

ECHO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, August 22, 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 7:05 pm with 17 Board members present.

b. Roll Call

Attending Board Members:

Tad Yenawine, Chair
Darcy Harris, Vice Chair
Michael Galano, Treasurer
Paul Bowers, Chief Information Officer
Tyan Schesser, Secretary (arrived late)
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney (left early)
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal (arrived late)
Andrew Knauer
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta (arrived late, left early)
Ida Talalla (left early)
Margarita Fernandez (left early)
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly (left early)
Andy Griggs (left early)
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Jim Brown (resigned during the meeting)

Non-Attending Board Members:

Alex Meza
Dominic Ciccodicola

c. Adoption of minutes

Andy Griggs made a motion to postpone adoption of the minutes.

VOTE to postpone approval of the minutes

18-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

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

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

(Note: Connie Acosta arrived in time to vote.)

2. Community/Government reports:

a. Government agencies and officers

John Darnell, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE):

He said that on September 9 there will be the Congress of Neighborhoods. It will comprise workshops, lunch, and breakfast. It will begin at 7:30am and end at 4pm.

This Saturday there will be a gathering of the Emergency Preparedness Alliance.

(Note: Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal arrived at 7:08pm.)

There will be a Homeless University meeting on August 30 at 6pm. This is organized by Mayor Garcetti and will occur across the street from City Hall. Updates will be provided for Measure HHH and other voting initiatives for homeless services by County and City personnel.

Today, there was a Health, Education and Neighborhood Councils Committee session led by Council Member David Ryu. It recommends to push elections to 2019. Next week, the City Council will vote on that.

DONE will consider approval of the online election process. One of the best times to do outreach is during neighborhood council elections.

Darnell told the neighborhood council that it won an award in March. He gave the award to the neighborhood council. The award is related to a renters rights presentation organized by Vice Chair Darcy Harris.

(Note: Tyan Schesser arrived by 7:12pm)

There is now a photo opportunity of Chair Tad Yenawine and Vice Chair Darcy Harris with the award.

Treasurer Michael Galano spoke about training to DONE.

Yenawine said that Galano sent out an email about a memorial. Can you discuss this? Darnell explained that the Planning Committee likes to have an event to honor neighborhood council board members who have passed away, including former board members.

b. Community Organizations

George Funmaker, Red Earth Defense:

We are an indigenous Native American organization from Long Beach. We are organizing a gathering in San Pedro to bring different native elders to share teachings about protecting the Earth. Echo Park historically had a native organization here. There

are some Native American residents here. We want a donation to help fund this gathering. Our press release tells about our mission statement. We are asking for help.

The event dates are October 12-15. The first gathering in 1992 was in opposition to the celebration of Columbus discovering America. We wanted mainstream society to know that we are still here. We want to educate the young and the public about native issues and teachings. You're on indigenous land. Honor the first residents of Echo Park. We want to bring the community together. It's a ceremony. The budget is \$15,000.

Man, representing Friends of Echo Park Library:

He said that he was on the front page of Los Angeles Times. He also represents a musical organization for people dying in nursing homes. He submitted an NPG (Neighborhood Purposes Grant) application to several neighborhood councils. You have only one nursing home in your area. It's a hell hole. We want to bring those people a great deal of joy. We are professional musicians. He will turn in the NPG application to Michael Galano but what is the best committee to submit to? Galano said the ageing committee.

c. Presentation by Department of Disabilities

John Rodriguez, Americans With Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordinator for the Department of Disability:

He said that he wants to introduce himself and the Department, which started in 1975 for the disabled of Los Angeles. We try to offer resources about questions like employment and discrimination,

Rodriguez said that he is a certified mediator for the Justice Department. He can give good ideas about options. Issues include accessibility, housing, interpreters, car services.

We try to do lots of outreach. You're the first neighborhood council that I'm reaching out to. He said that he wants to cover most neighborhood councils.

He said that there are three other units/ sections: disability, the ace coordinators office, and core (an information and referral service). He brought fliers. We want to provide a supportive liaison service.

