

ECHO PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD OF GOVERNOR'S MEETING

Minutes

Tuesday, September 26, 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 7:11 pm with 15 Board members present.

b. Roll Call

Attending Board Members:

Tad Yenawine, Chair
Michael Galano, Treasurer (left early)
Paul Bowers, Chief Information Officer
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta (left early)
Ida Talalla (left early)
Margarita Fernandez (left early)
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous (left early)
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Thomas DeVoss (elected during the meeting)
Jim Brown (re-elected during the meeting)

Non-Attending Board Members:

Alex Meza
Tyan Schesser, Secretary
Darcy Harris, Vice Chair
Mike Jolly
Joselyn Geaga-Rosenthal
Andrew Knauer

c. Adoption of minutes

Kevin Fisher made the motion to approve the minutes for June, July, and August. Cheryl Ortega seconded.

VOTE
14-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

Ida Talalla

2. Community/Government reports

a. Government agencies and officers

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

He offered updates for the Echo Park area.

The community film series continues on Saturday with "It Happened One Night" at the Echo Park Lake at 7pm. The next film screening will be "Mars Attacks" on October 28th at the lake. Note that that date was changed.

There will be a Councilman In Your Corner session on October 28th in the morning.

Fregoso expressed concerns about clean up and beautification. He also discussed the Dodgers going to the playoffs. We had a post season meeting with them. We are not adding “no parking” postings on the street for that. However, we can add them if you want. Reach out to our office for that.

He announced that Metro and the Department of Transportation will install bike share bikes in Echo Park as they look to expand west from downtown. They are proposing a station with 19 bikes on the corner of Echo Park and Park. You would lose 1 parking stall as a result. This is not permanent. It's a test ahead of Ciclavia (which is next week). We want community feedback. We are asking the Department what a full expansion would look like. We want to know how it will connect with the Metro Red Line train on Vermont Avenue.

Fregoso said that he spoke with Echo Park Neighborhood Council President Tad Yenawine about this this morning. The Department wanted the bikes installed for Ciclavia. By Wednesday the station should be ready.

He added, however, that there is no bike riding allow within the Echo Park. It is illegal. About 70 people in the park were supportive of the plan when they were surveyed. Let the neighborhood council know what you think.

Ida Talalla said that she is concerned about what part of the park will be affected by the bikes. Fregoso replied that it's illegal to ride in the park. They will add more signs about this. We'll reach out to the LAPD (Los Angeles Police Department) team and Park Rangers to enforce this, for at least the first 2 weeks.

Andy Griggs asked are there any related events planned in Echo Park? Fregoso said no. However, there might be something at City Hall. A conversation has started. We approved the second study. I'm optimistic. We are finalizing the report. Sign off from the Department heads is required.

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

Car break-ins were a problem. Things have been good for the past two months.

We were having 10-12 break-ins a week in January and February. We've been working with detectives. We've eradicated that problem.

Crime up 1% this year compared to 2016. The goal now is to focus on quality of life issues: illegal dumping, loitering, trespassing, etc. Get in touch with me, he urged.

We spend lots of resources now to engage the homeless. We're providing mental healthcare follow up. This is the most successful path. There are over 150 outreaches every month.

Daniel Heimpel asked how do break-in rates compare to other parts of the City? Senior Lead Officer Solario said we had an uptick at the beginning of the year. He doesn't know the specific reason why break-ins are down.

Cheryl Ortega asked do you have data on homeless people who got help and went into shelters? Solario said we have such data. We offer resources. Sometimes they go to shelters.

Jerry Aldredge, Facility Director, Lake Street Community Center:

He said that he wanted to introduce the organization to the neighborhood council. There are lots of new faces on the Board, he noted.

We are with the Recreation and Parks Department. We are an urban impact center (low fees). Our fall program is coming soon. We have a new Citywide program called the Universal Play Program. All programs are offered for \$10 in seven chosen parks. We are not one of those 7 parks. However, Echo Park will be a recipient. We want to earn International Olympics Committee money to serve the entire city.

