

ECHO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, January 24, 2017,

7:00 P.M.

Logan Street Span School Auditorium

1711 Montana Street

Los Angeles, CA 90026

1. Administrative items

a. Call to Order

The meeting began at 7:14 pm with 14 Board members present.

b. Roll Call

Attending Board Members:

Tad Yenawine, Chair

Darcy Harris, Vice Chair

Paul Bowers, Chief Information Officer (arrived late)

Michael Galano, Treasurer

Connie Acosta

Ida Talalla

Margarita Fernandez

Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous

Alex Meza (left early)

Cheryl Ortega

Jim Brown

Jeffrey Kontorovsky

Kevin Fisher

Richard Courtney

Andrew Knauer

Han Lo (elected during the meeting)

Andy Griggs (elected during the meeting)

Non-Attending Board Members:

Jackelyn Valladares, Second Signatory

Mike Jolly

JohnMichael Hull

Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal

2. Community/Government reports:

a. Government agencies and officers

*Juan Fregoso, Field Deputy for Council Member Mitch O'Farrell, Council District 13 (CD13):*

He discussed the historic project at 1450 Echo Park Boulevard called The Bungalows. The new owners want to redevelop it. However, the interests of tenants have been taken into consideration by the historical commission. It looks promising to preserve architecturally significant Bungalows, said Fregoso.

He said that tomorrow there will be a press release about a new skate park press release. It will break ground at the Echo Park Recreation Center. The press conference will happen at 9am. The location will be the Old Echo Park Pool, on the corner of Belleview and Echo Park.

The Council District will do additional tree planting – about 300 in total. It has already planted 100 trees. It is looking to work with high school students to accomplish the hard physical work. Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts will also be recruited to help.

He added that there will be tree trimming along Mohawk and Elsinore as well as along Lakeshore. If other areas need tree trimming, there may be additional funds. Send information to us, said Fregoso.

There will be street resurfacing along Glendale Boulevard in two weeks. The Bureau of Street Services will have more information. They are changing the notification process. The resurfacing will take place along Glendale and Berkeley and along Lakeshore and Montana.

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos asked will there be street signs? We had no parking for 2.5 weeks before they began work on a previous project, she said. Fregoso replied that the City will now post a week early and the signs will state when the work will be done. That's happened one too many times, he said regarding Padilla-Mavropoulos' concerns.

Fregoso said that a new traffic light at Mohawk will go up soon. However, the Department of Transportation (DOT) can't install it until Street Services does a curb cut for the sidewalk. This should be done before June.

The Dodgers community meeting will occur Tuesday at 7pm at Stadium Club Way. Fregoso urged stakeholders to attend the meeting if you have any concerns. Baseball season will start soon. There will be an Opening Day community meeting in March. We are now dealing with traffic mitigation. We will meet with the DOT in two weeks to conduct a traffic study.

Andy Griggs asked about the results of the home sharing survey? Fregoso said they said they aren't sharing their data just yet. There is no update. Griggs added that people were counting on this to be added to the City file. Fregoso said that he will speak with Council Member Mitch O'Farrell about this on Thursday. The community was split about this issue, he stressed.

*Senior Lead Officer Gina Paialii, Los Angeles Police Department, Northeast Division, 333 San Fernando Road, Los Angeles, California 90065, (323) 344-5701, (213) 793-0760 (mobile phone), [30347@lapd.lacity.org](mailto:30347@lapd.lacity.org):*

*with*

*Officer Lennie Davis, LAPD:*

Officer Paialii spoke about an Echo Park Improvement Association meeting on February 2 regarding the homeless. We get lots of call about this issue. We will discuss protocols. Homelessness isn't a crime but that lifestyle creates issues. The meeting will occur at 7pm at the Barlow Hospital. Representatives of Council Member O'Farrell in CD13 will be there, along with other city officials and the LAPD.

