

ECHO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, July 25, 2017,

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 14 Board members present.

b. Roll Call

Attending Board Members:

Tad Yenawine, Chair

Darcy Harris, Vice Chair

Michael Galano, Treasurer

Paul Bowers, Chief Information Officer

Richard Courtney (left early)

Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal

Jeffrey Kontorovsky

Connie Acosta

Ida Talalla (left early)

Margarita Fernandez (left early)

Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous

Cheryl Ortega

Mike Jolly (left early)

Andy Griggs

Daniel Heimpel (arrived late)

Dominic Ciccodicola (arrived late)

Tyan Schesser (arrived late)

Sarah Smith (elected to the Board during the meeting)

Non-Attending Board Members:

Jim Brown

Kevin Fisher

Alex Meza

Andrew Knauer

c. Adoption of minutes

Chair Tad Yenawine made the motion. Co-Chair Darcy Harris seconded the motion to approve the minutes for May and June.

VOTE
14-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Andy Griggs

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

2. Community/Government reports:

a. Government agencies and officers

Andy Garcia, Edendale branch of the Los Angeles Public Library:

He said that this is his first time here. He discussed the library's summer reading programs, yoga classes, and story times.

Barbara Ringuette, Budget Advocate and Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Board Member:

The City's annual Budget Day was last month. Connie Acosta was there.

Esuardo and I are Budget Advocates. We presented a list of concerns for our regions: (7 and 8). Housing was the top concern, including overdevelopment, affordable housing, subdivisions, and more.

Ringuette will conduct a training that will cover the role of Budget Advocates, the City and government departments, their organizational structure, and the city budget process. We are working on the 2018-2019 budget.

She also said that Budget training day is coming up. She brought information about the stairway in Silver Lake.

Andy Griggs asked what is the Budget Advocate's status? Regarding the issue of translations at meetings, we were told that that has to come from our budget. Ringuette replied that that is a done matter. That is an issue. Different neighborhood councils have different needs for translators so it's an interesting budget issue.

Ida Talalla asked why haven't you registered as a lobbying group? Ringuette replied that neighborhood councils as a whole are a lobbying group. We're part of the neighborhood council system. We're already identified as a lobbying group within the City.

Esuardo Eduano, Budget Advocate for Region 7:

He introduced himself and said that he's excited to be a part of this wonderful journey. The issues that we face affect the entire city. They include: Affordable housing, Infrastructure, and children that go hungry, among other issues.

We want to be transparent, honest, open. He hopes to build a great relationship. We will see him more often.

Robert Solorio, Senior Lead Officer, Los Angeles Police Department, Rampart Division:

Solorio said that violent crime is down but property crime is up. Hide your visible valuables, he recommended. Theft from cars takes about 30 seconds. He also expressed concern about people leaving their home windows and doors open. Keep an eye open for neighbors, communicate, be involved, he urged.

He said that National Night Out will be August 1. This is a community walk with the police. It begins at 6pm and includes free food and live entertainment. Everyone is welcome.

He noted that it's hot. We have elderly neighbors. Check in on each other, he advised. Heat exhaustion can creep up on you.

A Woman asked whether there will be vegetarian food available for the Night Out? Officer Solorio said that he can find out.

Another woman asked about mail theft. He responded that the postal service is handling it. Generally we find the criminal and then notify them and they'll handle it.

Jessie Carmichael, Biocitizen.org:

On Monday morning at 9am Tree People will demonstrate tree care. Our nonprofit works with kids. We will work on mulch at the Marion Harlow Memorial Grove at 9am on Monday.

Juan Fregoso, Field Deputy for Council Member Mitch O'Farrell, Council District 13 (CD13), (213) 207-3015, juan.fregoso@lacity.org:

He said that the Echo Park Film Series begins Saturday with the comedy classic "Some Like it Hot". There will be five films through October.

Regarding a question on whether the area will get a new traffic light, he said that the Council Member was waiting for a report from the Department of Transportation (DOT). They are reviewing police reports. He wants a full estimate regarding the new light that was discussed at the last meeting. The goal is to have this completed by the end of summer.

(Note: Dominic Ciccoldicola arrived at 7:20pm.)

Mike Jolly asked about a handicapped ramp.

b. Community Organizations

Alex:

Last Friday at the Farmers' Market we did puppet shows. They were incredible. He said that he is looking to keep doing it. He wanted to say hi! He said he wants to do more and more of this.

c. EPNC Chair Report

Chair Tad Yenawine said that our bylaws are mostly accepted by DONE. There is an issue with our removals clause that we'll have to address tonight. The City attorney now has an issue with it. Yenawine thanked everyone for their efforts.

He mentioned that the other issue is getting complicated. Ask people on two streets to complete surveys to include an area that has traditionally been in our boundary.

d. Treasurer Report

Treasurer Michael Galano said that he attended the City Clerk's funding event. It explained the payment and budgeting system that the rest of the city is on. So it makes sense for neighborhood councils to transfer into that. Martha Cabral is our representative at the City Clerk's office. Layla Campos is in charge of neighborhood council funding.