We want to also offer lower cost programs. We want to be able to compete. We are concerned that without support, programs will have a severe drop in the 9 month period.

We hope that Lake Street will appear to be a valuable part of the community. We want to be worthy of your support.

We invite you to our Halloween event on October 31. There you can publicize your neighborhood council. We are happy to help brand your work with us. He brought a letter and draft flyer for the Halloween event.

Paul Bowers asked where is it? Aldredge replied that it's between Court and Beverly off of Alvarado. It's next to the Lake Street Primary School across the street from El Pollo Loco. He said that he has a letter for the neighborhood council.

John Darnell, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE):

He thanks the neighborhood council for supporting the neighborhood council congress held earlier this month at City Hall.

He will now conduct a demographic survey of Board members.

Angie, Librarian, Edendale branch library:

She mentioned upcoming events including a Know Your Rights Workshop October 2. There are also citizenship classes, yoga, a poetry workshop, etc.

The library is organizing a massive event on November 2 to honor donor Judy Raskin. There will be 100 kids. Council Member Mitch O'Farrell will be the master of ceremonies. We want volunteers. She has the sign-up sheet. The ceremony is a bird watching ceremony with 100 kids. The time will be 10:30am to 2pm.

b. Community Organizations

Carrie Kim, STAND LA/Divest LA:

We want the City to divest from Wells Fargo and other banks that fund oil and gas development. She thanked Council Member O'Farrell for his support.

This is a critical time. We want neighborhood councils to submit Community Impact Statements (CIS). Keep the City accountable. They have billions invested in Wells Fargo bank.

We want you to formally submit a CIS, like several other neighborhood councils have done. We want the City to have a municipal bank.

Michael Galano said we did this last month.

Ms. Levy:

She discussed “Under Construction”, a fashion event which will happen October 14, noon to 7pm. This is part of the Echo Park Rock Shop. The event is free and for all ages. It will feature fashion, music, art. It will be fun. All sales of the day will go to Covenant House. The location is 1858 Echo Park Avenue.

Eavan Holloway, Ciclavia:

She said that Ciclavia is coming to Echo Park on October 8. This will shut down streets. We have gone door-to-door with stakeholders to discuss this. We would love to have the neighborhood council as the Echo Park hub. You can set up a booth. We expect 100,000 people to come out for this.

c. EPNC Chair Report

Yenawine said we are looking at getting a finalized lease very shortly.

d. Treasurer Report

There is more than \$37,000 in our annual budget balance, said Treasurer Michael Galano.

e. Other Committee Chair and liaison reports

Public Works Committee: Jeffrey Kontorovsky said the group had its first meeting. The LAPD will attend the next meeting here.

Ageing and Health Committee: Ida Talalla said the group will not hold a meeting at the Edendale branch library because of the national holiday. It will be held at the Echo Park branch library on the Wednesday following.

Talalla asked the neighborhood council whether agenda items 9 and 9.f can be moved up. Also we have a report for outreach.

Communications Committee: Paul Bowers said there will be an election for the open State Assembly seat on October 3. He also said that he is looking for people for the committee. We need 2 people.

Alliance of River Committees: Andy Griggs said that the group will meet here on October 17.

Immigration Committee: Andy Griggs said that the next meeting of this committee will be next Tuesday at 7:15pm right here.

Homeless Liaison: Sarah Smith said that we had a Homeless Liaison meeting last month with Jim. They talked about a permanent housing ordinance. There was also a presentation from Silver Lake. There are 57,941 total homeless as of last January, said former Board member Jim Brown.

Yenawine said we're going to discuss a mural project. This will happen around the staircase from Glendale Boulevard to Sunset Boulevard. I want to make a change in their area. The Olympics are coming. This is an opportunity.

3. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

David Rockello, Rampart Village Neighborhood Council President:

10 people from Echo Park came to the neighborhood council congress. This is really good! There will be a community clean up September 30 around Temple Street with Youth Development Services. We will clean up the old Rampart Police Station.

