

ECHO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, January 23, 2018,  
7:00 P.M.

Echo Park United Methodist Church  
1226 North Alvarado Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90026

1. Administrative items

a. Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:06pm with all 20 Board members present.

b. Roll Call

Attending Board Members:

Tad Yenawine, Chair

Darcy Harris, Vice Chair

Michael Galano, Treasurer

Paul Bowers, Chief Information Officer

Kevin Fisher

Richard Courtney

Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal

Connie Acosta

Ida Talalla

Margarita Fernandez

Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous

Cheryl Ortega

Mike Jolly

Andy Griggs

Sarah Smith

Jim Brown

Dominic Ciccodicola

Tyan Schesser

Thomas DeVoss

Jeffrey Kontorovsky

Non-Attending Board Members:

None

c. Adoption of minutes

*Kevin Fisher made the motion to adopt the October 2017 draft minutes. Darcy Harris seconded.*

**VOTE**  
**Unanimous 20-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Andy Griggs  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

*Kevin Fisher made the motion to adopt the November draft minutes. Tad Yenawine seconded.*

**VOTE**  
**Unanimous 20-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano

Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Andy Griggs  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

2. Community/Government reports:

a. Government agencies and officers

*Robert Solorio, Senior Lead Officer, Rampart Division, Los Angeles Police Department (LAPD):*

He said that everything is looking good in the Echo Park area. There have been no significant crimes reported in the Angelino Heights area for the last two weeks.

*Gina Paialli, Senior Lead Officer, Northeast Area, LAPD, [30347@lapd.online](mailto:30347@lapd.online), (213) 793-0760:*

She announced the Police Commission Community Meeting on January 30 at 6:30pm. The gathering will take place at the Ramona Hall Community Center at 4580 North Figueroa Street, Los Angeles, 90065. For more information call (213) 236-1400.

She also noted that in her area, North of Sunset, there have been crimes of opportunity burglaries, primarily of items visibly left in

cars. She also said that the LAPD will participate in the Citywide Homeless Count on January 25.

*Adam Schiff, House of Representatives, 28<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, as represented by Paul Bowers:*

Bowers said that there will be a toy give away on Thursday.

*Jeremy, Department of Recreation and Parks:*

He said that about 510 people were fed at their recent event, up 50% from the previous year. They also gave away toys to about 275 children.

*John Darnell, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE):*

He spoke of the new podcasts and the Homeless Alliance, which will meet January 30. He also said that the equitable funding issue is coming up. There will be a January 31 meeting. Echo Park Neighborhood Council Vice President Darcy Harris is your representative. The meeting will be held at City Hall East. He commented that some neighborhood councils serve 100,000 residents yet some others have as little as 3,300 yet they all receive the same \$42,000 annual funding.

Separately, he mentioned that bylaws changes are due by April 15 and that this fiscal year's funding deadline will be June 1.

Darcy Harris commented that translation issues will be key at the equitable funding meeting. Darnell responded that Council Member David Ryu is very interested in figuring out the funding issue. Ryu is chair of the City Council's Health, Education and Neighborhood Councils Committee.

*Angie, Adult Services Representative, Edendale Branch Library:*

She announced that "LA Made" – a celebration of local artists and performers - is happening at all branches. The broad variety of events includes Tiki dancing, making vegan sushi, and presentations on Frida Kahlo and F. Scott Fitzgerald and performances of plays by Anton Chekhov, among many other events. She left fliers with details. For more information: [www.lapl.org/lamade](http://www.lapl.org/lamade).

*Jeremy, Department of Recreation and Parks:*

He announced that there will be dance for adults, a free service. Polynesian, Ballroom, and Salsa dance classes are now being held at the Lake Street Community Center, 227 North Lake Street, Los Angeles, CA 90026, (213) 207-2196

*Paul Bowers:*

He said that Council Member Mitch O'Farrell has a council file about straws whereby people only get them if they request them. Biodegradable straws are also an option. We can make a difference with all the cafes in the neighborhood.