Padilla-Mavropoulos mentioned the homeless count on Thursday. Will you be there, she asked? Officer Davis said that other LAPD officers will be there. Padilla-Mavropoulos asked whom to contact in case of emergency.

B.J. DINI, a man representing people living in vans around Echo Park Lake, said that he wants maps of where that community can move to now that they are banned from that area by new City regulations. Paialii replied that there are maps for this.

*Neal, librarian at Edendale branch library:*

He mentioned several Edendale branch library events including yoga, arts and crafts, and movies every other Monday at 5pm. There are also used book sales and an adult book club. There are also concerts and special programs. He encouraged people to get library cards.

b. Community Organizations

*Elizabeth Morin, resident and parent of a child attending a charter school, [lizmorin@yahoo.com](mailto:lizmorin@yahoo.com), (213) 712-1700:*

She said that there is a major problem in the neighborhood. We smell it every day. This is around Logan Street. She is seeking support from the neighborhood council. She wants to beautify Logan Street. We have aggressive clean ups, she noted.

We have a plan that involves the arts that is supported by Chamber of Commerce. She wants the neighborhood council to join in this effort.

Connie Acosta asked are you applying for a grant from us? Morin replied that they want to. They are now working with CD13 Field Deputy Fregoso about this.

There was a question about the Logan and Gabriella Street Schools. Morin stressed that the beautification project is a community effort that was initiated by the Gabriella school.

Acosta asked you will do the whole block? Morin said we will start on Logan. That's where largest problems lie. Our proposed budget is ambitious but we want this to be a festival.

c. EPNC Chair Report

Echo Park Neighborhood Council Chair Tad Yenawine said that the neighborhood council is finally out of Exhaustive Efforts. We have a certain amount of budget, along with a windfall from the City. He encourages people to reach out to seek financial support for their projects. Among projects that he'd like to see funded: a pressure washer for central city action community, and a free wifi in Echo Park. We need community partners to accomplish these things.

He also mentioned a desire to have vintage signage to make Echo Park look awesome. We can have regularly scheduled cultural events for the community, perhaps at the lake, he suggested.

d. Treasurer Report, including status of MERs/projections for fiscal year, consideration of NPGs in context of overall budget and goals, updated budget, brief summary of process for getting funding items approved and implemented and which operations expenses do not need separate BOG votes

Yenawine wants to move this until after budget item #6 is discussed.

e. Report by Communications Committee member Han Lo re: updating of website, social media, email addresses, shared documents, etc

Han Lo gave an update about the website. He is trying to get the younger demographic involved. He noted that social media outreach has surged from about 300 to 700 users in two months. There is much more engagement with more relevant articles, he said.

The new website will have an interactive calendar that you can download to your phone. This will be synchronized with the library schedule. Regarding the Land Use Committee, he said that we're looking at having an automatic digital submission for developers. We did a rebranding.

He added that neighborhood council business cards have been distributed. Now we need people to use the website. Not everyone has activated their accounts thus far, he noted. One of the ideas behind the website is to put initiatives front and center. We can promote the initiatives and the mission of neighborhood council.

He mentioned computer classes to be held with the Edendale branch library. We will join forces to create content for a portal.

(Note: Paul Bowers arrived at 7:43pm.)

Ida Talalla has proposed a newsletter following each meeting. We'll put together a one page summary that is easily digestible. It would be a recapitulation of everything that's happened, said Lo.

f. Other Committee Chair and liaison reports

Yenawine said that he is tabling this item.

Schools, Libraries and Community Organizations: Cheryl Ortega said that the next meeting will probably occur around February 21. The Committee is inviting schools, libraries and community organizations to a meeting. We're trying to compile a list.

Acosta said that she wants more control over the website. Sometimes developers provide the wrong information which is corrected when they make presentations at the meetings. However, the incorrect information is used by local media and Acosta must contact them to make corrections.

Richard Courtney discussed Budget Day. He urged stakeholders to take the survey online. February 25 will be Regional Budget Day at the Glassell Park Community Center. It makes a difference for our resources if you take the survey.