We are having first aid training. I want your entire Board to take this from 9am-4pm on October 14. We will visit an art festival after that.

We have to address issues on Temple Street. Also, do you want two traffic lanes or a car lane and a bike lane? It's up to you.

Eduardo Eduano, Budget Advocate for Region 7

I was here 2 months ago. There are 56,000 people sleeping on the street. The City is helping. He mentioned the linkage fee. It started with this neighborhood council. I'm really proud.

The Wells Fargo divestment initiative is getting attention. He mentioned that Rampart Village is a sanctuary council.

A Man commented that I've seen lots of improvement. However, the homeless problem is getting worse and worse. They are all over the street in Echo Park. He's concerned about toilets and a washing station. It's a serious matter. There are lots of feces in the hills. It's a serious problem.

Glendale kicked the homeless out. I don't see that we've made a lot of progress. Numbers get worse and worse.

President Yenawine said that he spent the weekend with General Jeff and leaders of the homeless community at the Lake Street Center. Use the Olympics as a reason to innovate.

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos said that in Council District 13 we have showers. You must advocate for the opening of those showers. Homeless are refused entry. We are told that we're in violation of the law when we try to feed them in the park.

Paul Bowers said he asked the public works people about this. He announced a "poop it forward" clean up campaign.

4. Administrative items

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

a. Selection of stakeholder to fill vacant Districts 2 and 3 seats

Candidates:

Thomas DeVoss, District 3

Jim Brown, District 2

Thomas Gibbs, District 2

Maureen Cassidy, District 2

Jim Brown, former board member, District 2:

He said that he was forced to resign last month because of absences.

Maureen Cassidy:

She has lived in Echo Park since 2002. She is active politically with an Eastside Women's group. She supported the Candidacy of Senator Kamala Harris. She is very involved with public school. She has raised \$25,000 for events. She says that she is very motivated. She loves Echo Park. She lives in District 2.

Thomas Gibbs:

He lives in District 2. He's been in Echo Park for 4 years. He decided that he wanted to get involved since the Presidential election. This is my neighborhood. I've spent a ton of money here. Lots of young people are moving in. The stop light is my main priority. I'm also interested in at-risk youth. I will still come to meetings if I lose.

Thomas DeVoss:

He said that he lives on Bellevue above the lake. He wants transit and housing improvements. He wants to have Echo Park develop in the right way.

David Rockello said that Jim Brown, the former Board member, is the perfect man for the job. Please vote for him. He's on 3 committees. He attends extra meetings.

Connie Acosta told the candidates that you can come to the Planning Committee. We will select one person for that Committee. Yenawine added that the people who tend to get elected are those who are already on committees.

Ida Talalla said that she is concerned about Jim Brown. He had a chance and abdicated. We need new blood. Other candidates should be given a chance. Yenawine added concurred that attendance is important. We need active people. Can you meet the obligations?

Thomas DeVoss said yes. Thomas Gibbs said that he works 3 nights a week at the Cantor Deli and attends school in the mornings. Otherwise, he is available. I'm around, he said.

Dominic Ciccodicola asked why do you want to serve on the Board instead of just committees? Thomas Gibbs said it's my neighborhood. This sounds like a good point to start. Many people don't know about the neighborhood council, especially those my age.

Maureen Cassidy said that she likes the Outreach and Schools and Libraries Committees. She just got a fellowship with Arts for LA. That's a really cool thing for the neighborhood. I can do things with arts education. I have to fulfill a Plan of Action for the fellowship.

Jim Brown said that the people who elected me asked me to come back. I've lived in Echo Park since 1994.

VOTE for THOMAS DEVOSS as District 3 Representative
15-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano

Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Margarita Fernandez
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Ida Talalla

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

VOTE FOR DISTRICT 2 REPRESENTATIVE

Jim Brown wins with 11 votes.

(Note: Thomas DeVoss voted.)