He looked at the neighborhood council budget online. We overspent by more than \$400 last year because of late payment in the last fiscal year. He said that the system is really easy. He's really excited about it.

(Note: Daniel Heimpel and Tyan Schesser arrived at 7:29pm.)

e. Other Committee Chair and liaison reports

Alliance of River Communities (ARC), Andy Griggs said this consists of about 14 neighborhood councils near the Los Angeles River. It had been pretty active until the last 6-8 months. Now it's trying to reactivate itself. There is a four-person transitional team. There was a meeting last week.

How can neighborhood councils work together? There will be a meeting here on September 19 that we're hosting. Disability outreach will be the subject. There is more information to come. The idea is to have something that people can take back to their own neighborhood councils.

He also mentioned that there will be an open forum on lots 1 and 2 on the river.

Ida Talalla said that on August 9 Danny Chan, a staff attorney of justice and ageing, will appear at the Echo Park branch library at 6:30pm. He will offer a brilliant analysis of Obamacare. This impacts everybody, she said.

She also announced that at the Edendale branch library on August 14, the Senior Director at the Echo Park Recreation Center, will discuss several issues: dogs, homelessness, drinking in the park, etc. That will begin at 10:15am.

Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance, Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal discussed a letter request for support of the establishment of safety setbacks regarding fracking. She is asking for that to be on the next agenda. Yenawine said to submit a letter to the Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUC).

Schools, Libraries, and Community Organizations, Cheryl Ortega said that the group met with the Outreach Committee.

Outreach Committee, Dominic Ciccodicola reported that the group was at the Lotus Festival. About 25 people volunteered to translate. He offered thanks to fellow Board members Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos, Andy Griggs, Richard Courtney, Michael Galano and others who showed up. The Lotus Festival was tons of fun, he said.

Ida Talalla asked how many emails did you get at the Lotus Festival? Ciccodicola said at last two sheets worth, plus 20 surveys, plus 25 translation volunteers.

Dodgers Committee, Richard Courtney said they met with the Dodgers. The traffic survey needs to be updated. They promised lots of things over last 6 months but haven't done anything, he observed.

Planning and Land Use Committee (PLUC), Tad Yenawine said the group met July 11. They appointed a new member. Also, four Conditional Use Permit (CUP) projects were heard. These are on the agenda tonight. PLUC wrote support letters for these. They also drafted a Community Impact Statement (CIS).

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

Matt Bogdanow:

He said that he wants a CIS in support of immigrant rights. The Los Feliz and Highland Park Neighborhood Councils did the same thing. He read points of the proposed letter. We are hoping to work with the neighborhood council to get a CIS filed at your August meeting. Griggs said that the Schools, Libraries and Community Organizations Committee can look at this.

*Dr. Ron Birnbaum, Candidate for State Assembly, District 51,
(310) 570-7827, ron@birnbaumforassembly.com*

He is a physician who lives in Silver Lake with his family. I came to listen tonight, he said. People talked about arts, environment, traffic, etc. Thank you for caring about your community, he said.

His parents are from Argentina. He attended medical school in San Francisco and become an officer in the Navy. He is a dermatologist. He works for Los Angeles County focusing on the underserved. He's always been involved in politics, mostly in campaigns. He ran for the State Central Committee of the Democratic Party and won.

He expressed concern about the threat that Washington poses to healthcare. He is working on single payer healthcare.

We have a supermajority in Sacramento, yet we still have fracking, housing problems, schools that need help, he observed. My campaign doesn't take money from corporations.

A Woman:

She commented on agenda item 4.d, a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) application from the Edendale Library Friends about the LA Park and dedication ceremony. This is the second most significant proposal to come before the neighborhood council. It concerns historical cultural monuments for the lake and surrounding buildings. This involves education. I'd really appreciate your support. There will be books at the Edendale branch library which will be sponsored by the neighborhood council. You'd have a continuing presence.

5. Administrative items

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

- a. Selection of stakeholder to fill vacant Community Interest seat

Yenawine said that he wants to move item 5a to the top of the agenda. Harris seconded.

VOTE
17-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

There are seven candidates but only five of them are here.

Candidates:

Maureen (not here)
Taylor (not here)
Andrew Alt
Mark Bachner
Paul
Sarah Smith
Sue Reimers

Yenawine explained the voting process. The Board can vote. There will be one vote per Board member per seat. The top two will go to a run-off. There are 17 board members here so it takes 9 votes to win.

Mark Bachner:

I've been involved with the community since I bought my place in Echo Park in 2002. He said that he's worked with Mayor Garcetti's office on projects including neighborhood watch, parking issues, and a pocket park. Participating in this neighborhood council will continue that involvement with a different group of activists.

Sarah Smith:

She said that she's lived in Echo Park for almost 10 years. She loves it. She's been involved with the neighborhood council for over 6 months. She is a member of the PLUC and Outreach Committees. She enjoys getting more involved. She would love to continue serving.