Vice Chair Darcy Harris said that at the last meeting we voted to send a letter for the preservation of the Bungalows. Now we'll do a site visit. On March 2 there will be a final determination made at City Hall.

### 3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

*Ari Bessendorf spoke on behalf of Joe Bray-Ali, Candidate for Council District 1, joe4cd1.com, (323) 379-3011:*

Bessendorf said that the election will take place March 7. Ballots will arrive in about two weeks.

Bray-Ali's campaign is fighting for the community. By contrast, one of his opponents, Jessica Salans, took over \$100,000 from Chevron. We don't take such funds. We want transparency and good government. Consider voting for Bray-Ali if you care what's happening. Please phone bank with us. The Council District term will last 5.5 years. Our campaign qualifies for public matching funds on a 2-to-1 basis.

Jeffrey Kontorovsky said there will be a Public Safety Committee meeting on February 13 at 6pm at Rosemont Elementary. Local officials will be represented there, including the LAPD.

Yenawine said that the Citywide homeless count will happen on Thursday night. We still need volunteers.

B.J. DINI asked who are the stakeholders and what do they do? Yenawine replied anyone with an interest in this neighborhood. This helps with resource allocation.

*Christine Kantner, Echo Park resident and former Secretary of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council. She is representing Candidate Sylvie Shain for Council District 13, (323) 426-3307, sylvieshain.com:*

How many of you marched on Saturday, she asked. Some audience members raised their hands. Kantner said that she'd marched in Washington. She is representing Sylvie Shain in CD13. Shain worked for Bernie Sanders' Presidential Campaign and had attended the Democratic National Convention. She understands how government works. Kanter noted that Shain was the last tenant evicted from Villa Carlatta. Let's get more women in office, she urged.

*Gabriel, representing Jessica Salans, Candidate for City Council, District 13 (CD13), [JessicaSalansCD13@gmail.com](mailto:JessicaSalansCD13@gmail.com), [www.Jessicasalans.com](http://www.Jessicasalans.com):*

Salans' campaign represents social justice, racial justice, and economic justice. Los Angeles needs to lead the country in protecting undocumented workers. Gabriel urged stakeholders to look at Salans' website for more information.

#### 4. Selection of Board member to fill vacancies of two At-Large Seats:

Candidates:

Han Lo

Sarah Smith

Michelle Carr

Daniel Heimpel

Dominic Ciccodicola

B.J. Dini

Andy Griggs

Han Lo said that he's gotten involved with the neighborhood council over the last two months. He is active in the neighborhood council. He is impressed with what the neighborhood council is doing. He said that he wants more access and transparency.

Michelle Carr said that she is a native of Los Angeles. She has lived in the Edendale area for 26 years. She said that she's active in the community and loves it.

Sarah Smith said that she's a resident of District 5. She was at the Women's March in Washington last weekend. She said that she wants to be more actively involved in the Echo Park community. Among neighborhood council committees, she said that she is most interested in Land Use and Outreach. She said that she is a team player and is happy to work on any committee. She works in the music industry.

Dominic Ciccodicola said that he's been involved with the neighborhood council for 7 months. He wants to join to be involved with all issues and wants to contribute.

Daniel Heimpel said that he runs non profit organizations to improve the child welfare system.

B.J. Dini said that he represents the Rebel Party USA. Families living in vans are freaking out about new City rules prohibiting sleeping in vehicles.

Andy Griggs said that he is an Echo park native who was raised in Whittier. He has been a resident and homeowner in the neighborhood for a decade. He runs a non-profit and also has an Air BnB business. He wants to represent the many people and organizations in this community that don't have a voice.

David Rockello, a former Board member who is now President of the Rampart Village Neighborhood Council, asked whether anyone has been to every single Board meeting? Do you know about the election process?