Votes for Jim Brown – 11:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Luiza Padilla-Mavropolous
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel

Votes for Maureen Cassidy -- 3:

Ida Talalla
Margarita Fernandez
Dominic Ciccodicola

Votes for Thomas Gibbs -- 1:

Paul Bowers

Abstentions -- 1:

Thomas DeVoss

(Note: There are now 17 board members.)

Yenawine acknowledged 7-11 for free coffee.

5. PLUC

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

(a) PLUC [5-2] Letter of support for continued sale of beer and wine in conjunction with ELF Café located at 2135 W. Sunset Boulevard, Los Angeles CA 90026 and for additional seating area of 161 sq ft on sidewalk. Sale of beer and wine permitted between 11 am – 1:30 am M-Fri; 10 am – 1:30 am Sat & Sun. (ZA-2012-1324-CUB-PA1)

Connie Acosta said that this project was unopposed. It is a vegan restaurant. A stakeholder opposed it. Yenawine said that two people from PLUC were opposed. Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos and Louis were opposed. Acosta explained that Louis was concerned about the sidewalks. We supported it contingent upon Bureau of Engineering and Safety approval.

VOTE
14-3-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Thomas DeVoss
Jim Brown

No Votes:

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Margarita Fernandez
Ida Talalla

Abstentions:

None

(b) PLUC [6-2] Letter of support for continued sale of full line of alcohol in conjunction with The Holloway (existing restaurant) located at 1320 N. Echo Park Avenue, Los Angeles CA 90026. Sale of alcohol permitted between 11 am – 2 am M-Fri, 9 am – 2 am Sat & Sun (ZA-2011-1260-CUB-ZV-PA1)

Acosta said there was no community opposition at the meeting. The hours were reasonable. The nearest school is two blocks away. Yenawine noted that there were two dissenting votes. Louis opposed the patio in the back. However, that patio will close at 10pm.

Gary Benjamin, a representative for the applicant and owner, Mr. Donaldson, said that the final vote was supportive of the patio. Richard Courtney said that an ordinance in Los Angeles requires its closing at 10pm.

Benjamin said that weekday (Sunday through Thursday) hours were expanded by two hours to close at 2am. We have over 100 letters of support from the community. We have a 500 sq ft service area. That's small. It's a legitimate restaurant.

Courtney commented that I have never seen more outreach. Acosta commented that current weekday hours are 11am to midnight. Mr. Donaldson said that on Sundays they close at midnight under their current Conditional Use Permit.

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos noted that there was no handicapped access for this building. That was a concern. There is no way to get a wheelchair in there. I hope they don't get sued. Andy Griggs added we had discussion about accessibility. A lift?

Paul Bowers noted that this is located on Echo Park Avenue, a residential street. New places will want those same hours. I was approached by someone who was opposed, there are residences behind there. There could potentially be parties on the patio. Please think about this. Outreach needs to step up. We'll need to do more in the future. Do think of the difference between commercial and residential. Yenawine said the entire block isn't residential.

Acosta told Bowers you should have come to the committee. I was approached by a neighbor and told him to attend a committee meeting.

Representative Benjamin said I looked at other establishments that had been approved. Other establishments were approved for similar hours. Yenawine added that the precedent has already been set.

Mr. Donaldson said that everything that was in the letter was translated. We knocked on doors.

Acosta asked about the hours? Benjamin replied that the weekday hours are 11am to midnight and 11am to 2am and 9am to 2am on Friday and Saturday, respectively.

VOTE
14-2-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Thomas DeVoss
Jim Brown

No Votes:

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Margarita Fernandez

Abstentions:

Ida Talalla

Yenawine said I applaud you on your outreach.

9. Aging Health and Parks

Ida Talalla said that she wants to address this now.