Paul:

He is a resident of Silver Lake. He is also a half resident of Echo Park. He oversees a cultural arts program here. He has been a Silver Lake Neighborhood Council Board member. He's worked with several Council offices. He started a Neighborhood Watch. He cares.

Andrew Alt:

He said that he's lived in Echo Park for 8 years. He has an advertising and new media background. That would be great for community outreach. He owns patents. He wants to amplify the voice of the neighborhood council and the community through digital media. He wants to be a liaison between the people and the platform.

Sue Reimers:

She lives on the border between Echo Park and Silver Lake. She was a Board member until the border was moved. Her heart is still in Echo Park. She has served as Treasurer. She was a part of the Echo Park Improvement Association. She is a lawyer.

A Woman asked which of these people has served on committees for the neighborhood council? Yenawine asked what committees do you want to serve on?

Sarah Smith said that she is currently on PLUC. She has been involved with Outreach and with Schools, Libraries and Community

Organizations. She wants to get more involved with the Schools and Public Safety Committees.

Paul said that he is not serving on a committee. However, he was chair for the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council PLUC. I would serve wherever there is a sense that I can best serve, he said, adding a caveat, I do have a few other duties.

Andrew Alt is not on any committees. However, he has an interest in public safety.

Sue Reimers said that she was chair of the ageing committee. She was also treasurer and was chair of the Budget and Finance Committee.

Mark Bachner has had no involvement with the neighborhood council. He's worked mostly with Council offices and the Mayor's office. Whether he was working on parks or parking, he would apply the same energy to the neighborhood council. wherever this is a need.

Mike Jolly asked the candidates, as stakeholders, what is number one thing you think should be changed in Echo Park?

Paul said that government transparency and government partnering with the community is crucial.

Andrew Alt said that the intersection of Alvarado and Sunset is a public safety risk. I want people to feel more comfortable there.

Sarah Smith said we don't have a town square. This is a great neighborhood.

Mark Bachner said that people don't know how to get involved with the community. Outreach and responsiveness are the best way to serve our community.

Another Woman said that she lives near the intersection of Temple and Alvarado. She has lots of homeless neighbors. That should be the top priority.

Cheryl Ortega asked the candidates their thoughts about gentrification?

Andrew Alt spoke of 8 dollar haircuts and assimilation.

Mark Bachner said there must be a balance between improving the community and preserving history. Not all gentrification is bad.

Paul said there has been a loss of a sense of community. I mourn that loss of community.

Ida Talalla said that 60% of this community is Hispanic. We don't have services that address them.

Yenawine said it's a great question but hard to answer in 15 seconds.

Mark Bachman said that there is no silver bullet. We must work on the larger city: the Council member and mayor must make it a priority.

Another Woman asked about outreach.

Paul said that lots of things can be done. We must build community. We must create bonds between neighborhood councils, multiply relationships.

Andrew Alt said that he loves idea of piggybacking off other events to leverage the neighborhood council's resources.

Sue Reimers mentioned the Lotus Festival and Echo Park Rising. We need to have something to honor the Hispanic community.

VOTE

Sarah Smith -- 9 votes

Richard Courtney

Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal

Darcy Harris

Ida Talalla

Margarita Fernandez

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

Andy Griggs

Daniel Heimpel

Dominc Ciccodicola

Andrew Alt -- 3 votes

Cheryl Ortega

Jeffrey Kontorovsky

Paul Bowers

Mark Bachner – 3 votes

Mike Jolly

Michael Galano

Tyan Schesser

Sue Reimers – 1 vote

Connie Acosta

Paul – 1 vote

Tad Yenawine

Sarah Smith wins and now joins the Board. There are now 18 Board members present.

Paul said I'm really impressed with this neighborhood council. He said that he's happy for the other candidates. Andy Griggs said that he loved Paul's email about the cultural needs of the community. He urged him to be involved.

4. Budget and Finance Items

Discussion and possible action re the following:

a. NPG/CIP Grant Process Outline

- Grant proposal is submitted to Treasurer
- Treasurer/Executive Committee assigns the grant to a Subcommittee or Subcommittees
- Subcommittee takes over communication with the applicant to coordinate meetings, questions, updates regarding the grant.
- Subcommittee(s) hears and votes on their recommendation, both overall YES or NO, and also a recommendation on the AMOUNT.
- Subcommittee submits their recommendation to the Budget and Finance Committee for budget review
- Budget and Finance Committee makes recommendation
- Budget and Finance Committee moves the Grant to the Executive Committee (along with all subcommittee recommendations) for a vote at a Board of Governors meeting.

Treasurer Michael Galano said that Tyan Schesser didn't complete financial training. Chief Information Officer Paul Bowers is also ineligible along with the new Board member Sarah Smith.

People are confused about the grant application process. Agenda item 4.a clarifies this process. We may add time restraints so only grant requests would happen only once a quarter. But, with this outline that is not necessary, said Galano.