*Juan Fregoso, Field Deputy for Council Member O'Farrell, Council District, as represented by Vice President Darcy Harris:*

She said that the Mohawk Bend traffic signal will be activated tomorrow. There will be a ceremonial event February 1. There will be a traffic study by the Department of Transportation for Baxter. They will also weigh what neighbors want. A traffic signal at Portia and Sunset will be discussed as well.

#### c. EPNC Chair Report

EPNC President Tad Yenawine mentioned the Homeless count. He said that over the years there has been a demographic shift in Homelessness in Los Angeles from 80% vets to 20% vets but the homeless population is up 25%. The Homeless Count is happening Thursday night throughout the City. In Echo Park the event will be headquartered in this room.

Yenawine said that this Echo Park United Methodist church, an Episcopalian church, the LAPD and Sally Davis of the St. Athanasius Church all met January 15 and discussed lots of great ideas to end homelessness. These can go a long way to housing people in Echo Park. Look for another meeting on March 20 to convene work groups. Sally Davis added that there may be meetings earlier.

Yenawine said lots of exciting stuff is going on. Wage equity, the housing shortage, and vacant properties are among the issues. He added that he is really impressed with the LAPD. They come to meetings. The LAPD is setting a positive example.

He noted that the LAPD's mental health had 120 officers. The police say 90% of what they do could be better addressed by a social worker.

Separately, he announced that there will be a vacancy filled at the next EPNC Board meeting. There is also an open Secretary position. This is an EPNC officer position.

Regarding homelessness in the neighborhood, he said we don't want to draw more people to the neighborhood. The idea is to form a sustainable model that can be used in any community. We can't become a magnet for the homeless. He expressed concern about how to differentiate between our homeless and those not already in the community for services.

Cheryl Ortega asked a question about narrowing down the homeless count area. Can we invite an LAPD mental health officer here? Yenawine said yes. One of them spoke at the meeting on January 15. These meetings will probably become Echo Park town halls, he added.

Ida Talalla said that Echo Park has about 750 homeless, according to one of the homeless agencies.

#### d. Treasurer Report

Treasurer Michael Galano said the EPNC has about \$28,000 left in its bank account to spend for the fiscal year ending June 30. He attributed this in part to funds that were allocated to an election that won't happen this year. That's the big item. There are no Neighborhood Purposes Grants (NPGs) pending. He added that when you take out projected spending on rent and other operations costs through the end of the fiscal year, we will still have \$21,000.

Regarding the costs of translations question, he said that we now have a list of volunteer translators.

#### e. Other Committee Chair and liaison reports

Ida Talalla, Aging, Parks, and Health Committee: She said this is flu season. Wear masks. She added that a smoking at bus stops ban should be considered. Cigarette butts are cancerous and should be collected.

She announced that at the Echo Park Farmers' Market the Greater LA County Vector Control people will be there to answer questions about mosquitoes.

Talalla said that on February 9 at the Edendale branch library she will offer a Medicare/Medicaid presentation.

Connie Acosta, Budget Advocate: She discussed the Regional Budget meeting. She was at the meeting. There is a Council file for recommendations. The budget includes \$1.2 billion to cover salaries of 10,000 police officers. That amounts to 70% of the non discretionary budget. She also mentioned that there are about 800 vacant lots that can be used for the homeless.

Sarah Smith, Homeless Committee: She mentioned the Homeless Count Thursday at 8pm. We had a great meeting with over 100 people from the community regarding ideas for solutions to homelessness.

Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal, Public Works, Public Safety, and Sustainability Committee: She is the Sustainability Alliance liaison. We will co-sponsor an event with the Rampart Village Neighborhood Council on March 12 at 6:30pm. It will be a presentation on how climate changes will affect the neighborhood councils and will offer solutions.

Paul Bowers, Communications Committee: We are looking for members from the Board and from the community.

President Yenawine commented that the EPNC website tends to laud the Dodgers. That seems misleading to me.

