

FINAL

**Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, May 1, 2013 6:30 pm**  
Van Nuys Golf Course, Billingsley Room  
6550 Odessa Ave. - Lake Balboa, California 91406

1. Meeting called to order by Cynthia Weichelt, President, at 7:03 pm.  
There were 67 people in attendance.

**Roll Call**

Linda Schwering	Residential Rep., Treasurer	P
Cynthia Weichelt	Residential Rep., President	P
Jack Baird	Residential Rep.	E
Linda Pruet	Residential Rep., Emergency Preparedness Chair	P
Allen Nelson	Residential Rep., Communications Officer	P
Brian Tessier	Residential Rep., General Outreach Chair	P
Linda Gravani	Business Rep., 2 <sup>nd</sup> VP	P
Clay McFarland	Business Rep., 1 <sup>st</sup> VP	E
Michael Rosá	Business Rep., Business Chair	P
Steve Leffert	Organizational Rep., Planning & Land Use Chair	P
Ruth Doxsee	Organizational Rep.	E
Bethany Harris	Organizational Rep., Secretary	P
Carl Schwering	Senior Rep	P
Christopher Bower	Youth Rep.	P
Patricia Davidovich	At-Large Elected Rep.	E
Leslie (Leela) Woods	At-Large Appointed Rep.	P
Roxan Hartstein	At-Large Appointed Rep., Community Improvement Chair	P

2. **ADOPTED Agenda by unanimous vote** - Steve Leffert made the motion to adopt the agenda. Linda Pruet seconded the motion. Vote: 12-0-3

3. **Forum of Candidates for CD6 City Council**

- A. **Walter Escobar.** Commercial pilot. Interest in fixing the budget: cutting top salaries, reducing the amount of businesses leaving by reducing business tax, and minimizing waste. Other interests included doing something about graffiti and prostitution.
- B. **Nury Martinez.** Grew up in the Valley. Exec. Director of Pacoima Beautiful. School Board Member. Holds a neighborhood watch group from her home. Interests include: public safety, job development, land use and basic service needs being met.
- C. **Derek Waleko.** Works in international trading. Presently a part of the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council. Plans on holding a monthly meeting with CD6's NC's. Interests include: redoing Van Nuys Blvd., education, healthy eating/education for children *"our kindergarteners should know what arugula and kale are,"* bringing more jobs to the Valley, attracting businesses, and doing more about the prostitution problem.
- D. **Dan Stronsach.** Screenwriter who recently purchased a home in Van Nuys. "Dan with a Plan". Upset by the 25,000 that have been let out of jail and the resulting crime increase. Story of how he was inspired to get involved available on his website.

- E. **Richard Valdez.** Military background. Worked with the Children’s Hospital and the Say No to Drugs campaign. Has a background in business and real estate. Plans to: hold regular town meetings, encourage more afterschool and youth job training program, and move towards green energy.
  - F. **Cindy Montanez.** Grew up in the Valley. Invites council to visit her at her office at Sherman Way and Hayvenhurst. Former Mayor of San Fernando at the age of 27. Interests include: the protection of the Sepulveda Basin, cleaning the streets, and the light rail. Encouraged those present to take a look at the write up in the LA Times.
4. **Approval of the April Minutes.** Motion made by Linda Gravani and seconded by Mike Rosa.  
Vote: 12-0-3
5. **RECEIVED Announcements and Reports by LAPD, Local, City, State and Federal Representatives, Board Members, Committees.**
- A. **Officer Oliveras.** Introduced Officers Dannin and Herrera. Addressed local issues: the shots heard at Woodley and Vanowen (by members of a North Hollywood gang), metal theft, road rage, needing volunteers for the surveillance, and the open house on the fourth. [34728@LAPD.LACITY.ORG](mailto:34728@LAPD.LACITY.ORG). **Facebook Group 10A39**
  - B. **EP. Linda Pruet.** Review of last month’s restocking of the Woodley EP bin. Guest for the May EP meeting will be an ER doctor that is part of the American College of ER Physicians.
  - C. **Land Use. Steve Leffert.** Announced meeting on May 7<sup>th</sup> at the Marvin Braude Building in regards to the housing tract at Amestoy and Sherman Way.
  - D. **Beautification. Roxan Harstein.** June 9<sup>th</sup> neighborhood beautification event at the corner of Balboa and Saticoy. Volunteers needed.
  - E. **Business Outreach. Mike Rosa.** CD6 City Council Candidates Nury Martinez and Richard Valdez attended the meeting at the Humblebee. Discussion on the “Spend \$25 on the 25<sup>th</sup> campaign.” Linda Gravani was chosen for Nazarian’s salute to small businesses. Next meeting will be held at Millie’s on the 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.
  - F. **Budget Committee. Linda Schwering.** Budget Committee met on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April and discussed the remaining budget and proposed plans that were submitted (planning sheets available). Senior Symposium at ONEgeneration went well with 500+ in attendance.
  - G. **Outreach Committee. Brian Tessier.** Review of West Valley Outreach meeting. Two biggest takeaways: having 4-6 big goals for the year, newsletter revision (cost, frequency, quality, etc.)
  - H. **Youth Outreach. Bethany Harris.** Review of CSUN orange harvest event. Students from Mulholland Middle School came. 19,685 lbs. harvested and distributed to SOVA, MEND and Valley Foodbank.
  - I. **Carl Schwering.** Walk for Alzheimers at Woodley Park, June 9<sup>th</sup>.
  - J. **Allen Nelson.** Worldfest. All residents from 91406 get free parking.
  - K. **Cynthia Weichelt.** Digital billboards. As of April 18<sup>th</sup>, all are off. In regards to the Sepulveda Basin devastation over Christmas, the Army Corps of Engineers is not responding to any of the suggestions made by the Audubon Society, Sierra Club or any other interested parties.
6. **Public Comment - Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Items, Issues, Announcements and Complaints within the jurisdiction for the Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council**
- A. **Gretta Fenok** - resident interested in seeing a bike lane on Louise from Roscoe to Victory
  - B. **Eldad Sharbid.** Resident concerned with the recent opening of a medical marijuana dispensary at Vanowen and Louise (near the Q market).