He read through the NPG process and Community Improvement Project (CIP) process. He said that the Budget and Finance Committee meets on Tuesday before the Board meeting (3rd Tuesday). The second Thursday would be last committee meeting for that month to get something funded for that month. That's five days prior to the 3rd Tuesday of the month.

Galano said that he wants this as official policy to be placed on the website. He wants the board to vote on the process tonight.

Ortega asked if there is more than one committee involved, must they come to consensus ahead of time about the amount and recommendations? For example, if the Schools Committee says yes and the Outreach Committee says no? Galano said the Committees can't kill it. It's just their recommendations to the Board. The Budget and Finance Committees would decide the amount. However, the validity and merits are dealt with at committee level.

Ciccodicola asked do these committee meetings need to be agendaized? Talalla said if it's confusing to me, it will be more confusing to stakeholders. Can you draw boxes? Who determines things? It's confusing and unfair. Also, some committees meet at same day and time. Drawing a chart clarifies it to the stakeholder. Courtney explained the process.

Talalla asked how about a visual? Galano said that would be easy to do. Yenawine said that applications are submitted to the Treasurer. That's important to know. The role of the Executive Committee can be confusing.

Ciccodicola said that's an elegant solution. We appreciate your time. *Ciccodicola made a motion take the Executive Committee out and amend it to being the Treasurer. Griggs seconded.*

Yenawine said that he is taking out the word "sub" so just add committees. In the last clause: "the Budget and Finance Committee moves the grant along with all community recommendations to the Board of Governors' meeting." Galano said to remove all Executive Committee references.

Connie Acosta asked about presentation and questions? Courtney mentioned "Committee Level". Galano said we haven't discussed whether a grant can die in committee. Yenawine said it would take two committees to kill it.

Ortega said we have let people know that if they have an idea, they need to know to go to the Treasurer. People won't know the procedure. Talalla said to give organizations a chance once to present and not all the time. It takes up a lot of time. Yenawine said they present at committee and at the Board. That's not too much to ask.

Jolly said we don't want people coming back multiple times a year. That's what Talalla means? Yenawine said we're having an open grant process that's flexible. We can't have enormous back and forth because of the Brown Act. What we have is as good as we are going to get.

A Woman asked what if a committee doesn't meet that month? Things fall through the cracks. Galano said we want to place a time frame. We don't want last minute applications. Courtney said there would be 45 to 90 days warning. It's not our fault if you come with 15 days notice. Yenawine commented that when funds are frozen or when Boards can't make quorum can be an issue.

Harris said that usually the Treasurer will decide which committee is best for presentation. We didn't have this structure before. Griggs said that people are not required to make presentations. There is a potential problem with a committee not meeting. If the Treasurer refers something to a committee that's not meeting, he can refer it to another meeting.

Acosta said that for hiring, I never saw the web master. Whomever we pay needs to come and do a presentation. Yenawine said I'm not sure it makes sense.

VOTE
18-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez

Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

b. Maximum Grant Amount:

NPG awards to be listed on the website as "up to \$800."

Galano said this would allow for five \$800 NPGs for the year under a \$4,000 budget. *Griggs wanted an amendment to say generally no more than \$800. Ortega seconded his amendment. We're facing grant application today of \$1,000. Ciccodicola said we have to reserve discretion. He supports the amendment.*

Talalla said that sometimes a project might go beyond the \$800 cap. The cap of \$800 is unrealistic. I want this to be a general suggestion. Ortega said the amendment is general, not a hard cap.

VOTE for amendment

18-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly

Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

VOTE on amended motion

18-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

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

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

c. Approval of CIP application form to be included on the EPNC website
(attached)

Galano said this is for clean-ups. We have to issue community benefit statements to DONE (the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment). We have to apply for us to pay a vendor. I created an application form for community improvement projects. I will place it on the website. We need to know the vendors involved in project, we're not just paying stakeholders. Harris seconded this motion with Yenawine's elimination of a typographical error.

Jolly said that he supports a cap. How much do we have set aside? Galano said \$4,000. Jolly suggested "generally \$800". Ciccodicola said to change "requested". It's confusing. Use discussion not amending. We need to say "acquired" or "secured" regarding funding sources. That's what this is intended to find out.

Griggs commented that this is great. In second sentence he wants to change "if you could" to "please describe the nature of your endeavour below". On the second page, he wants to drop "sub" from committee. Regarding CIS money, he asked do they have to go to the approved vendors? Galano replied I don't believe so. Yenawine asked if we're paying vendor for a service or does it have to be for goods? There are three levels of spending that need to be covered.

Galano said there's very little guidance on this. Geaga-Rosenthal asked do vendors have to be on approved list? Daniel Heimpel suggested to get rid of the vendor column. Harris said we have to pay each vendor ourselves. Yenawine said there is a huge difference between working with nonprofits versus others.

A Woman asked what if there aren't enough applicants? Will you lose that money? Yenawine replied that our budget is flexible.