Darcy Harris, Bylaws Committee: We meet next Tuesday. We did a big overhaul of bylaws last April. Now we will consider overhauling our standing rules. The meeting will be at 6:30pm here.

Darcy Harris, Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUC): The upcoming monthly meeting on February 13 will consider alcohol licenses, apartment buildings, and a parking lot for a charter school. She also mentioned an "Eastsider" article regarding 1111 Sunset Boulevard. That's on the border of our district. It's the old Metropolitan Water District building.

She mentioned that there will be a meeting February 12 held by the Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council (HCNC) PLUC re the Elysian Lofts development.

Tad Yenawine, Bylaws Committee: We're looking at the border issues involving the HCNC.

Richard Courtney, Dodgers Committee: He mentioned a Community Impact Statement (CIS) that the Board will consider later during the meeting. It will deal with all the Dodgers-related issues of last year.

Dominic Ciccodicola, Outreach Committee: He mentioned the farmers' markets. There will be one this Friday and one on February 23. He added that the Outreach Committee is seeking Board and public members. Having social media skills will be a plus. He added that the group is accessing a contact database by stakeholder interest. Finally, at the group's next meeting there will be a vote on additional swag. Bags are coming.

Andy Griggs, Immigrant Justice Committee: He said there would be a February 6 meeting. The last meeting failed to reach quorum. The group is seeking members. We've been working on DACA (Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals) issues with DACA youth. We will be at the farmers' market on February 23. We are talking to other neighborhood councils about setting up welcome committees. Our next meeting on February 6 will be here.

Andy Griggs, Alliance of River Communities: The group will meet here February 26. We are still reformulating ourselves. Last Friday we had a meeting. There was a lot of interest about neighborhood plans that are up for review right now. The transparency of neighborhood council plan rewriting will be discussed.

Andy Griggs, Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (LAANC) Liaison: The group meets the first Saturday of each month. The next meeting is February 3.

Cheryl Ortega, Schools, Libraries, and Community Organizations Committee: We want to do dedicated outreach to schools within our boundaries. This would include the principal, teachers, and parents. There are about 6-7 schools in boundaries.

### 3. Public Comment

*Owner of the 7-11 franchise at Berkeley and Glendale:*

He announced that a "Coffee With A Cop" session is coming in mid February with LAPD Senior Lead Officer Gina Paialli.

*Connie Acosta:*

She wants to start a Housing Committee to deal with eviction issues. She is referring people to the LA Tenants Union.

*Paul Bowers:*

The storm drains get clogged. Street sweepers drag dirt down the street. That's bad for air quality. He wants to work with Council District 13 to clean up this problem.

#### 4. PLUC

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

a. PLUC [6-0] Letter of support for conditional use permit to allow the sale and dispensing of a full line of alcoholic beverages for on-site consumption in conjunction with existing bar (new ownership) - Bar Henry at 1228 W. Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90026 (ZA-2017- 5007 CUB). Recommend liquor service until 12 am Sun – Th, 2 am Fri & Sat (beer and wine already allowed until 2 am every night); opening including alcohol service 11 am Sat & Sun, 5 pm Mon – Fri.

Richard Courtney is recusing himself. He lives within 500 feet of the project. He said that he does not support it. They serve no food.

Darcy Harris said they came to the PLUC meeting. She is proposing guidelines for bars to close at 1am on weeknights and 2am on weekends however this bar has grandfathered rights. They want to serve a full line of liquor. Currently they serve beer and wine. A compromise would be liquor until midnight on weekdays and until 2am on weekends.

*Her motion is to allow them to serve until 1am beer, wine, and other alcohol on weeknights and until 2am on weekends. This means they would voluntarily stop beer and wine at 1am on weeknights.*

*When the Dodgers play, they can open up at 11am on Saturdays and Sundays and on Dodger game days. We want them to enter a separate agreement with the neighborhood council that requires modification annually. There is an agreement and a draft letter. This bar was once called El Chabasco.*

Tad Yenawine said that he is concerned that the bar had an existing permit and PLUC wanted to reduce its hours. They can now be open 20 hours per day. That business is giving up 12 hours a day of service.