VOTE to address this now

17-0-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Connie Acosta
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Thomas DeVoss
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Margarita Fernandez

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

a. Discussion and Possible action on the purposeful aging survey

Ida Talalla said we did outreach into the community. September 15 was the deadline. We wanted an extension. We asked for it to be published on the neighborhood council website. Our outreach reached over 60 people. Over 45 people responded. That was wonderful and the survey was in 5 languages.

b. Discussion and Possible action on recommendation for sanitary facilities for use of the homeless and other members of the community

Talalla mentioned showers, toilets, etc. We need to address this. We need a letter of support from the neighborhood council to facilitate this. Public health is public health. It's not them and us.

Also, there is an issue of West Nile Virus. We need to believe that this is an expanding situation. This needs to be published more. We need to be proactive. We invited Vector Control to give a presentation at the neighborhood council and other places. Mosquito eggs can lay dormant.

It would be wonderful if the neighborhood council was proactive with a letter of support. It's not them versus us.

Yenawine explained Vector Control and said that they are awesome. He summarized their presentation. There are no vaccinations. Hepatitis was declared an outbreak to gain resources. There is need for interaction with the community. We must build trust with the homeless.

He said that General Jeff of Skid Row explained to him that individuals sometimes charged money to use toilets. We want facilities in areas where they can be used.

Talalla said the neighborhood council must write to the Council District and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) and the City Council. We want this to be taken seriously. There is a high homeless count and it's spreading widely in this community.

Cheryl Ortega asked for a point of information. Is there a requirement of sanitary facilities? It's an issue of safety? Yenawine said bathrooms at libraries and other facilities aren't monitored. Ortega asked, in a park, would staff monitor things?

(Note: Connie Acosta left the meeting at 8:55pm. There are 16 board members left.)

Griggs said I have no problem with the letter. We need to draft the letter. Have the committee come up with a draft and bring it back to the Board. I want to see how the funding is being used. Talalla asked can it be a collaboration between committees?

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulus said that she is transforming hunger with Saint Anthony's Church. She said that LAHSA (Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority), who has the money, they don't spend it. For the homeless count, we did all the work. LAHSA did nothing. LAHSA did the paperwork and sat on their behinds. The people getting this money are the nonprofits. It's trickling down. It's not working.

Yenawine noted that this is a discussion. There is no motion on the floor. Having a draft letter that's discussed in committee would be a very good idea. Which committees?

Jerry Aldredge, Facility Director at the Lake Street Community Center, said there is a lack of funding for maintenance. That's a huge issue. There are only 2 painters in the whole City for 200 centers.

I'm supportive of unused spaces being used in this way. However, it's not desirable to have homeless all over your park. An appointment system would work. He'd support that. Our restrooms are closed except for special events. Otherwise, they'd be vandalized. You have to have monitoring.

Yenawine said that people shower in the library restrooms every week and make a mess. Another Man offered that the homeless may not want bureaucracy. That might scare them away.

Rockello spoke about sanitary facilities. You can work with the Welcoming Committee for this. The downstairs area in the Echo park Recreation Center can be used for showers. It's fully renovated. It might be a good facility. Also, the old Boys and Girls Club location can be dedicated for that. We have facilities that can be used. Are we willing to ask for them, asked Yenawine.

Daniel Heimpel said that it's great that Talalla brought this up. We know what we need to do. Talalla said we need to think out of the box. There is no money left for this year. This may not happen until 2021. Use mobile units, she urged.

Yenawine said to Talalla that you're right but we need to move on. Talalla said that it's on the agenda in October. Between the ageing community, they have a hard time walking next to the homeless encampment because they can't walk on the sidewalk. We will bring it up at the Echo Park library meeting on the second Wednesday of the month, which will begin at 6:30pm.

6. Budget and Finance Items

Discussion and possible action re the following:

a. Discussion regarding Sunset Bridge mural project.

Michael Galano said we have a few proposals, from \$5,000 to several hundred thousand dollars. We will work with other organizations. At this point, this is too big for a neighborhood

council project. We want support for the project. We can help with costs.

Yenawine said I've seen the renderings. This is a huge project. This is something that hundreds of thousands of people will see every day. This is a giant opportunity. It's bigger than us. It will be huge.