Talalla said we've never asked for sweat equity to give back to the community. Are they going to put in 10 hours of work? Jolly said that's a great point! If it's a park bench, have that person do the work for free before we actually pay a subcontractor.

Yenawine said we are over schedule. These are the kinds of things to be addressed at committee. Courtney said we did discuss the limit. That language doesn't need to be on there. Acosta said that she's attended DONE meetings about this. The recipients provide photos and information about who was involved in the projects.

Jolly offered an amendment. We need a spreadsheet about sweat equity. How much time are they and neighbors going to put in? Yenawine asked do people want to deal with this tonight? Galano

said we detail everything in application at front. Jolly said if you don't give someone warning about what we expect, they need to provide sweat equity. Yenawine said I'm not hearing a coherent amendment.

Harris said we need to have a form to think about how to do this. We should approve the form. It should not be cumbersome.

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos said that she wants to call the question. Acosta suggested that after "what is your agenda" submit a proposed flyer for the event. Yenawine said we can make all kinds of requests. There is a motion to strike "if you could". Add a column on the second page for "amount requested" and "amount funded" are second and third columns. Galano said this is redundant. Ciccodicola said it may still be in process.

Yenawine said that "sub" will be struck in the paragraph that begins "this application". Bowers seconded.

Jolly wants to add an amendment that the "applicant must provide a detailed estimate of volunteer hours needed to complete the project and a report after the project is completed of those volunteer hours." *Jeffrey Kontorovsky seconded Jolly's amendment.*

Ortega asked can you give me an example of this? Jolly said if someone wants to make a pocket park, it comes with the proposal. To get it done, they must have volunteers do most of work. Talalla said I have had community grants. I had to match the money that we got.

Yenawine said I'm not sure that we can address all of that tonight. We can bring all these ideas back. Now it's important to have a form for stakeholders. If we don't get this done in 60 seconds I'll postpone.

VOTE on Jolly's amendment

8-8-2

FAILED

Tyan Schesser said she doesn't want this to be requirement. However, she likes it as part of a proposal. Yenawine said that amendment failed.

VOTE for original amendment

18-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

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

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

d. Discussion regarding ELFS \$1,000 NPG Submission: Raskin/LA Parks Foundation Dedication Ceremony (referred to Outreach Committee)
Discussion regarding Sunset Bridge mural project and vote on Call for Mural Design Submissions

Galano discussed the Edendale library NPG. They are installing new benches. We've been asked to host a dedication event. The Outreach and Ageing Committees endorsed support. Then come the specific NPG application. Joelle shouldn't have to go back to outreach. It's an odd application.

Padilla-Mavropoulos said that part of the issue was public benefit and the amount of money being spent: How many people would show up vs. money we're spending. There is an Outreach meeting in two weeks. She has a suggestion. Galano said that he wants outreach to put together a more coherent plan.

Yenawine made a motion to refer back to Outreach. Heimpel seconded.

Talalla commented about 5 pair of binoculars. All kids aren't going to wait to use them. Can we take money from another place to buy more binoculars so kids don't have to wait? Acosta said she doesn't want to refer this back to committee.

Ciccodicola asked should this be referred to the Library Committee? Griggs said I don't want to refer back to committee. This is asking for money. That's separate from asking us to participate. Decide on the money tonight. Discuss participation later.

Ortega said there are two separate issues. If we don't send it back, we negate the new process. Yenawine said there have been iterations of this request before.

Harris said this is mushed together. Doing other things is not part of the NPG. If Outreach can't get it together, will the money go to a good cause? Joelle said I'd have to find other volunteers. Yenawine said it's important to the success of your event that there's a good amount of participation.

Joelle commented about the date of Thursday, October 5. We have a partial commitment for supplies. Yanawine asked can we hear this at the August meeting?

Joelle explained that I need to make commitments to the Department of Parks and Recreation. Do you understand what the proposal is for? It involves local elementary schools. We want to get Logan Elementary School involved and use the lake for their science classes. It's also for youth education. We want the children to embrace the lake. We want kids learn about the ecosystem and community service.

Yenawine said this has enormous impact for the small amount of money. It's an ambitious and complicated application. We can refer this to committee and hear it in August. There is some risk if committees can't commit.

Joelle said that if the committees can't commit, we have to consider non neighborhood council support. Yenawine said the issue is the time to refer it back to committee. Joelle said I have deadlines and obligations.

Yenawine said that funds aren't at issue here. The issue is committees and work. We're glad that you're working so hard to

accomplish something, said Joelle. Yenawine asked if there is no decision before August 23, would that impact the project? Joelle said the \$566 permit is key. Council District 13 (CD13) is providing in-kind stuff.

Bowers apologized for the timing. He encouraged the Board to fund what we need to right now. This is a fantastic opportunity for us. Heimpel said this is a good thing. Can this be done without EPNC sweat equity? It sounds like Joelle needs this to move forward. Give her the \$566 now for the permit.