*Andy Griggs seconded Harris' motion.*

Ida Talalla said there are so many places open that sell beer and liquor. Has there been an analysis? I spend a lot of time looking at this. I have no idea of what we've asked to other groups. Harris said that for bars, 1am closing on weeknight and 2am on weekends. We prefer beer and wine only at first for new operators. There is no comprehensive study.

Bar owner Brett Rubin said that he acquired the space last August. We spent the last 6 months trying to figure out how to do this. We wanted to start fresh and give a good impression of me as an operator. The bar seats about 60 people. There is no kitchen. We are working with a market down the street for food that can be ordered at the bar. The location has been a bar since 1965.

We've been knocking on doors for the past 2 months, obtaining about 40 letters of support. He added that he's been a resident of the Echo Park/Silver Lake area for the past 17 years. He wants a place that's for our community neighbors.

Andy Griggs said that he wants to commend PLUC for the idea of a format for something like this, for developing a proposed outline for approaching businesses like this. However, I question whether an agreement like this is legally binding and enforceable. Also, there is no mention of holidays. He also said that he appreciates the bar owners' show of good faith.

Griggs asked Brett Rubin what have you done regarding ADA (Americans With Disabilities Act) issues? Rubin said the bar will open as is. The previous owner had a pending lawsuit. There will be complete ADA compliance. Everything will be perfect.

Harris commented regarding enforceability, if there are violations of this voluntary agreement, that would be basis to end support for future permits. Yenawine explained that this keeps the possibility of dialogue open between us and the bar owners.

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos said you're a resident. You'll be around 24/7. Parking will be an issue. I wish you well. She said that she appreciates that he actually came to the neighborhood council. Bowers added that you did a great job reaching out to the community. However, ultimately, we must trust our gut.

Thomas DeVoss said I support the amended hours. He suggests a food truck partnership. He would also like to preserve a connection to the old bar.

Kevin Fisher said I support the extended hours. However, we shouldn't have a separate agreement. He is worried about local business signing agreements as there is no consistency of Board members over time.

Jim Brown said I support the PLUC process. Nobody was interested in doing anything with that space until Echo Park became hot, which is pushing out a demographic of locals, including myself. I don't like it. I liked Echo Park when it was gangster and dirty. I'm not excited about Echo Park being the most popular place in town. Many people can't afford to live here. Still, he wished Rubin's team luck with the bar application.

Dominic Ciccodicola said that he wants to hear about inclusion. He suggests bilingual bartenders and beers that cost less than \$5.

Rubin explained that he is doing this now because we finally have the resources. His partner has been priced out of Bellevue. He hopes that clientele will walk so that there are no parking issues.

Connie Acosta asked have you surveyed other bars in Echo Park? One bar owner said he may have to close because of poor business. Rubin said that I signed a 10-year lease with a 10-year option.

A Man asked is LAPD threatening you regarding Happy Hour? Yenawine explained that LAPD hates Happy Hour.

**VOTE**  
**18-0-1-1**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous

Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Andy Griggs  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

Ida Talalla

Recusals:

Richard Courtney

b. PLUC [6-1] Letter of support for conditional use permit to allow the sale and dispensing of beer and wine for on-site consumption in conjunction with existing restaurant (new ownership) - Pollen at 2100 Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90026 (ZA-2017-3851 CUB); Recommend opening hours 7 am – 11 pm Sun – Th, 7 am – 12 am Fri-Sat; beer & wine service 11 am – 11 pm M – Th, 11 am – 12 am Fri, 9 am – 12 am Sat, 9 am – 11 pm Sun.

Treasurer Michael Galano is recusing himself. He lives within 500 feet of the project.

*Harris made the motion. Fisher seconded.*

Padilla-Mavropoulos said there is an issue of 11am service for beer and wine. The project is located across the street from a school. That's disrespectful.