Richard Courtney asked the candidates to respond in 30 seconds. He said that Echo Park has the best culture in history. This morning, I was in Hollywood as a building was demolished against City Hall rules. What do you feel about culture, historic preservation and Echo Park, he asked the candidates.

Andy Griggs replied that Chavez Ravin, home to Dodger Stadium, was a travesty. That history continues.

B.J. Dini said he is planning a homeless cabaret and other events.

Daniel Heimpel said that he is interested in open spaces. He will have a look at that committee.

Dominic Ciccodicola said that development is part of procession and our future.

Sarah Smith said I agree. Echo Park does have the best culture. However, artists are now being priced out.

Michelle Carr said that she works as a nurse in Echo Park.

Han Lo said I'm a preservationist at heart. There should be a dialogue between views.

Kontorovsky said we had elections last year. Which of you ran and which of you didn't run?

Padilla-Mavropoulus asked about Measure S, adding that she is passionate about what's happening in the community. Richard Courtney discussed the moratorium for developers. He said that it targets about 10 developers in Los Angeles, who are international. They are putting sky scrapers in places where they don't belong.

B.J. Dini said that he is all for alternative housing, whether it's in vehicles, tents, etc

Andy Griggs said that this is more about the fact that the City hasn't had a decent housing program for years.

Han Lo said that it's easy to support this. The density bonus is being used by developers.

Michelle Carr said that she is in favor of Measure S.

Sarah Smith agreed that she is all for it.

Margarita Fernandez asked the candidates that if you aren't chosen, please come back.

Yenawine said that community work is really important. If you become a Board Member, our core membership will have to be restructured.

Michelle Carr said that she would love to be on Planning and Land Use Committee.

Han Lo said that he is already doing public communications. He wants to lead the charge.

Andy Griggs said that he would continue to attend Planning and Land Use Committee meetings. He is also interested in the education and outreach committees.

Sarah Smith said that she is also interested in the Outreach Committee.

### **Voting for Two At- Large Board Seats -- Round 1:**

Han Lo– 9 votes

Kevin Fisher

Richard Courtney

Andrew Knauer

Darcy Harris

Connie Acosta

Ida Talalla  
Alex Meza  
Paul Bowers  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

Michelle Carr – 1  
Jim Brown

Sarah Smith– 1  
Margarita Fernandez

Dominic Ciccodicola – 6  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

B.J. Dini – 3  
Connie Acosta  
Michael Galano  
Jim Brown

Andy Griggs– 5  
Cheryl Ortega  
Tad Yenawine  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez

Daniel Heimpel– 5  
Kevin Fisher  
Cheryl Ortega  
Tad Yenawine  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Alex Meza

**Voting Round 2:**

Han Lo - 9 votes  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer  
Tad Yenawine

Darcy Harris  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Alex Meza  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

Dominic Ciccodicola – 5  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer  
Darcy Harris  
Michael Galano  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

Andy Griggs– 7  
Cheryl Ortega  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Connie Acosta  
Margarita Fernandez  
Paul Bowers  
Jim Brown  
Ida Talalla

Daniel Heimpel - 9  
Kevin Fisher  
Cheryl Ortega  
Tad Yenawine  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Margarita Fernandez  
Alex Meza  
Michael Galano  
Paul Bowers  
Jim Brown

**Voting Round 3:**

Han Lo – 11 votes  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer  
Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Ida Talallo  
Connie Acosta  
Alex Meza  
Michael Galano

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos  
Paul Bowers

Andy Griggs -12

Cheryl Ortega  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer  
Tad Yenawine  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Darcy Harris  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Alex Meza  
Michael Galano  
Jim Brown

Daniel Heimpel - 7

Kevin Fisher  
Cheryl Ortega  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Margarita Fernandez  
Alex Meza  
Michael Galano  
Jim Brown