Yenawine made a motion for an NPG of \$1,000. Bowers seconded. Ortega commented on the difference between funding and production, support versus host. We have a huge interest to support. We have little ability to host.

Galano said I'll volunteer to help with this project. Padilla-Mavropoulos said this is a doable project. Let's do a special project with it which I'll present when we have the Outreach meeting. Ortega said that the school receiving the benefit would be a good source of volunteers. A Woman asked how can people help if they don't have children? You can participate through the library, said Joelle.

VOTE
13-1-2-2
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Sarah Smith

No Votes:

Michael Galano

Abstentions:
Richard Courtney
Dominic Ciccodicola

Ineligible:
Tyan Schesser
Paul Bowers

7. PLUC

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

- a. PLUC [5-0] Letter of support with conditions for Plan Approval for Chipotle restaurant at 2134 Sunset – part of Mohawk Collective. Recommend same conditions as for MCUP: Beer and Wine only, operations 5am–1pm Sun-Thurs, 5am-12am Fri & Sat; alcohol sales start 4 pm M-Fr, 10 am Sat & Sun, end at 11pm Sun-Thurs, 12am Fri & Sat. (ZA-2017-1546-PAB)
- b. PLUC [5-0] Letter of support for CUP application for beer and wine in conjunction with existing Tsubaki Restaurant at 1356 Allison Ave. Operating hours of 8am to 12am Sun-Thurs, and 8am to 12am Fri & Sat. (ZA-2017-1477 CUB)
- c. PLUC [5-0] Letter of support for CUP application for beer and wine in conjunction with new Ototo Restaurant at 1360 Allison Ave. Operating hours of 8am to 12am Sun-Thurs, and 8am to 12am Fri & Sat. (ZA-2017-2443-CUB)
- d. PLUC [no rec., 4-0] Letter of support with conditions for extension of CUP for existing Semi-Tropic Café/Bar at 1412 Glendale Blvd. to full line of alcohol in conjunction with additional exterior floor area of 298 sq ft. Recommend no alcohol served outside, operating hours Wed-Sat 9am – 2 am, and Sun-Tues. 9am – 12am.

Acosta said that she wants to move to items 7 a through d next because the applicants are here and have been waiting for a long time.

VOTE to move items 7a through d now
18-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano

Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Acosta said that agenda item 7.a is not written as clearly. It's abbreviated on the agenda. See the letter of support for Chipotle. The applicant is not present.

Harris made the motion. Geaga-Rosenthal seconded.

VOTE for 7.a as written

14-1-3

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Tyan Schesser

Sarah Smith

No Votes:

Mike Jolly

Abstentions:

Dominic Ciccodicola

Daniel Heimpel

Luiza Mavropoulos

Griggs wants to say “EPNC does not support the sale of liquor for outside consumption”, which is what the letter says. There is confusion about wording for beer and wine versus full line of liquor.

VOTE again

12-1-5

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine

Darcy Harris

Michael Galano

Paul Bowers

Richard Courtney

Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal

Jeffrey Kontorovsky

Connie Acosta

Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous

Cheryl Ortega

Andy Griggs

Sarah Smith

No Votes:

Mike Jolly

Abstentions:

Tyan Schesser

Margarita Fernandez

Ida Talalla

Dominic Ciccodicola

Daniel Heimpel

(Note: Ida Talalla and Margarita Fernandez left at 9:27pm. There are now 16 Board members here.)

Courtney said that he wants an amendment for agenda item 7.b to the letter to include alcohol hours 11am to 11pm Mondays and Tuesdays, 11am to 1am Wednesdays to Fridays. 9am to 1am on Saturdays, and 9am to 11pm on Sundays. This is different than the hours of operation. This allows for weekend brunch and late weekend nights. In Echo Park we limit hours of service of liquor. *Padilla-Mavropoulos seconded.*

Dan, one of the owners of Semi-Tropic, said our current sales hours are begin at 11am Monday to Friday and at 9am on Saturdays and Sundays. Liquor sales currently end at midnight Sundays through Thursdays and at 2am on Fridays and Saturdays. We request 9am to 2am 7 days a week. Our existing hours are longer than what you are considering. We haven't had any issues.

A Man who owns the building next door said we are the sole tenants in that building. I have no problem with anything that they are asking for.

Currently our alcohol hours begin at 11am during the week with 9am on Saturdays and Sundays. Alcohol sales end at midnight Sundays to Thursdays. They end at 2am on Fridays and Saturdays. These are the current alcohol sale hours. We want them to be the same as the operational hours.

Courtney said they had 30 supporters. We had to vote in someone that evening to vote. We want to have liquor and beer sales all the same. Many people on the Board don't want liquor sales at 9am. Acosta asked what are the liquor hours?

Jolly said you have to look at each establishment individually. People will want to drink with brunch. Acosta said at 10am every day. I visited this bar. Everyone works quietly. It's not a rowdy bar, she noted. Yenawine said that people driving away does affect the community.