Galano said I support this. I've met Bonnie and spoken with her about her plans.

Darnell advised Galano to leave the room for his recusal. Galano is leaving the room now.

Bowers said that he is in favor of this project. He's spoken with the owners. They are willing to work with us and form an ongoing relationship to create a safe place for kids.

Talalla said that she is concerned that measures are not in place. This is too close to a school. Ortega asked do we know the regulations regarding distance from school. Yenawine stressed that this is not a bar. They are asking for beer and wine service. There are no regulations.

Sarah Smith asked how do the hours differ from what was there before? Is there any discussion about outdoor noise from the patio?

Padilla-Mavropoulos said we are a rapidly changing community. We don't know our neighbors anymore. People may go to bar and then scope out kids. She explained that she is a victim of child molestation. I don't feel comfortable with this at all, she commented.

Harris said my daughter goes to that school. Harris said that she has talked to parents. The Principal is supportive. There was alcohol served at the previous restaurant. The restaurant can serve parents. Most of the community supports this.

Bowers said I want Bonnie to meet Geaga-Rosenthal, who is head of the Sustainability Alliance regarding waste and food. I want them to be a partner with us.

**VOTE**  
**14-3-2-1**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Mike Jolly  
Andy Griggs  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos  
Margarita Fernandez  
Ida Talalla

Abstentions:  
Cheryl Ortega  
Connie Acosta

Recusals:  
Michael Galano

## 2. Community/Government reports -- REVISITED

### a. Government agencies and officers

*Paul Pham, Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD):*

He said we were late because of a fire. It was a bathroom fire. The smoke detectors were not working. There was a wall heater next to clothes.

We had brush fires, mudslides. We need to be prepared for a big disaster. One building can take up a lot of our resources. People need to be self-sufficient. Drive home that point to your friends and families. You need water and supplies for 10 days as well as contact numbers for families. Learn how to shut off your gas. Get involved with a CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) team. It's not a matter of if, it's a matter of when.

Bowers asked about the automatic gas shut off valve.

Marcus, another LAFD member, said that homeless encampments are getting worse. The question is how to educate the homeless about lighting fires. These are warming fires and people are doing drugs. These fires are illegal. This needs to be addressed. He commented about the mental health of people being released from prison. They need to be in a program, he said.

Pham added that this is a growing epidemic. We're seeing a lot of fires being started by the homeless, including the Skirball Fire. We're also concerned about river beds and flash floods. It's a problem. Law makers need to come up with good solutions.

Yenawine asked would you give Sally Davis your contacts? We want you to join our community discussions.

Pham said that the local fires station is Fire Station 20. That fire station lost an engine a few years ago. It will get it back this spring. That's a win. However, our resources are down but there are 1,400 incidents citywide daily. That's a lot. The mayor is pro-fire department so it's a good time for us to get resources. However, we don't even have a good budget to maintain our fire stations.

He commented about the issue of food for the LAFD. That money comes from our pockets. They live at work. They put their own money into their fire stations. They go above and beyond.

Padilla-Mavropoulos commented that Southern California Gas was checking emergency shut-off valves in December and also this month.

## 6. Outreach

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

b. 1.) (Richard Courtney) Reconsideration of letter of support for proposed neighborhood council will include the existing HCNC Victor Heights district which has a western border along Everett Street. [Outreach and Communications]

b. 2.) Motion in place of letter of support if reconsideration recommends further review of proposed division of HCNC

Yenawine noted that people are here for this. So, he wants to address agenda item 6.b.1 now. There were no objections. This is a letter of support.

Richard Courtney said I have no dog in this fight. DONE has said that a letter from any neighborhood council means nothing. He wants to vote to rescind this.

At the last Board meeting we had a presentation about the Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council (HCNC) splitting into two groups. This was misrepresented in the presentation. They need to re-present this to us with people from the affected areas.

DONE reopened the application for subdivision on November 17, said Yenawine. HCNC cancelled its Board meeting last month. Galano asked who is the applicant? Yenawine replied that it's a stakeholder committee.

