations center will have an open house on Saturday, March 7, from 1 – 4 p.m. at the Veterans' Administration Campus.
  - d. Sharon Brewer – Rec. and Parks - On Feb. 18, Rec. and Parks Commissioners agreed to reallocate \$55,000 towards the Dodger's Dream Field project. The money would go towards reports required by the California Environmental Quality Act. During the comment period, Rec. and Parks said that no city funds would go towards the project. Jon Mukri, general manager of Rec. and Parks, will be attending the Encino NC meeting on the 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of the month. The meeting starts at 7 p.m.
  - e. Linda Schwering, LB stakeholder - VA Facility has vacant facilities that could be put to good use. She can place the council in contact with the

representative from the VA.

5. Brief response from Board to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights
  - a. The board members thanked all speakers for their contributions.
6. Discussion regarding possible closure of West Valley School – Leffert
  - a. The Board of Education is considering closing West Valley Alternative School, a school that currently serves disabled students. The students would be sent to other schools in the district.  
**S. Leffert introduces a motion that the LBNC send a letter to the Superintendent of Schools in support of keeping West Valley School open and allow continued enrollment of students with need.**  
**MOTION BY S. LEFFERT**  
**SECONDED BY L. PRUETT**  
**Resolved: 11-0-1 in favor of motion. D. Bernardoni abstains.**
7. Discussion regarding the annual Easter Egg Hunt at the Balboa Sports Center on April 11 by Recreation and Parks Department – Pruett
  - a. Patricia Kent, rep. from Balboa Sports Complex – The event will have an egg hunt, face painting, and other activities for the family. She asks for \$500 to go towards the entertainment (\$300) and decorations (approx. \$200). The board's name would go on the event literature.  
**L. Pruett introduces a motion that the LBNC agree to sponsor the Easter Egg Hunt at Balboa Sports Center up to the amount of \$500 as a LBNC outreach event.**  
**MOTION BY L. PRUETT**  
**SECONDED BY C. McFARLAND**  
Discussion: B. McRae would like the board to be able to have a booth at the event. Ms. Kent says that she will check with the proper people, but she does not believe that it would be a problem.  
**Resolved: 10-0-2 in favor of motion. D. Bernardoni and E. Doxsee abstain.**
8. Discussion regarding of 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Salute to Recreation Family Festival on May 29-31 by Recreation and Parks Department – Bernardoni
  - a. Hugo Sanchez, Rec. Coordinator – Rec. and Parks has held this event for decades. The current economic crisis has compelled them to seek support and funding from neighborhood councils in the San Fernando Valley. The LBNC could have a booth for outreach at the event. The council could place a link to a flyer about the event on the website and on the LBNC literature. If LBNC contributed, it would have its name on all promotional literature for the event. The board could have a booth without offering funding for the event.
  - b. Board Discussion - L. Pruett reminds the board that LBNC has contributed money towards give-away items in past years.

**C. McFarland introduces a motion that the LBNC purchase 150 cases of water, up to the value of \$750, for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Salute to Recreation Family Festival on May 29-31.**

**MOTION BY C. McFARLAND**

**SECONDED BY B. MOJALLAL**

Discussion: T. Pollock would rather support events at the senior dance. B. McRae would like to support something that would create more exposure at the event. D. Bernardoni would like to make sure that sponsorship of this event would allow the council to have a public presence at the event beyond the brochure. Mr. Sanchez will bring up the council's request at the next planning meeting for the event. B. McRae would like to get the information from Mr. Sanchez before committing. The allocation of funds could be postponed until next month's board meeting. S. Leffert points out that, if the literature for the event is printed before the next board meeting, the board will miss its opportunity for outreach through its ad on the flyers and brochures.

**Amended motion: B. McRae introduces a motion that the LBNC purchase 150 cases of water, up to the value of \$750, for the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Salute to Recreation Family Festival on May 29-31, with the understanding that Hugo Sanchez (of Recreation and Parks) will request that (1) the LBNC logo be printed on all promotional materials, including the website, (2) that the LBNC logo be displayed clearly at the event and on all the brochures.**

**AMENDED MOTION BY B. McRAE**

**SECONDED BY T. POLLOCK**

**Vote on the amendment: 9-0-3 – A. Savastio, E. Doxsee, and D. Bernardoni abstain.**

**Vote on amended motion: 9-0-3 in favor of motion. - . A. Savastio, E. Doxsee, and D. Bernardoni abstain.**

9. Presentation by representative, Saul Korin, from Jewish Loan Association – Leffert

- a. JLA offers interest-free loans for people in difficult financial conditions. They have been in existence for 104 years. He would like the community to know that the JLA can help pay rent, mortgages, and other expenses. The loans are given on a need basis. Co-signers are required; it is the co-signers whose credit ratings are evaluated. The loans will not damage or improve credit ratings because the company does not report to the credit bureaus.