- C. Shannon Moore** - Birmingham Alumni - Pancake Breakfast to engage stakeholders 5/18 (8am-10am) at Birmingham. June 4<sup>th</sup> Birmingham is up for charter renewal. communications@Birminghamalumni.org, or srmooore33@gmail.com
- D. Justin Bonney** - Bonney gave an update on the new Facebook page he created to promote small businesses in the community - facebook.com/lakebalboaliving. Concerned with LA having the highest paid City Council and it's not investing enough in our schools. Concerned with regulating dispensaries.
- 7. Land Use: Tesla Motorcars. Steve Leffert.** Discussion on the proposed automobile service and repair sop for electric vehicles only at 6919-21 Hayvenhurst Ave. the space is currently being used for deliveries only. Stakeholders concerned with some safety issues that were addressed by Tesla and Leffert. This will be the first of several locations to open in Los Angeles. Leffert made the following motion: **"I move that the LBNC write a letter to the L.A.City Planning Department in support of the Conditional Use Permit and Zoning Variance to allow Tesla Motors to operate an electric automobile repair and service center at 6919-21 Hayvenhurst Ave., Lake Balboa, CA 91406 (Case ZA 2013-754 (CU)(ZV). Furthermore, the LBNC urge the Planning Department to accept the Mitigated Negative Declaration (ENV-2013-755-MND). The LBNC also stipulates that it would like to Tesla facility named the Tesla Lake Balboa Service Center."** Mike Rosa seconded the motion. Vote: (13-0) Motion passes.
- 8. Mural Ordinance. Allen Nelson.** Discussion and possible comment letter or Community impact Statement regarding the mural ordinance before the City Council. File #11-0923. Re-agenized.
- 9. Treasurers Report - Review and request for approval of expenditure report, including P-Card expenditures for April 2013—L. Schwering.** Roxan Harstein made the motion to approve the financial and P-Card reports, seconded by Mike Rosa Vote: (11-0-1) Motion passes.
- 10. 2013 Congress of Neighborhood Councils.** Discussion and possible resolution of support in the amount of \$500. **Linda Schwering.** Linda Schwering brought a Board Support Resolution for the Congress in the amount of \$500 from the FY12-13 budget to be-placed in a holding account that will hold funds for the operation of the Congress on September 28, 2013. #47J220. Seconded by Mike Rosa Vote: (10-0-1) Resolution-passes.
- 11. Walk for Community Services. Tessier.** Discussion of allocation of up to \$500 to the event put on by LSS Community Care Services. Brian Tessier made a motion to pledge \$500 from the FY13-14 budget for the event, seconded by Mike Rosa. Vote: (12-0) Motion passes.
- 12. PA System. Hartstein.** Discussion to allocate up to \$600 for a PA system for use at monthly meetings. Item Tabled.
- 13. Emergency Preparedness. Pruettt/Tessier.** \$500 allocated for the Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair from the FY13-14 budget. A motion was made by Linda Pruettt to allocate up to \$300 from the current budget for Ham Radio antennas, and EP \$500 for Handouts for EP Meetings. Mike Rosa seconded the motion. Vote: (12-0) Motion passes. The funds allocation request for the Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair was withdrawn, and will be introduced in the FY2013-

2014.

14. **Outreach/Schools. Nelson.** Motion to allocate up to \$200 for Magnolia Science Academy Sign with LBNC URL on it. Steve Leffert seconded the motion. Vote: (12-0) Motion passes.
15. **Outreach. L.Schwering.** Motion to allocate up to \$450 to the purchase of LBNC logo embroidered shirts for board members to wear as an outreach and identification tool at meetings, events, and gatherings by Linda Schwering, Mike Rosa seconded. Vote: (11-0-1) Motion passes.
16. **Outreach. Tessier.** Motion to by Brian Tessier to allocate up to \$1300 (for 288 outreach T-shirts silk-screened with I Heart Lake Balboa on the front, and the LBNC logo and URL on the back for clean-ups and NC events), up to \$350 for one adjustable (6ft to 8ft) event table cover, and up to \$100 for handouts at outreach events. Allen Nelson seconded the motion. Vote: (10-0-2) Motion passes.
17. **Adjournment - Chris Bower** brought a motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Linda Pruett. Motion passes by unanimous vote. Meeting adjourned at 9:32pm.