Regarding the Safe Streets program, he said we're going to be at the neighborhood council congress with the idea of having information about sidewalk programs. We are a portal to register for it. We're trying to make sure that people who call up know what's going on.

He spoke about the blue curb. There is confusion about this. There have been no new blue curbs in Los Angeles for 7 years.

Paul Bowers asked for an update about the Elysian Park Recreation Center. This is an amazing under used facility. Rodriguez said our dept is the entry point for complaints about the City and City services. We do an investigation and get back to people.

He said that he is on the LAX accessibility committee tied to the airport's \$23 billion upgrade. If you have an issue with something, call us. Also, file a complaint, he urged.

Andy:Griggs thanked Rodriguez for being here. They've been wonderful and resourceful, said Griggs. We want to continue this relationship. There is lots of work to be done.

Griggs added that the Alliance of River Committees will have a meeting here next month.

d. EPNC Chair Report

Yenawine said that there will be a meeting soon, a joint meeting with the Historic Cultural Neighborhood Council regarding Everett Street.

This could be an easily resolvable issue. We need volunteers to meet at 10am on Saturday. That's a good time to door knock, said Yenawine. We'll send out an email about this.

Yenawine spoke about the protests in Boston. He spoke against violence at rallies. Regarding President Trumps comments about protests in Charlottesville Virginia that led to violence that there were "good people on both sides", Yenawine said that we must fight back against this.

e. Treasurer Report

Galano noted that not listed under the July MER (Monthly Expense Report) is about \$1,500 to \$2,000. There is about \$39,000

available for the rest of the year. We may need to update the budget, particularly if elections are pushed back a year. There is one NPG tonight for a small amount.

f. Other Committee Chair and liaison reports

Ageing Committee: Ida Talalla spoke about the survey being conducted by the city and county, in conjunction with a Mayoral directive, about ageing. She encourages everyone to participate in the survey. She has a sign-up sheet

Outreach Committee: Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulus said that the weekend event for Echo Park Rising was pretty nice.

Planning and Land Use Committee: Darcy Harris and Connie Acosta said that they had a meeting on August 8. Acosta said that the group heard from Semi Tropic about their liquor license. The owners of 301 Glendale Boulevard are applying for a master CUP (Conditional Use Permit) We have letters of support for both applicants. At the next meeting we are setting an agenda.

Darcy Harris wants default guidelines for alcohol permits so that we are consistent. PLUC is working on this. At the last meeting, there was a proposed letter from the Sustainability Alliance about setbacks for oil drilling. The City is doing a report so action is delayed.

Dodgers Committee: Richard Courtney said that we had a meeting at the beginning of August. We discussed great issues regarding traffic, trash, and a motion in City Council about traffic studies. We are getting a CIS (Community Impact Statement) together. Many Echo Park leaders are getting together to discuss problems. There will be a follow up meeting in August.

Communications Committee: Paul Bower said that we captured lots of emails at Echo Park Rising. We want to make the website into a resource.

ARC Liaison: Andy Griggs suggested trying to get together and be more active. On September 19 in this room there will be a meeting about disability issues. Yenawine said that he wants to postpone this discussion.

SLCO: Cheryl Ortega said that she wants us to send a letter. Another letter about homeless people living under Alvarado has passed. She passed out the letter draft. She said I want to know

which agency will deal with helping the homeless? She also mentioned an event on November 2 with Joelle from the library association that involves local schools including Logan, Mayberry and Esperanza.

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items, one minute per speaker

David Rockello:

He announced a community art contest for the December parade. He has fliers. The competition is open to high school students until October 3. The contest had 300 submissions last year. We want to double that this year.

Echo Park Rising came in. He said that he wants to work with the neighborhood council for community clean-ups. He asked Board members to attend Andy Grigg's workshop. Come to the diversity thing on September 9 at the Congress of Neighborhood Councils, he urged.