Galano asked can we endorse the project in general without attaching money? Rockello said that public art is required and necessary to have a better Echo Park. Please make it happen.

Heimpel asked is there a nonprofit? Can we provide a letter of endorsement and seed funding?

Galano said that El Centro Del Pueblo (the Central City Action Committee) is interested. He also mentioned the Getty foundation and the Department of Cultural Affairs.

Griggs said this is a great idea. Do look at the Cultural Affairs Department, also look at the Department of Transportation. They have money for public art. There is also funding at the State level. Yenawine asked Griggs, can you help Galano?

Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos suggested for a fiscal sponsor, approach the Central City Action Committee. Kevin Fisher asked about an approval process? Galano explained. The City owns the bridge. He's had conversations with Juan Fregoso. He's open to it.

Yenawine commented about a public meeting process discussion. We could facilitate a town hall, he suggested. Galano called for a motion for support. Yenawine said let's write a letter and have something concrete in front of us at the next meeting.

b. Discussion and Possible action re: \$25.53 Board Member Reimbursement for meeting planning materials – Ida Tallala Aging Parks & Health Committee.

Yenawine made the motion. Griggs seconded.

VOTE
15-0-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:
Tad Yenawine

Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Margarita Fernandez

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Ineligible:

Thomas DeVoss

c. Discussion and Possible action for up to \$250 of Outreach budget to be allocated for Social Media boosting on Facebook and other platforms to increase awareness and reach of EPNC Community Events and notices (OUTREACH 5-0-0)

Galano said we endorse items c, d, and e. Ciccodicola said this is for social media boosting on Facebook and other social media. A Man explained the issue. \$250 would be discretionary. Rockello said it's well worth the money.

Richard Courtney said this has been in a budget and finance discussion: it's great but requires a plan. What is it for? There was supposed to be a social media plan. This might activate that.

Ciccodicola said we'd come up with a social media hierarchy. Once we see the results, we can establish that.

Paul Bowers said this is an opportunity to take this to the bigger neighborhood. It's well worth it. We'll make the rules as we go along. This is "up to \$250". I'm in favor of it.

Yenawine made the motion. Bowers seconded.

VOTE
15-0-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Margarita Fernandez

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Ineligible:

Thomas DeVoss

d. Discussion and Possible action re: up to \$100 for EPNC to work with other community groups to sponsor a candlelight Vigil to support DACA participants and advocate for legislative action. Vigil to be held on Vin Scully Drive during a Dodger's home game or at another date and place within Echo Park. Outreach Requests up to \$100 for supplies (Candles, etc) (Outreach 5-0-0).

Griggs said this came from the Committee on Immigration. We met the day after the DACA decision. Along with the Welcome Committee, this probably won't be \$100 for the season.

Yenawine made the motion. Padilla-Mavropoulos seconded.

Yenawine said that he wants to combine items.

**VOTE to combine
15-0-0-1
PASSED**

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulus
Margarita Fernandez

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Ineligible:

Thomas DeVoss

e. Discussion and Possible action re: The Many Winters Gather of the Elders \$250 NPG Application. (Budget & Finance 3-0-0)

Indigenous people

A Man said it is connected to Echo Park. You funded indigenous people's items. Yenawine said the question is does it directly impact the community. How many people are impacted? How are you impacted if you get less than \$5,000? If we give you \$250 how does that help you?

Ortega said it's an issue of protocol. What are the protocols?
Heimpel said we have \$4,000 for NPGs (Neighborhood Purposes Grants) for the entire year. I'll vote for it.

Yenawine asked can we refer this back to SLCO? Ortega said we didn't approve it because there weren't people there to vote. There was no opposition.

Heimpel made the motion. Padilla-Mavropoulus seconded.

Margarita Fernandez asked where and where is the event? The Man replied by the Korean friendship bell. Council Member Mitch O'Farrell will be there.