**The winners are Han Lo and Andy Griggs.** They now join the Board.

**There is a 10 minute break. The meeting resumed at 8:52pm.**

5. Consent Calendar:

a. [Communications (no rec.)] Discussion and possible action on switching web hosting service from GoDaddy to Squarespace for no increased cost and delegating authority to Communications Committee members to implement as appropriate

b. [PLUC (8-1-0)] Motion to adopt and send letter of support for renovation of 4 retaining walls at 2011 N. Park Drive – Case No. ZA-2015-4121-ZAD-ZAA-F

c. [PLUC (8-0-1)] Motion to adopt and send letter to Cal Dept of ABC re: previous letter sent by EPNC to LA City Zoning Administrator in support of ZA-2016- 2951-CUB for 1498 Sunset Blvd. #2, noting applicant had misrepresented info to PLUC and increased seats on outside patio from 22 to 36 and sought expanded hours after EPNC submitted letter, that

EPNC support was based on prior information presented to it, does not support the expanded project, and requests hours be limited to those voted on and set forth in previous letter

d. [PLUC (no rec.)] Discussion and possible action re: letter to City Council re: recent ordinance limiting location and hours of vehicle dwelling and requesting expedited implementation of a safe parking program involving City and other parking lots to provide alternatives for homeless living in vehicles

Yenawine said that he would like to bundle all of these Consent Calendar items. However, Acosta wants to pull item d about the state parking program and discuss this at the end of the meeting.

Items a, b, and c will be voted on as a bundle.

Richard Courtney commented on item c. Because the guy with the property changed things that he said to us here in this room. He stood in front of us and lied.

Andy Griggs commented on item c. I spoke with the owner. The requested hours weren't expanded by him. He is quite willing to have the hours limited. That is not a problem.

Han Lo noted that we haven't decided about an alternate provider so there's a typographical error. Motion to amend item a so "Squarepace" reads "another provider". Motion to amend passes without objection.

**VOTE for a, b, c**  
**17-0-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Paul Bowers  
Michael Galano  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Alex Meza  
Cheryl Ortega  
Jim Brown  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer  
Han Lo  
Andy Griggs

No Votes:  
None

Abstentions:  
None

(Note: Neither Andy Griggs nor Han Lo has completed training so neither can vote on financial issues.)

6. [BFC (- - -)] Discussion and possible Action re updated EPNC budget for 2016-17 fiscal year

Treasurer Michael Galano said that the neighborhood council has spent about \$6,700 and has about \$35,300 remaining in this fiscal year's budget. There is also an additional \$1,500 that the group won in a Clean Streets Challenge.

Now that we're out of exhaustive efforts, we are clarifying the uses of money. Neighborhood Purposes Grants (NPGs) include \$1,500 for Homies Unidos and \$1,500 for the Los Angeles Unified School District. About \$4,500 remains unallocated in NPGs.

Regarding Community Improvement Projects, about \$7,500 is allocated for that which could be spread among three projects receiving \$2,500 each.

There are also Board member reimbursements, such as snacks for the meetings

Rockello asked about the use of cash or credit card for purchases. He warned that with credit card information, you might need information from your bank statement to become public. He urges the use of cash for privacy.

The total budget is \$42,000, up from what was originally \$37,000, said Galano.

There was \$11,000 in operations. That has increased because of translation and transcription services. Outreach funds are now \$9,000, down from \$10,000

The unspent Community Improvement Project budget was \$9,000, now it's \$7500 as we haven't done anything yet.

Nothing has been allocated to Elections. There is no allocations because this isn't an election year.

*Michael Galano made the motion. Darcy Harris seconded the approval.*

Talalla asked about storage expenses. What do we have in storage?

Michael Galano said that that's a good question. He doesn't know. Bowers said there are tents, banners, etc. Padilla-Mavropoulos volunteered to take inventory.

Yenawine said that we are approaching Echo Park Church for office and storages space. Hopefully storage fees can go to the church.

Talalla said that if the tents are ugly, dispose of them. Acosta said that they are brand new. We should inventory storage space before we buy things, suggested Acosta.. Yenawine agreed.