Emily:

She lives across the street with her husband. She expressed concern about events that offered no notice, referring to Echo Park Rising. We weren't allowed on our street. The music was super loud. There is still trash after this. Don't shut down our street, it's residential, she said.

Yenawine replied that CD13 (Council District 13) had talked about shutting down the street completely. We might have a mini town hall about that. We must get CD13 involved in planning stages. Yenawine said that he wants to add Emily to the email list.

Tyan Schesser:

I went to a meeting a couple of weeks ago. There was a debate about square footage and linkage fees. Santa Monica and West Hollywood have higher linkage fees than those proposed for Los Angeles. San Francisco also has higher fees. This should be looked at again.

Today there was a committee meeting. This hasn't gone to City Council yet but 3 of 5 people passed it. Yenawine made a motion to reconsider previous motion supporting CIS on linkage fee. It would be a privileged motion. Darcy Harris objected, saying that a motion for reconsideration must be agendized if not at the same meeting as original motion. Not proper to raise orally with no notice.

Daniel Heimpel said all items have to be on the agenda. What is this privilege? Yenawine explained that Roberts' Rules allow the opportunity to reconsider an action if there is new information and someone on prevailing side wants to reconsider it. We passed the letter at the last meeting. He said that he wants input about the amount of linkage fees. However, Harris said that she disputes that Roberts Rules alone control and is subject to Brown Act – there is a lack of three days notice.

John Darnell, the DONE representative, said I suggest not voting on it. Have a motion to schedule it for the next Board meeting. If you want to file a grievance, do so under the Brown Act, he suggested. Darcy Harris suggests that it can be referred back to PLUC for reconsideration of a committee suggestion.

4. PLUC

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

a. PLUC [7-1] 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; sales of alcohol Monday -Tuesday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m., Wednesday - Friday from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2:00 a.m., and Sunday from 9 a.m. to 12:00 a.m. (ZA-2017-2391-CUB)

Yenawine asked what were the issues? Harris said they included outdoor seating, happy hour, and a lack of parking. Richard Courtney said that this is an existing café/bar that wants longer hours and wants to offer a full line of alcohol. Harris said there was support from neighbors but we want uniform guidelines.

Yenawine asked this would be all alcoholic beverages? Harris said yes. Connie Acosta noted that this bar is 2.5 blocks away from a school. It doesn't face the school. Other bars are adjacent to the entrance of schools.

Harris made a motion to adopt the letter as written. Yenawine seconded.

Andrew Knauer asked how high is the sidewalk? The restaurant owner said normal height. Knauer asked about the location of tables. Connie Acosta said that the bar doesn't face dark alleys. That's a good thing.

VOTE

**18-0-2
PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Tyan Schesser
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Andrew Knauer
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Jim Brown

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

Paul Bower
Ida Talalla

b. PLUC [8-0] Letter of support with conditions for Master CUP in conjunction with 4 restaurants and 1 bar at 301-343 Glendale Blvd (Echo Village). Recommendation is for beer and wine only for first 3 years. For the restaurants: Sunday – Thursday from 11:00 a.m to 12:00a.m., Friday and Saturday from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m. For the bar: Monday – Thursday from 5:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m., Friday from 5:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., Saturday from 12:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m., and Sunday from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m. (ZA-2017-1253-MCUP-CU)

Harris explained that there are four restaurants. Each restaurant would have to apply for individual approvals.

Andy Griggs made the motion. Richard Courtney seconded.

This project is located in the 301-343 block of Glendale Boulevard across from Bernie's Teriyaki. This area has not seen much action in years, said Yenawine.

Margarita Fernandez asked about offsite parking. There are only 11 parking sites there. The area is packed. Where will people park?

Connie Acosta said that this is a State enterprise zone. Parking is required. However, Fernandez said that red zones have removed much parking. Griggs said that that was a big issue but the State trumps us at this point. We want satellite parking for employees.

Mike Jolly asked did they apply any plans for redevelopment? What is the zoning? Acosta said they aren't building any buildings. They will redo the electrical system. They are not raising the height of the structure.