VOTE
15-0-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulus
Margarita Fernandez

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Ineligible:

Thomas DeVoss

f. Discussion and Possible action re: August 2017 MER.

g. July/August MERs

Galano said there were 5 expenses for \$1803 for the month of August.

Yenawine made the motion, Kevin Fisher seconded.

Griggs asked which printers can we use? Galano said this printer is struggling and wants to support them. He offers good prices.

VOTE
15-0-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Margarita Fernandez

No Votes:
None

Abstentions:
None

Ineligible:
Thomas DeVoss

h. Discussion and Possible action re: approval of AppleOne Invoice #
#S677207; \$311.85 for August meeting

Galano said this is to Appleone for note-taking services.

Galano made the motion, Bowers seconded.

VOTE
15-0-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Margarita Fernandez

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Ineligible:

Thomas DeVoss

- i. Discussion and Possible action re: 1&1 Internet Inc invoice #202018169506, \$119.88 for internet hosting services.

Galano asked what is this? Bowers said it's for registration and domain. He'll follow up and research. Yenawine said if you have to research, we can't vote tonight. Bowers made a motion to postpone. Yenawine said to table this discussion until after agenda item 9.2.

7. Outreach

- a. Discussion and Possible action for EPNC to apply for a spot in the Echo Park Community Parade. Applications Due Oct 2, to be filled out by Outreach Co-Chairs. (approved 5 - 0 - 0)

Ciccodicola said this will happen December 9.

Rockello said he's happy that you're getting on board early for this. It will be even more fun this year. This is about Echo Park and

about being good neighbors. We need all of you to be in the parade.

VOTE
16-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Michael Galano
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Margarita Fernandez
Thomas DeVoss

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

b. Discussion and Possible action for up to \$250 of Outreach budget to be allocated for Social Media boosting on Facebook and other platforms to increase awareness and reach of EPNC Community Events and notices. (approved 5 - 0 - 0)

Yenawine said this was done already

c. Discussion and Possible action for EPNC to participate in CicLAvia, Heart of LA event, on October 8 and to assign members from each Committee to staff the EPNC tent in 3-4 hr chunks from 9a- 4p (approved 5 - 0 - 0)

Ciccodicola said this is a 2 part item: approve participation. Funding.

We must have a table manned from 9am to 4pm. Lisa said the hub gets lots of action. Ciccodicola said that on that Sunday, October 8, he can't attend. It would be great if 4-5 people could volunteer. Lisa said it will be at the Echo Park hub (table)

Galano made the motion. Griggs seconded.

Galano volunteered. Griggs volunteered.

(Note: Galano left the meeting at 9:53pm. He did not vote on the item.)

VOTE
15-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Andy Griggs
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos
Margarita Fernandez
Thomas DeVoss

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

e. Discussion and Possible action to enact policy to allow BOG Committee members to convey previously approved positions or written statements of the BOG as an official representative of the EPNC. This shall only apply to public hearings or to meetings of the City Council, its Committees or Commissions. This policy would allow BOG committee members and ex-committee members still serving on the board to speak only on matters within their committee's scope, and may only reflect or convey the

positions of the Board. Board members planning to speak are required to advise in advance the Chair and Co-Chair of the BOG of the issue, agency, date, and time to be addressed. (approved 4-0- 0)

Yenawine said that liaisons already have this power. Talalla asked whether Board members are allowed to speak at any public hearings? This is very restrictive. You need to declare who you're speaking for. This needs greater discussion.

Ciccodicola said this allows people to speak about approved items, representing the Board. This allows, with notice to the Chair and Co-Chair, to make a statement about something that the board has already approved. It doesn't limit anything.

Heimpel made the motion. Padilla-Mavropoulos seconded.

Yenawine expressed concern that the liaison has more power than this. Griggs said I would rather have more time to speak.

(Note: Margarita Fernandez left at 10:01pm)

Courtney asked a question about former committee members speaking on behalf of the committee or board. Strike "former committee members", he urged. Ciccodicola said you would have to check with the chair and cochair first.