**VOTE for item 6**

**15-0-0-2**

**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Paul Bowers  
Michael Galano  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Alex Meza  
Cheryl Ortega  
Jim Brown  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Ineligible:

Han Lo

Andy Griggs.

7. [BFC (- - -)] Discussion and/or possible action re: payment of invoices, approval of MERS

Galano said that Public Storage was the only expense. They received 4 months of payments.

*Michael Galano made a motion. Kevin Fisher seconded.*

The December MER includes 2 Banners for parades as well as payments to the Methodist church and food for the December meeting

*Michael Galano made a motion to approve both MERs. Kevin Fisher seconded.*

Acosta said that the Outreach Committee needs to do their job.

**VOTE**

**15-0-0-2**

**PASSED**

8. [Harris/Outreach (- - -)] Motion that EPNC co-sponsor Candidate Forum for CD1 candidates to be held in Glassell Park on February 16, together with Glassell Park Improvement Association, Glassell Park NC and potentially other NC's, and to approve up to \$250 for food, drinks and outreach (flyers, publicity) for event

Harris said that she'd spoken with Molly Taylor, President of the Glassell Park Neighborhood Council, about participating in this. We would do outreach and bring refreshments. This is for CD1, said Harris.

*Yenawine made the motion. Padilla-Mavropoulos seconded.*

Acosta warned that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) said that before you allocate money for events, you need documentation. Where is the flyer? Where are the supporting documents? Harris said the documents are attached to the agenda.

Acosta asked do we pay for individual items or give lump sum? Will there be receipts? Yenawine replied yes. Harris said this is a \$250

authorization. The Glassell Park Neighborhood Council will tell us what to bring. Andy Griggs said I understand Acosta's concern but we can't ask for receipts before we spend.

Fernandez had questions about when and where for the event. We should have it here in Echo Park. The neighborhood council's funds should be spent in Echo Park. Yenawine explained that one-third of our residents live in Council District 1 (CD1). So, this should have significant benefit.

Harris commented that the Arroyo Seco Neighborhood Council has authorized \$400 for the event, which will be held at the Sandra Sotomayer Learning Academies. Having a candidate forum in each district not feasible, added Harris. The bigger the fora, the more attention they receive.

Rockello said this is a great idea to work with other neighborhood councils. \$250 is very cheap. Acosta said I just wanted clarification. I will vote for it.

**VOTE**  
**15-0-0-2**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Paul Bowers  
Michael Galano  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Alex Meza  
Cheryl Ortega  
Jim Brown  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Ineligible:

Han Lo

Andy Griggs

9. [Harris/Outreach (- - -)] Motion that EPNC co-sponsor a Candidate Forum for CD13 candidates to be held in CD 13 (location TBD) in late February or early March, together with Silver Lake Neighborhood Council and potentially other NC's (in CD 13), and to approve up to \$600 for share of venue rental, food, drinks and outreach (flyers, publicity) for events

Harris said we are talking with the Silver Lake and Atwater Village Neighborhood Councils. As this event involves only our three neighborhood councils, we'll have to spend more. We must secure a venue.

Andy Griggs said that all candidates are being invited for both of these. Harris said that Alison Cohen of the Los Feliz ledger will be the moderator.

Acosta asked can the flyers be done at ER Copy? We have an account with them. Harris responded that it's possible. She wants a couple of volunteers to coordinate.

*Harris made the motion. Courtney seconded.*

**VOTE**

**15-0-0-2**

**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine

Darcy Harris

Paul Bowers

Michael Galano

Connie Acosta

Ida Talalla

Margarita Fernandez

Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous

Alex Meza

Cheryl Ortega

Jim Brown

Jeffrey Kontorovsky

Kevin Fisher

Richard Courtney

Andrew Knauer

No Votes:  
None

Abstentions:  
None

Ineligible:  
Han Lo  
Andy Griggs

10. [EC(- - -)] Discussion and possible action on approving regular agreement with Echo Park United Methodist Church for up to \$400 monthly for office and meeting space and authorizing EPNC officers with approval of DONE to negotiate and execute such agreement

Yenawine said this reaffirms this. We've kind of already done this.