Ida Talalla said that she is concerned about all of this talking. This goes into residential areas. That causes problems. Planning and Land Use need to have an evaluation of parking in the Echo Park area. There is an insufficient number of parking spaces for individuals with disabilities. That needs to be addressed.

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos said that people are upset about 3 more bars. Where are the convenience stores? Where are the markets? These people will just shit and drink. People are upset and feeling powerless.

Acosta made a motion to amend to include a recommendation for onsite ADA (Americans With Disabilities Act) parking. Yenawine said that I hesitate because this letter has been discussed. Also, parking is required by the State. That will trump anything that we recommend. I ask you to reconsider your motion. Are they waiting on us, he asked. Acosta replied yes, we have 10 days.

Mike Jolly said that he had a question about the recommendation. Yenawine noted that the master CUP (Conditional Use Permit) doesn't guarantee that bars and restaurants will move in.

Acosta said that there was a question about hours. Jolly asked did they object to beer and wine for three years? Harris said no. Yenawine reminded the group that PLUC works hard and this is probably as good a document as you will get.

VOTE

**19-0-0
PASSED**

Yes Votes:

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

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

(Note: Andy Griggs was not in the room for the vote.)

c. PLUC [7-1] Community Impact Statement in support of Wesson-Blumenfield Resolution to oppose proposed state legislation (SB 649) limiting local control over approval of small cell towers (Council File 17-0002-S69)

Harris introduced the item. She said that the proposed State legislation would take away local control for small cell phone towers. This CIS would object.

Harris made the motion. Acosta seconded.

**VOTE
15-3-2
PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Paul Bowers
Tyan Schesser
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Andrew Knauer
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Sarah Smith
Jim Brown
Andy Griggs

No Votes:

Mike Jolly
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Kevin Fisher

Abstentions:

Michael Galano
Daniel Heimpel

d. [Harris] Community Impact Statement on Proposed Increases in Appeal Fees in connection with City Planning Comprehensive Fee Study (Council File No. 09-0969; CAO File No. 0220-04851-0018)

Harris explained that issues came up after the PLUC meeting. For the past couple of years, the Planning Department has been updating fee schedules for land use. We want full cost recovery. They passed most of this last week.

The controversy is the cost of land use appeals by non-applicants. They are not proposing full cost recovery for this. A \$13,538 fee for appeals is proposed by some. The PLUM (City Council Planning and Land Use Management Committee) wanted a revised report.

There are five different options from \$271 to \$13,000. We're opposing raising this beyond \$271. We request that they keep it at \$271. We want a separate category for waivers.

Acosta said that she wants subtitles and a summary. Harris explained that a CIS filing requires a short summary. Acosta said that's fine. On the back, we state what we want. We want just a top statement. Acosta said that she is not making an amendment. This is just for clarity.

Talalla expressed concern that they're going to be on the war path. We must publicize how ridiculous this is. She is in favor of the motion. It's hard for ordinary citizens to participate. If you disagree with them you are thrown under bus because you don't have the money. Jim Brown asked why \$271? Where does that come from? Those are odd numbers, he observed.

VOTE
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:

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

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

5. Budget and Finance Items

Discussion and possible action re the following:

a. [Outreach/Communications 4-0-0] Discussion and possible action re NPG application for up to \$250 for Levitt Pavillion Summer Series

Galano said that the concerts occur at the Levitt Pavilion in MacArthur Park. It's a pretty cool event. They only have two concerts left for the summer. He's not sure why they want this now. We recommended this to Outreach. They've offered us a table. Outreach recommended a reduction to \$250. They asked for \$5,000 but I told them about the new \$800 limit.

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos said we'd give them \$250 with them coming back next year to ask for the full amount. It's too late for our information to be on their flyers. That's why we reduced the amount. She said this would be good outreach to establish a relationship.

Rockello said they came to our Rampart Village Neighborhood Council with the same ridiculous pitch. Maybe if they did something in Echo Park it should be considered. I'm against giving them any money. They want a ridiculously large amount of money. They should have events in each neighborhood council area.