Griggs asked about timing? When is your hearing? The owners said September. *Griggs suggested to refer this back to PLUC.* Ortega asked is there a legal issue about liquor sales? Yenawine said there haven't been any issues. *Harris seconded.*

Ciccodicola said that what they are asking for is reasonable. He is in favor to refer it back to committee. Jolly said that he was in favor of referring it back to committee for PLUC to issue a uniform policy decision.

VOTE to refer agenda item 7d back to committee
14-2-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith

No Votes:

Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Michael Galano

Abstentions:

None

Acosta made a motion to have liquor sales begin at 10am. Harris suggested to start later liquor sales on weekdays and earlier for brunch. The policy for these two restaurants wasn't discussed in the applications. Yenawine said that's not a good idea. This is not a bar, this is a restaurant. Jolly asked what does the restaurant want?

Christopher Murray, the restaurants' representative for agenda items b and c, said we want the approval conditions from the previous restaurants to apply here to the current restaurants. The LAPD wants last call 30-60 minutes before close. This is beer and wine. Japanese food. No one is going there to imbibe. We have no issue with an amendment to serve alcohol at 10am. Acosta suggested 10am to 12am Sundays to Thursdays and 10am to 1am on Fridays and Saturdays.

Murray said we're only seeking approval for alcohol. We want to change the beginning of service for alcohol to 10am daily. *Geaga-Rosenthal seconded Acosta's motion.*

Courtney explained that there was community feedback to limit alcohol hours because it was getting out of hand. They had 40 people come. That was great but we still have to create policy.

Jolly noted that many restaurants already have longer hours. It cripples new restaurants.

Murray said when they grant approval, we don't have to reapply for Conditional Use Permit (CUP). It goes with the land. This is the City's new policy.

VOTE for Acosta's amendment

16-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

VOTE for amended motion for items b and c with hours of 10am to 12am for beer and wine service sales daily to begin for weekdays, (Sundays to Thursdays) and 10am till 1am for Fridays and Saturdays for beer and wine.

14-1-1

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Sarah Smith

No Votes:

Mike Jolly

Abstentions:

Tyan Schesser

e. PLUC [no rec., 4-0] CIS re: proposed Affordable Housing Linkage Fee Ordinance
(CF No. 17-0274)

Acosta explained that this was originated by Mayor Garcetti. Los Angeles has an alarming shortage of affordable housing. This linkage fee is to be charged to developers. We recommend not to go with what they propose. This doesn't match the Echo Park area. We suggest that for any for sale or rental with affordable units receiving a density bonus they should pay a linkage fee based on square footage at market rates and sign a covenant against short term rentals. Non-residential buildings in excess of 1,500 ft will pay a linkage fee is what we are saying, instead of 15,000. Yenawine said anything bigger than a garage should pay a linkage fee.

Jolly asked what is the purpose of the fee? Acosta said it's to create new affordable housing or refurbish existing buildings for affordable housing.

Jolly commented that 15,000 square feet is for big successful businesses. You'll handicap new businesses with a 1,500 square

foot policy. He wants to amend it back to 15,000 sq ft. Yenawine said that's a move to strike recommendation #2. Jolly explained that a bigger company can afford more.

Acosta said it could be another number. Yenawine said this seems rather arbitrary. Leave it to the City. Heimpel asked Courtney are you cool with this at 1500? At a \$15 per sq ft one time fee? Acosta noted that other cities charge a lot more.

Tyan Schesser asked where does the number come from? Bowers wants a proposal based on our area. However, vote on the amendment first. Griggs said there are problems with this letter. There are lots of argument about linkage fees. If \$5 or \$15 enough. Wait a little longer on this and get more information, he advised.

Courtney said I really want to encourage you all to speak up and come to Committee meetings and be informed. You were there (he said to Griggs). It's really frustrating. Yenawine urged to trust the work of our committees. Don't raise objections at the last minute. Acosta commented that lots of information was done weeks before.

VOTE on amendment to strike recommendation #2

4-11-1

FAILED

Yes Votes:

Mike Jolly
Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Michael Galano

No Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Richard Courtney
Connie Acosta
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith
Paul Bowers

Abstentions:

Daniel Heimpel

REVOTE
4-11-1
FAILED

Yes Votes:

Mike Jolly
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Michael Galano
Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal

No Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Richard Courtney
Connie Acosta
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith
Paul Bowers

Abstentions:

Daniel Heimpel

Jolly commented about paragraph one. There are inconsistencies regarding restricted affordable units. Understand the effect that this has on a building when you pile on other fees, he urged. Acosta said there are usually 100 units but only 10 are affordable.

Yenawine urged Jolly to rejoin PLUC. Raising objections here is disruptive. Jolly said he'll rejoin PLUC. *Jolly made a motion to refer this back to committee. Kontorovsky seconded.* Acosta noted that the timing is sensitive.