Darnell said that you voting on a letter doesn't affect the process. However, it can influence the community.

Fisher said this split is outside of our boundaries so I don't care.

Laura, a representative of the HCNC said I pitched this to you guys. We wanted you to withhold the letter regarding the application to subdivide the HCNC. This proposal is being driven by single Board member. HCNC has taken no official position. She is concerned that the EPNC knew of this before the HCNC could consider the proposal.

Lydia, an HCNC member who lives in Solano Canyon, thanked Richard Courtney. My heritage is as important as everyone else's. This application was done in secret. We found out about it from your neighborhood council. Chinatown wants to land grab my neighborhood.

Shirley Dang, another HCNC Board member, said she was unaware of the subdivision until after you heard about it. This is disrespectful.

Acosta said we should reconsider this letter. We should respect that community. There should be outreach to Spanish speakers.

Darnell said that if the application is rejected, everything stops. Griggs asked do we reconsider or not. Call the question on that.

Harris made an objection to the claim of misrepresentation. They didn't say at the last meeting that they'd reached out to the Board. Fernandez said we should definitely reconsider. They aren't aware of this. Yenawine said the neighborhood council is not included in the application process.

Bowers said I vote to reconsider. Geaga-Rosenthal said she wants to reconsider. Our neighborhood council should weigh in to influence stakeholders after an application is submitted. This is a good lesson to not vote on other neighborhood council positions unless an application has been submitted.

Harris is now chairing the meeting.

Yenawine said I don't see misrepresentation. They said notification wasn't required. The letter is already submitted. I don't see the benefit of rescinding the letter. It wasn't misrepresented. This is an equity issue that benefits all sides. It will increase representation of the Solano area. Bowers said I change my mind. I vote to not rescind the letter.

Ciccodicola said my understanding was that everyone on that neighborhood was in support of this. He wants to reconsider.

**VOTE to reconsider the issue**

**10-8-2**

**PASSED**

Abstentions:

Ida Talalla

Michael Galano

Item 6(b)(2). Yenawine resumes chair.

*Acosta made a motion to rescind. Courtney seconded.*

Laura from the HCNC said during public comment that what was presented to this Board was not active. These are Latino communities. Consider this carefully.

Cheryl Ortega moved to close debate before any discussion on this item by board members took place.

**VOTE to close debate (a 2/3 vote is needed to close debate)**

**16-4-0**

**PASSED**

Luiza asks is there a way to continue the question? No, debate is closed. Bowers said we should stand by our vote even though we didn't know what we were voting on. This is a very important issue. Courtney noted that the people with the position weren't here.

**VOTE to rescind letter**

**13-5-2**

**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Michael Galano

Kevin Fisher

Richard Courtney

Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal

Connie Acosta

Ida Talalla

Margarita Fernandez

Cheryl Ortega

Jim Brown

Mike Jolly  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Andy Griggs  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos  
Paul Bowers

Abstentions:

Sarah Smith  
Thomas DeVoss

Griggs said we can revisit this if the application is accepted.

c. PLUC [6-0] CIS in support of the Permanent Supportive Housing Ordinance and Interim Motel Conversion Ordinance (CPC-2017-3136-CA and CPC-2017-3409-CA)

Harris explained that this is designed to streamline ways to house the homeless. This also includes transitional housing.

*Harris made a motion to move the CIS as written.* Griggs said that he is totally opposed to this. The real problems with how it's written. It allows affordable housing to be moved offsite and out of our area. It's focused on transportation areas. That's a real problem.

**VOTE**  
**10-2-8**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Jim Brown  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

Andy Griggs  
Tyan Schesser

Abstentions:

Dominic Ciccodicola  
Sarah Smith  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Michael Galano  
Mike Jolly  
Thomas DeVoss  
Cheryl Ortega

Yenawine, noting the large number of abstentions, said I don't feel good about this.