Fisher asked about bylaws. Rockello said this seems like micro managing. This should go back to committee. I don't see the point of this.

(Note: There are 13 board members in the room right now. Bowers may be around but he's not in the room at this moment.)

Ortega said that she wants it to go back to committee. Yenawine said that he wants an amendment. Let's approve this and refer it to the standing rules committee for further discussion. Heimpel said no. Ortega said to refer it back to committee. Heimpel seconded.

Daniel mentioned the Standing Rules Committee. This is now a motion. Kevin Fisher seconded.

(Note: Luiza Padilla-Mavropoulos left at 10:07pm)

Griggs said we are not allowed to use neighborhood speaking time. There was a speaking time of 5 minutes, You now use the use the stakeholder speaking time of 1 minute.

Griggs said that he will vote against this. Yenawine said you all have my permission to speak on things within your purview. You all have my blessing.

VOTE to refer this to the Bylaws Committee

12-1-0

PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Ida Talalla
Thomas DeVoss

No Votes:

Andy Griggs

Abstentions:

None

9. Other Administrative items

Discussion and/or possible action on the following:

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

Talalla said that she wants to address agenda item 9f. Yenawine explained that there is no letter. Talalla said she wants someone to write this letter. Yenawine said I'd love to have this on the agenda.

(Note: Talalla left at 10:11pm.)

a. Selection of open BOG officer positions and Liaisons

- c. Modification of scope of work for existing committees including possibly merging committees
- d. Confirmation/appointment of committee chairs
- e. Board members eligible for removal, motions for removal for next meeting

Cheryl Ortega said that she wants to postpone all administrative items,

Ciccodicola expressed concern about the homeless CIS. That wasn't referred to a specific committee. Do we need to form a new committee for this? Yenawine said that this would go to the Schools, Libraries and Community Organizations Committee traditionally. However, we should form an ad hoc committee because there is a lot to work out.

Yenawine made an amendment to postpone items a,c d, e, and f. Fisher seconded.

VOTE
12-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Andy Griggs
Thomas DeVoss

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

- b. Formation of new committees

Yenawine asked Jim Brown and Sarah Smith do you want to co-chair this? It's a big deal. Smith said yes. *Ciccodicola seconded Yenawine's motion.*

Griggs said I support this. We never get to all of these items. It would be nice to have a roster/list of what people are doing on this neighborhood council. Are there open liaison positions? Yenawine said we don't have any holes right now.

VOTE to create a new Homelessness Ad Hoc Committee to be Chaired by Sarah Smith and Jim Brown
12-0-0
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Andy Griggs
Thomas DeVoss

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

6. Budget and Finance Items -- REVISITED

Discussion and possible action re the following:

- i. Discussion and Possible action re: 1&1 Internet Inc invoice #202018169506, \$119.88 for internet hosting services.

Bowers said the service would be shut down within 28 days. *Fisher made a motion to pay.*

Courtney said there are only 11 board members here.

Yenawine explained that with new city clerk system things are different.

VOTE
11-0-0-1
PASSED

Yes Votes:

Tad Yenawine
Paul Bowers
Kevin Fisher
Richard Courtney
Jeffrey Kontorovsky
Cheryl Ortega
Sarah Smith
Daniel Heimpel
Dominic Ciccodicola
Jim Brown
Andy Griggs

No Votes:

None

Abstentions:

None

Ineligible:

Thomas DeVoss

10. Announcements

Bowers mentioned the State Assembly candidate forum. It will happen in Glassell Park and stream on Facebook Live for the October 3 election.

11. Future Agenda Items.

Heimpel said that he wants an Echo Park First policy for giving away grant money.

Courtney asked for budget and finance items, when you forward something, please give some sort of recommendation. Yenawine said that's not possible without quorum.

Griggs would like a sanctuary city policy discussion.

12. Adjournment

Fisher made a motion to adjourn. Griggs seconded.

The meeting ended at 10:23pm.