*Courtney made the motion. Fisher seconded.*

Ortega said that she wanted to speak against the motion. While she loves that church, the room is small. The parking is horrendous. Also, the site is not ADA (Americans With Disabilities Act) compliant. So, it's not a great venue for a public meeting.

Andy Griggs said I have the same concerns. It's hard to move around in that space. However, the main church would be another thing. Talk to Vons about parking there.

Ortega said that the ADA issue would prohibit public meeting at that location.

Yenawine explained that this would be a regular meeting space for committees. Board meetings would not normally be there. This would make it easier for our committees to meet.

Padilla-Mavropoulos said ADA would be an issue but if the space is on the ground floor for \$400 with wifi, that's a good deal.

Talalla asked what would be the office hours? She said she would love to use space for our committee for a couple of hours. Harris added that DONE must approve contracts, including ADA compliance.

Fernandez asked will the board continue to meet here? Yenawine explained that we can only make quarterly requests for the use of the Logan Street School. Also, there is no access during vacation periods.

Acosta suggested the Methodist church, however, to some degree, it already has ADA complaints.

(Note: Alex Meza left the meeting at 9:28pm)

Bowers said we need back up space for meetings, as schools are closed during breaks. Rockello suggested how about the Echo Park Recreation Center? Yenawine said it hasn't been made available to us. Also, the acoustics there are god awful. Additionally, the elevator breaks down often.

**VOTE**  
**14-0-0-2**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Paul Bowers  
Michael Galano  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Jim Brown  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Ineligible:

Han Lo  
Andy Griggs

11. [Harris] Motion to appoint Ida Talalla as Purposeful Aging Liaison to attend Jan 31 Town Hall at City Hall

Talalla said you can also appoint a stakeholder. Yenawine said that he wants to make an amendment that Isa Meksin will also attend as stakeholder liaison.

*Michael Galano made the motion. Harris seconded Yenawine's amendment.*

**VOTE on amendment**  
**16-0-0**  
**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Paul Bowers  
Michael Galano  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Jim Brown  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer  
Han Lo  
Andy Griggs

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

12. [Bylaws (4-0-0)] Discussion and possible Action re: amending Bylaws, Article III, §2 to split District 5 in two and create District 6

13. [Bylaws (4-0-0)] Discussion and possible Action re: amending Bylaws, Article VI, §§ 1&2 ("Officers of the Board" and "Duties and Powers"), including creation of Secretary and Vice-Treasurer positions

14. [Bylaws (4-0-0)] Discussion and possible Action re: other amendments to Bylaws as recommended by the Bylaws Committee

Yenawine said this would affect the composition of the Board. There is another amendment coming from the Bylaws Committee.

Padilla-Mavropoulos commented that District 5 is very unstable right now. To break up that district would be to eliminate historic knowledge that that district has, particularly in the Temple-Beaudry area. The dividing line is Alvarado.

*Acosta made the motion. Courtney seconded.*

Yenawine said we will postpone this. We don't have to vote tonight. We need to begin to think about this.

*Michael Galano made a motion to refer this back to the Bylaws Committee. Padilla-Mavropoulos seconded.*

Courtney asked why will there be a division? Yenawine explained that it's our largest district. People in the Eastern part of district 5 feel unrepresented.

Padilla-Mavropoulos said that that was true years ago. Now, with developments, you might lose voices in District 5. The two communities don't work closely. Kontorovsky, who lives in District 5, said that it's a good deal.

Yenawine suggested having 3 representatives for that district? Or have 2 representatives per district with lots of at-large representatives.