10. Immigrant Justice Ad Hoc Committee

a. Discussion and possible action on a CIS for Council File: 17-1151 (City Parks / Removal of Misdemeanor Penalty / Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 63.44 / Review) and Council File: 17-1139 (Decriminalize Sidewalk Vending / Peddling from Vehicles or Push Carts / Los Angeles Municipal Code / Amendment).

Yenawine made a request to move this up. Any objections? There were none.

Griggs said we support street vending. This should not be a felony. That's what the city is saying as well. *Griggs made the motion. Ciccodicola seconded.*

Darnell said there are two CIS votes so this should be two different agenda items. Yenawine explained that one of them has already passed. We can strike reference to the item that already passed. 1739 passed.

*Harris made a motion to strike reference to 1739. We can still support it in the body of the document. Bowers seconded. Yenawine said we are eliminating 17-1139. That's an amendment. Geaga-Rosenthal seconded.*

**VOTE for amendment**

**20-0-0**

**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Andy Griggs  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

**VOTE for amended motion  
17-0-3  
PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Andy Griggs

Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss

No Votes:  
None

Abstentions:  
Ida Talalla  
Mike Jolly  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

5. Budget and Finance Items  
Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

a. December 2017 MER Approval

*Yenawine made the motion. Harris seconded.*

**VOTE**  
**20-0-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:  
Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Andy Griggs  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:  
None

Abstentions:  
None

b. Recommendation for reimbursement of \$13.41 to Darcy Harris for copies of keys to Church office/meeting space.

*Geaga-Rosenthal seconded.*

**VOTE**  
**20-0-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:  
Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Andy Griggs  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:  
None

Abstentions:  
None

(Note: Andy Griggs left after the vote at 9:34pm.)

c. Recommendation to ELFS regarding extra NPG funds from 2016 Grant, up to \$300

Darcy Harris is now chairing the meeting.

Treasurer Michael Galano explained that this is not the most recent grant. This is from last March. This is for Spanish language children's books at the library. She has \$309 left. Their City has funding has increased. They are looking to spend the remaining funds for play set refurbishment. There is no official process for this to approve it. There is no need to file documentation. She just wants our blessing. Early Education Activity Center is the formal title. Ortega noted that this is the most popular thing in the children's part of the library.

**VOTE**  
**18-0-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

(Note: Tad Yenawine is out of the room and did not vote.)  
d. Recommendation for up to \$250 for Echo Park Farmer's Market Sanitation Station CIP

Tad Yenawine resumes chairing meeting.

*Galano said that he wants to postpone this agenda item.*

**VOTE to postpone**  
**19-0-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

e. 2017 - 2018 Budget Review & Update Proposals

*Galano said we had \$7,000 for the election. So, add this money to the outreach and NPG budgets. That's \$10,000 to spend on our community by the end of May now. Courtney seconded.*

*Bowers said he wants \$5,000 from NPG to be moved to Outreach. Harris said there is already \$5,300 in Outreach. Ciccodicola asked does this include business card spending? Galano said no.*

(Note: Margarita Fernandez left at 9:40pm.)

*Ortega seconded Bowers' amendment to move \$5,000 to Outreach from NPGs. Thomas DeVoss said a little bit of money goes a long way, particularly when considering homeless issues. Talalla said that any changes need to be brought back to the Board with a plan or strategy. I'd like to see more information.*

Galano said I like giving funds to community groups/organizations. I'm surprised that Ortega seconded a motion that could reduce funds going to schools and other community groups. Yenawine said this is a worthy discussion but we don't have to decide this right now. Harris commented that these are just guideposts. Taking \$5,000 from NPGs is way too much. We want more cushion for operations.

*Bowers said that he wants to withdraw his motion for an amendment.*

Acosta said that operations should include interpretation. Galano said this sends a message to the community.