10. Discussion on Lake Balboa signs on the I-405 and 101 freeways – Leffert

- a. S. Leffert - LBNC requested to have signs for Lake Balboa installed on the freeways. The DOT has responded, saying they would install four main line signs on the freeway and directional signs at the end of the off-ramps. The cost would be \$2,500 per main line sign and \$1,250 for each sign on the off-ramp. The fees cover all expenses, including maintenance. Once the funds are received, it typically takes 3-4 months before the signs are installed. S. Leffert is trying to find out the planned location of the signs. The board will have to decide whether to spend \$15,000 on the signs.

- b. Board Discussion: - D. Bernardoni believes that the burden of payment should not rest on the council. He would like to do more research. The board agrees.
11. Discussion regarding purchase of laminating machine and supplies for use of the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council – Pruett

- a. L. Pruett – The board could benefit from the purchase of a laminating machine. Emergency Preparedness Committee could especially benefit. The members would be able to create informational signs, labels, and ID tags.

**L. Pruett introduces a motion that the LBNC purchase a laminator and start-up supplies not to exceed \$350.**

**MOTION BY L. PRUETT**

**SECONDED BY T. POLLOCK**

Board Discussion: B McRae would like to know how the board will be able to buy supplies once they use the initial set. C. McFarland confirms that a new motion before the board would not be required in order to purchase supplies for the machine.

**Resolved: 10-0-2 in favor of motion. E. Doxsee and D. Bernardoni abstain.**

L. Pruett would like to know which members of the council would like to take responsibility for opening one of the emergency bins during an emergency. Fifteen people would have the combination for each bin, making sure that someone will be available to open the bin in event of disaster. She will write a letter to the board members describing the responsibilities of the assignment and the necessary qualifications.

12. Discussion regarding LBNC budget – McFarland

- a. C. McFarland – He estimates that the council will have spent \$104,629 out of \$165,000 by June 30, 2009. That leaves \$60,371. The council is \$2100 short in the outreach budget. He would like to reduce the staffing budget by \$8,000 and the elections budget by \$4,000. That \$12,000 would go into outreach. The other projects' budget will be reduced by \$646; that money will go to the Birmingham School project. On July 1, 2009, the council will get another \$50,000.

**C. McFarland introduces a motion to amend the budget, reducing the staffing budget by \$8,000, the elections budget by \$4,000, the other projects budget by \$646, increasing the outreach budget by \$12,000 and the Birmingham School project budget by \$646.00.**

**MOTION BY C. McFARLAND**

**SECONDED BY BILL McRAE**

Discussion: Moe reminds the council to be aware that the City might cut the budget for neighborhood councils.

**Resolved: 10-0-2 in favor of motion. E. Doxsee and D. Bernardoni abstain.**

13. Discussion on Persian New Year Festival at Bellenson Park on April 5, 2009 – Mojallal

- a. Moe - The Iranian New Year is on the first day of spring. The celebration will be held this year on April 5, 2009. Moe is helping to plan the event. Admission fee will be \$10. He would like to find alternative parking locations (Woodley Park) because finding parking has been difficult in past years. This year, there will be one entrance and signage in both English and Farsi. In past years, multiple entrances clogged traffic, and the sign was only printed in Farsi. The workers at the event will clean after the event in the evening, and another crew will clean in the early morning. It is difficult to enforce non-smoking rules at the festival; the cleaning crews will go their best to clean up any cigarette butts. With these measures, Moe hopes to alleviate the problems from events from previous years.

**L. Pruett introduces a motion voicing the LBNC's support of the Persian New Year Festival (April 5, 2009 at Lake Balboa).**

**MOTION BY L. PRUETT**

**SECONDED BY A. SAVASTIO**

**Resolved: 10-0-2 in favor of motion. D. Bernardoni and B. Mojallal abstain.**

D. Bernardoni agrees to write a letter stating the council's support.

14. Discussion regarding April 25 Renaming Event at Bellenson Park – Mojallal

- a. Moe - Birmingham HS Marching Band will perform at the event. Larry Boyle will perform. They still need sponsors for this event. Please think of possible sources for sponsorship in the community.

15. Unfinished Business

- a. B. McRae – E. Jespersen would like to know the proper procedure for increasing the load in the left hand turn lane on eastbound Victory Blvd. heading onto northbound Woodley Ave. S. Leffert recommends contacting Councilman Cárdenas' office.

16. Adjournment

**E. Doxsee introduces a motion to adjourn.**

**MOTION BY EVAN DOXSEE**

**SECONDED BY T. POLLOCK**

**Resolved: 10-0-1 in favor of motion. D. Bernardoni abstains.**

Meeting is adjourned at 10:13 p.m.