Andy Griggs said that we should consider alternatives. Fernandez said we really do need a district. Acosta said that many people are being displaced because of various projects. Residents are being displaced. Bowers said we're not working together. Michael Galano said that he wants to see more definition.

Harris made a motion to refer the documentation back to the Bylaws Committee. Yenawine said this is a global issue. Kontorovsky said that he is a District 5 Representative.

B.J. DINI said that has concerns about homeless issue not being addressed tonight. People will be displaced on February 2. Hundreds of people will be affected. Acosta said there several proposals. We are supporting that. We are reiterating it. Yenawine said we can't change the ordinance.

*Acosta said that she has a solution. Can we move up the homelessness issue? Padilla-Mavropoulos seconded that motion.*

Harris said that she wants the item 14 Bylaws report.

**VOTE to move the item higher on the agenda.**

**6-10-0**

**FAILED**

**VOTE to table item 13**

**16-0-0**

**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine

Darcy Harris

Paul Bowers

Michael Galano

Connie Acosta

Ida Talalla

Margarita Fernandez

Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous

Cheryl Ortega

Jim Brown

Jeffrey Kontorovsky

Kevin Fisher

Richard Courtney

Andrew Knauer

Han Lo

Andy Griggs

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Harris said that the issue is getting the Board to function efficiently with equal representation.

There was a discussion of new districts and Board seats. There could be senior and nonprofit organizations representatives. We'll bring this to the Board. We want to clarify duties. We may split the Secretary role into two people because there is a lot to do. We want to clarify how committees work. There is a provision on absences to make it automatic. This would be automatic grounds for removal based on requirements and causes.

We may stagger the elections to provide continuity. However, four years is a long time to commit. It can concentrate power. We may need to hold a special meeting on all of this. We need to agree on every change and send it in by May. It must be in a year before an election.

## 5. Consent Calendar -- REVISITED

d. [PLUC (no rec.)] Discussion and possible action re: letter to City Council re: recent ordinance limiting location and hours of vehicle dwelling and requesting expedited implementation of a safe parking program involving City and other parking lots to provide alternatives for homeless living in vehicles

Acosta said that she'd spoken with Council Member Mike Bonin.. It was a discussion about safe parking program in the City of Los Angeles. This has been successful for 10 years in Santa Barbara.

Acosta made a motion to delete 5 lines from the top to change "include access to local emergency number" to "trained attendant to oversee site".

Acosta had a proposal for the second paragraph, line two. Change "while a citywide program is needed" to Bonin's language about "where Council Districts identify and manage safe parking lots within their jurisdictions". This is the replacement language.

In the last sentence, Acosta suggested to delete the last sentence. Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA) received \$50 million this fiscal year with 100 additional workers. They can do the job.

Yenawine commented that this is one of the best things in the letter. That is perplexing. Acosta asked how many people in this neighborhood council are willing to work with the City?

B.J. Dini said to let Echo Park pioneer it. Why not? He volunteered to be the attendant. Talalla asked have we spoken with the neighborhoods where the parking would occur?

Andy Griggs said that these two little changes are very important. A similar thing happened in Highland Park.

*Bowers made the motion. Brown seconded.*

**VOTE for amendment  
16-0-0**

**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Paul Bowers  
Michael Galano  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Jim Brown  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Kevin Fisher  
Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer  
Han Lo  
Andy Griggs

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

*Kevin Fisher made the motion. Padilla-Mavropoulos seconded the motion for the amended letter*

**VOTE**

**16-0-0**

**PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine  
Darcy Harris  
Paul Bowers  
Michael Galano  
Connie Acosta  
Ida Talalla  
Margarita Fernandez  
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous  
Cheryl Ortega  
Jim Brown  
Jeffrey Kontorovsky  
Kevin Fisher

Richard Courtney  
Andrew Knauer  
Han Lo  
Andy Griggs

No Votes:  
None

Abstentions:  
None

#### 17. Adjournment

The meeting ended at 9:59pm.