Yenawine asked did the Levitt people share their budget with you? Galano responded that they weren't at the Budget Committee meeting.

Bowers said that Levitt Pavilion is well funded but this is an opportunity to establish a relationship. We can have the opportunity to partner with them in the future.

Griggs explained that Levitt Pavilion takes old band shells and refurbishes them. Yenawine asked could they rebuild the one on the lake? Griggs said we want to establish a relationship. They appreciate us.

Cheryl Ortega said I won't oppose this but I'm concerned about spending out of Echo Park.

Heimpel noted that we've nicked and dimed other projects so we shouldn't support this. Jolly said I second everything that you just said. Tyan Schesser said I would support \$250 at the beginning of the concert season. We could plan events together. This is a valuable relationship for next year. However, there are only two

concerts left right now. Harris asked will Outreach do this? Padilla-Mavropoulos said she'll go.

Mike Jolly said that a table and tent will be provided by Levitt, according to documents. Yenawine said that's pretty good value for us. Bowers said they will put out a schedule for next year early in the season. We may not get an NPG out in time for next season. This is an historic venue. We can provide outreach throughout the entire season.

Darnell said we were there twice this summer. There were lots of people there. They provided a table and canopy. They were great. Bowers asked what about our guidelines for NPGs. Will this keep us on track for quarterly spending?

Galano said that it's about \$1,000 per quarter. We're at that so it would be \$1250 for the quarter. Yenawine added that we would still have \$750 left for the quarter for NPGs and Community projects combined.

Yenawine made the motion. Padilla-Mavropoulos seconded. We gave a similar amount to CD13 to get onto their flyers, noted Yenawine.

VOTE
10-9-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Tyan Schesser
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Andrew Knauer
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Jim Brown
Andy Griggs

No Votes:

Margarita Fernandez
Ida Talalla
Sarah Smith
Kevin Fisher
Mike Jolly

Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Cheryl Ortega
Daniel Heimpel

Abstentions:
None

Ineligible:
Paul Bowers

b. July MER

Yenawine made the motion. Jolly seconded.

VOTE
19-0-0-1
PASSED

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

No Votes:
None

Abstentions:
None

Ineligible:
Paul Bowers

c. Board member reimbursement for agenda copies, up to \$10

Galano made the motion. Griggs seconded.

VOTE
19-0-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Tyan Schesser
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Andrew Knauer
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Jim Brown
Andy Griggs

No Votes:
None

Abstentions:
None

Ineligible:
Paul Bowers

d. CIS for DIVEST LA supporting the creation of a public bank for investment of LA City Funds Discussion regarding Sunset Bridge mural project and vote on Call for Mural Design Submissions

Treasurer Michael Galano explained that this would create a public bank and disinvest from Wells Fargo Bank. There are two letters here that I drafted, he said. *Yenawine said that he wants to move the CIS as written. The other letter would be an attachment. Harris seconded.*

A Man asked about the public bank plan. How far along is this proposal? Galano said that it's a pretty solid movement. The Bank of Los Angeles idea was introduced to the City Council in July by Council Member Paul Kerkorian. Yenawine said that the City Council has the political will to do this.

The Man asked how does this neighborhood council influence that decision? Yenawine explained. We're unclear of our actual impact but we have to try, he said.

Galano said this would influence two Council Districts. Acosta said that the more tht neighborhood councils support motions the more influence they have. Yenawine said it's a young system. It's not like screaming at a wall like 6 years ago.

VOTE
20-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

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

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

*Galano made a motion to close item 5. Heimpel seconded.
Yenawine asked you're killing the item? Yenawine made a motion
to postpone the item.*

**VOTE to postpone
Unanimous
PASSED**

Yes Votes:

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

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

6. 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 this is a report but there is no action to be taken at this time. We wanted to share this with people. We passed this last month. It has been distributed to City agencies and DONE. We want DONE to send it to other neighborhood councils. We want a template for ideas.