VOTE to refer back to committee
5-9-2
FAILED

Yes Votes:

Andy Griggs
Michael Galano

Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Mike Jolly
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

No Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Connie Acosta
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Cheryl Ortega
Dominic Ciccodicola
Sarah Smith

Abstentions:

Daniel Heimpel
Tyan Schesser

VOTE for original motion

9-2-5

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Paul Bowers
Richard Courtney
Connie Acosta
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Dominic Ciccodicola
Sarah Smith

No Votes:

Mike Jolly
Jeffrey Kontorovsky

Abstentions:

Tyan Schesser
Daniel Heimpel
Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Michael Galano
Andy Griggs

Acosta said that it doesn't mean that the City will act on this.

(Note: Jeffrey Kontorovsky left at 10:06pm)

Yenawine wants to extend the meeting by 20 minutes.

VOTE to extend the meeting

15-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine

Darcy Harris

Michael Galano

Paul Bowers

Richard Courtney

Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal

Connie Acosta

Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous

Cheryl Ortega

Mike Jolly

Andy Griggs

Daniel Heimpel

Dominic Ciccodicola

Tyan Schesser

Sarah Smith

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

4. Budget and Finance Items -- REVISITED

Discussion and possible action re the following:

e. Designation of Michael Galano as Cardholder

VOTE

13-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine

Darcy Harris

Michael Galano

Paul Bowers
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith
Mike Jolly
Connie Acosta

No Votes:
None

Abstentions:
None

(Note: Richard Courtney had left the meeting. Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos left the room and did not vote. Mike Jolly and Connie Acosta left the meeting by 10:08pm after voting.)

h. Reimbursement of BOG member Dominic Ciccodicola in the amount of \$94.43

Ortega made the motion. Geaga-Rosenthal seconded.

VOTE
9-0-0-2
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser

No Votes:
None

Abstentions:
None

Ineligible:
Sarah Smith
Paul Bowers

f. MER for June 2017

Yenawine said there is no MER.

i. (Note: This was after placed after agenda item 4d in the agenda. It was renamed by Yenawine.)

Discussion regarding Sunset Bridge mural project and vote on Call for Mural Design Submissions

Yenawine wants to postpone this item (renamed agenda item 4.i).

The artist, Ernesto, says he wants to know what's happening with the mural project? I'm very serious about this corridor. The projects take time. 4-5 hours. It will last 400-500 years. This is my heart. This is a serious item.

g. Outreach Survey and Self Assessment forms for submission with budget package to DONE

*Harris made a motion to authorize Galano on behalf of EPNC.
Bowers seconded.*

Galano said he wants Harris' approval as a substitute motion.

VOTE
12-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith
Paul Bowers

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

5. Administrative items -- REVISITED

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

b. Selection of open BOG officer positions and Liaisons

VOTE FOR Sarah Smith as Vice Treasurer

12-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine

Darcy Harris

Michael Galano

Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal

Cheryl Ortega

Andy Griggs

Daniel Heimpel

Dominic Ciccodicola

Tyan Schesser

Sarah Smith

Paul Bowers

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

c. Formation of new committees

d. Modification of scope of work for existing committees including possibly merging committees

e. Confirmation/appointment of committee chairs

Yenawine wants to postpone items 5 b to e to the next meeting.

VOTE
12-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith
Paul Bowers
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

f. Revision of Removals section of approved bylaws for re-submission to
DONE and City Attorney's office

Yenawine said it goes from being automatic to requiring a vote.

VOTE
12-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith
Paul Bowers

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

g. Letter to City of Los Angeles, City Council, City Council Members, DONE, etc regarding equitable funding of certified translation services for NCs

Galano made the motion. Yenawine seconded.

VOTE

12-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine

Darcy Harris

Michael Galano

Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal

Cheryl Ortega

Andy Griggs

Daniel Heimpel

Dominic Ciccodicola

Tyan Schesser

Sarah Smith

Paul Bowers

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

6. Executive Committee

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

a. Reconsideration of policy regarding translation services for BOG and EPNC Committee meetings

No one wants to reconsider this.

8. Outreach/Andy Griggs and Sally David

- a. Discussion and/or possible action on the Pledge to Welcome and Protect Diversity in all forms, text available and/or attached

Griggs said that there are typographical errors. He wants to add the word “the” before Echo Park. This should be communicated to City Council, the Committee for Immigration and Human Rights, and the Mayor.

Yenawine made a motion to authorize Griggs to disseminate the letter to appropriate parties and to fix typos. Harris seconded.

VOTE
12-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Tyan Schesser
Sarah Smith
Paul Bowers
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

9. Announcements

Ortega proposes that the order of committees discussed be rotated so people aren't waiting until after 10pm.

Joelle suggested to have air-conditioning. More people would be here if there was more air-conditioning.

Yenawine said that conversation is ongoing.

10. Future Agenda Items

Geaga-Rosenthal discussed a letter about a 25 ft. health and safety setbacks near fracking.

Griggs said there were things postponed from the last meeting that didn't get onto the agenda.

11. Adjournment

The meeting ended at 10:20pm.