**VOTE for original motion**

**17-1-0**

**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Ida Talalla  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser

Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:  
Connie Acosta

Abstentions:  
None

6. Outreach

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

- a. Recommendation for business cards and update on actionable plan for printing of business cards. [Outreach and Communications]

**VOTE to postpone**  
**18-0-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:  
Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Ida Talalla  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Connie Acosta

No Votes:  
None

Abstentions:  
None

7. SLCO 10

Discussion and/or possible action on the following: a. Funding and Application protocols for community grants including NPG and CIP guidelines and policies

*Harris said to adopt this as written and then place it on the website.*

*Acosta made a motion that larger grants should be limited to \$900. There was no second.*

Talalla said I object from the beginning. It wasn't user friendly. Add that at beginning of fiscal year, we will hold workshops in August and September about how community organizations can come and use it.

Harris said we should make the process clearer. Brown asked can there be exceptions to amount for larger projects?

**VOTE**  
**16-2-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

Ida Talalla  
Connie Acosta

Abstentions:

None

8. Homelessness Committee

Brown said the Homeless Count volunteers will meet at 8pm on Thursday night here. Yenawine warned that there will be a bottleneck at registration. Get two others to help you. That will be helpful.

#### 9. Public Safety

Nothing.

#### 11. Aging, Parks and Health

Talalla said that she dislikes the “speed it up:” hand signal that Yenawine uses. This is rude. Yenawine said he will stop using that gesture. Talalla said that changing agenda items causes bottlenecks. Yenawine asked how much time do you want for presentations?

(Note: Ida Talalla and Paul Bowers are leaving at 9:57pm.)

#### 12. Dodgers Ad Hoc

a. Discussion and possible action on a CIS in support of Council File 17-0728 - Traffic Plan / Dodger Stadium / Update. (Dodgers Ad Hoc; COURTNEY)

Courtney said that the Dodgers Ad Hoc Committee encompasses all problems that we have had. There are traffic issues. We need a traffic study that includes ride shares.

*Richard Courtney made the motion. Sarah Smith seconded.*

Yenawine said I object to this. The best thing that the Dodgers can do is to institute pay after you park parking. Instead of bottlenecking and pushing traffic on their grounds this would allow traffic into the stadium easier and people pay prior to exiting. They also need more trash collection on their own grounds. They need more bathrooms. It takes 50 minutes to get out of the stadium. I’m frustrated that these things aren’t in here. This would remove burden from streets to the Dodgers.

*Yenawine said I want to move to send this back to committee. If people were required to show proof of parking as they leave, would be helpful. Jeffrey seconded that motion. Courtney said this letter has been shared with several people on the committee.*

**VOTE to refer back to committee**  
**16-0-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Tyan Schesser  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

13. Other Administrative items

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

- a. Selection of open BOG officer positions and Liaisons

(Note: Richard Courtney and Tyan Schesser left at 10:04pm.)

Sally Davis, who is not a Board member, volunteered but is not allowed to be Secretary, according to the bylaws.

Acosta said she wants a Housing Committee. She wants to be a representative of that committee. Darnell said no vote is needed for this.

- b. Formation of new committees

Acosta said that she wants to form an Echo Park Housing Committee. This is for renters being evicted. Yenawine said it can be handled through the Homeless Committee. Fisher suggested to create a liaison position to the LAHSA (the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority).

Darnell said that any permanent committee would require bylaws changes. Yenawine replied that this will be ad hoc. There is no second for this. Yenawine suggested to work with the Homeless Committee. Smith told Acosta to come to Homeless Committee and think about how to work together. *Yenawine made a motion to postpone.*

**VOTE to postpone**  
**14-0-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Kevin Fisher  
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal  
Connie Acosta  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Mike Jolly  
Sarah Smith  
Jim Brown  
Dominic Ciccodicola  
Thomas DeVoss  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

e. Board members eligible for removal, motions to remove for next meeting

None

14. Announcements

Fisher wants to agendize the Board seat election. Yenawine announced the open seat that was formerly held by Daniel Heimpel.

15. Future Agenda Items

None

16. Adjournment

*Yenawine made a motion to adjourn.*

The meeting ended at 10:11PM.