We'll start contacting local immigration organizations in the area. We want to create a welcome committee. Acosta asked can we translate this into Spanish? Griggs said that's a great idea. Talalla added that this is an important topic. We need much more than 2 languages. Extend this to other groups. Use 7-8 languages.

Yenawine asked Darnell whether there has been any progress from DONE about translation policies? Darnell said that right now the primary focus is elections. The City Council will vote next week. Yenawine said this item is basically a report. Padilla-Mavropoulos recommended that we take this to local churches to find translators in languages to Russian, Ukrainian, Tagalog, etc.

b. Discussion and/or possible action on CIS in support of council file 17-0002-S105 regarding lawful citizenship and immigration

Griggs said this is against President Trump. The Senate and the House have called for new legislation that affects people who've been here their entire lives but arrived as children. This is similar to the one that we passed earlier. They want to add to support the Act of 2017. This follows directly from the resolution that we passed last month. *Galano seconded Griggs' motion.*

Ortega asked what about kids who haven't yet graduated from high school? Griggs said that the focus is people already affected by it. Acosta said that she wanted to add language. However, Griggs said that's a quote. We can't change that.

VOTE
20-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Tad Yenawine
Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Tyan Schesser

Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Andrew Knauer
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Jim Brown
Andy Griggs
Paul Bowers

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

7. Administrative items

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

a. Selection of open BOG officer positions and Liaisons

Sarah Smith is Vice Treasurer.

Rockello said I'm willing to be the alternate. Andy Griggs is the primary for LANCC (Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition). Jim Brown is the primary representative for DWP (the Department of Water and Power). I will prepare letters for those two bodies at the next meeting. He's been the alternate.

b. Formation of new committees

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

d. Confirmation/appointment of committee chairs

Bowers said that he wants Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal to be chair of the combined Public Works and Sustainability and Public Safety

Committee. She agreed. Jeffrey Kontorovsky has stepped down as Chair.

Yenawine nominated Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal and Kevin Fisher as Chair and Vice Chair, respectively. Harris seconded.

Andy Griggs said that he wants to be a CIS filer.

**VOTE for Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal as Chair of the new combined committee with Kevin Fisher as Vice Chair
Unanimous
PASSED**

Yes Votes:

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

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

For CIS filers, remove Jackelyn Valladares and Paul Bowers from the list. We want to nominate Andy Griggs and Tyan Schesser as CIS filers, said Yenawine. Acosta asked can I file CIS? Yenawine told her that she's still on the list along with himself and Harris.

VOTE for Andy Griggs and Tyan Schesser
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:

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

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Remove Andy Griggs and Connie Acosta as Plan Check representatives? There is an open position. Rockello said they discuss planning and land use on the second Saturday of each month. Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos volunteered.

Richard Courtney and Connie Acosta were nominated to continue as Budget Advocates

VOTE
Unanimous
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine

Darcy Harris
Michael Galano
Tyan Schesser
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Andrew Knauer
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Mike Jolly
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Jim Brown
Andy Griggs
Paul Bowers

No Votes:
None

Abstentions:
None

Sarah Smith is nominated as a Homeless Liaison. Connie Acosta is removed and Sarah Smith is added. Jim Brown remains a liaison.

Acosta said that the Public Works Committee has an open seat. Anyone from CD13 can apply. This was announced at Plan Check. This group advises the City about urban forestry.

e. Board members eligible for removal, motions fro removal for next meeting

Mike Jolly and Jeffrey Kontorovsky and Jocelyn Geaga-Rosenthal

Yenawine asked Brown what do you want to do about absences? Brown said I want the Board to hear my plea. I missed two scheduled meetings. I was out of the country. I apologize for being absent. I didn't expect to be on the Board tonight. I'm trying to finish my commitment. People still approach me about Board issues. I feel commitment to neighborhood.

Harris said there is an option to resign and be revoted on. I don't want to do that, said Brown. Harris explained that the issue is that we changed our bylaws. There is now automatic removal. That language is being tweaked. That's why you're still on the Board. It's a question of enforcement and fairness. I want to vote you back in.

Yenawine said that at end of the meeting, as a courtesy, you should resign. This is what Jackelyn Valladares did as well.

Rockello said that as a Board member committed to not missing more meetings, he would definitely be revoted back onto the Board. The process mishandles the whole situation.

Yenawine said that he would motion for Brown's removal unless he resigns. Brown said I don't want to be gone but that's how I pay my rent. I have a commitment to greater things. I'm fighting either way.

(Note: Andy Griggs left at 9:20pm)

Yenawine said that the current bylaws say if you miss 3 meetings you are out.

DONE representative Darnell said that the Board must consult with the City Attorney's office. Yenawine said that even if we automatically remove someone I still have to consult DONE.

Talalla said that this is very confusing. You are making concessions. What happens when someone innocently missed meetings? This is also complicated by special meetings. Yenawine said this isn't about special meetings. It's about regular meetings. According to the bylaws that we all agreed upon, this should happen.

Brown said if this is the general consensus, if you all agree that I should resign, I'll resign. Acosta said that she had to resign before she was appointed. Yenawine said I encourage you to resign. I don't want rancor. I want a respectful environment.

Padilla-Mavropoulos said that sometimes I don't agree with the process. Sarah Smith came to meetings. Even though she was up against several people, she was already here and doing the work. Galano expressed concern about favoring previous board members.

Brown asked, if I resign, am I still homeless Liaison? Rockello said yes. Yenawine added that Knauer is moving so there could be two open seats. Darnell said you don't have to be a Board member to have a liaison position.

Brown said I have no problem resigning. I'm sorry that I was gone. Rockello said that once he is revoted back, his record is clean. Yenawine said that Jim Brown is resigning. Andrew Knauer is resigning. He thanked both of them for their efforts. Knauer said that he is probably moving to Philadelphia.

Yenawine warned Bowers, I'll motion for your removal at the next meeting if you don't complete ethics training.

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

Yenawine asked do we have this yet? Harris said we passed it and I sent it out already. Item is moot.

(Note: Richard Courtney left at 9:31pm.)

8. Announcements

Sally David said that she is asking for a letter of support for the St. Athanasius Episcopal Church at the Cathedral Center of St. Paul to support the disabled. She referred to the letter.

Yenawine said we can't consider this at this meeting.

(Note: Mike Jolly and Margarita Fernandez left at 9:33pm.)

Sally David said there's been a misunderstanding. We're not attracting homeless people.

(Note: Ida Talalla left at 9:35pm)

Sally David said I don't want to live in a city where people don't take care of the poor. Yenawine said let's reach out to the Echo Park Chamber of Commerce for a trailer or truck to help feed people. Heimpel said that Semi-Tropic has one. We have lots of contact with restaurant owners, said Yenawine.

9. Future Agenda Items

(Note: Connie Acosta left at 9:36pm.)

Rockello said that BONC (Board of Neighborhood Commissioners) don't come to meetings. They want to have an attendance policy similar to ours. I'll send you their motion at next meeting. The mayor has to have a vetting process. Have we seen our representative? No, said Rockello. He wants the BONC representative to visit this neighborhood council.

Harris said I want to hear from the Schools Libraries and Community Organizations Committee (SLCO) about guidelines for weighing NPGs. She wants a standard. Cheryl Ortega said I didn't understand that. Heimpel said that Galano set up the protocol. Ortega said this is for all committees. Harris said I thought that you would take the lead.

Ortega said that Clifford Elementary School will come with a grant request. Harris mentioned the Logan school NPG. We postponed it and it was supposed to return a few months ago.

Yenawine said that SLCO recommended that we not fund that. According to our procedures, the paperwork goes to Michael Galano. He will keep it on your committee agenda.

Tyan Schesser asked about a PLUC thing? To reconsider a motion? Yenawine explained that it's already been referred to PLUC.

10. Adjournment

Padilla-Mavropoulos seconded the motion.

The meeting ended at 9:42pm.