



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 16, 2024, 7:00pm

Location: Online via Zoom.com- <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89787982890>

Also, via telephone (669) 900-6833 or (877) 853-5257 using Meeting ID No. 897 8798 2890

1. Meeting Called to Order at: 7:10 P.M. by Michael Lynn.
2. Pledge of Allegiance led by: Jon Liberman
3. Roll Call:
Boardmembers Present-Joel Weinberger, Baila Romm, Michael Lynn, Benji Karbon, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Jason Plummer, Laurie Levine, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Jon Liberman, Sandy Block, Eitan Gershov, Sara Messall.

Boardmembers Absent- Shirley Traum, Avihi Youshaei, Joseph Mollaie, Stuart Weiss.

Eitan Gershov entered the meeting at 7:48 PM.
4. General Public Comment: No Public Comment.
Baila Romm said more people needed to volunteer for June 9th First Responders event.
Michael Lynn mentioned new anti-bias training needs to be done by June 30th.
5. Brief Board Announcements
 - a. (Summary)
6. Community Reports
 - a. LA Police Department (Baker) - 39796@lapd.online / Ojeda - 36393@lapd.online **Not Present.**
 - b. LA Fire Department- Battalion 18 lafdbattalion18@lacity.org. **Not Present.**
 - c. Office of Councilmember Hutt (Guevara) - mayra.guevara@lacity.org. **Not Present.**
 - d. Office of Councilmember Yaroslavsky (Rodriguez) - cairo.rodriguez@lacity.org. **Present, gave report.**
 - e. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Erving) – commission@empowerla.org. **Present, gave report.**
 - f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Andrews)- dina.andrews@lacity.org. **Present, gave report.**
 - g. Office of Mayor Bass (Miller) - kenneth.g.miller@lacity.org. **Not Present.**

- h. Office of County Supervisor Horvath (Laflan) - Alafien@bos.lacounty.gov. **Not Present.**
- i. Office of State Assemblymember Bryan (Persoff) - Michelle.Persoff@asm.ca.gov. **Present, gave report.**
- j. Office of State Senator Smallwood-Cuevas (Vacant) – Elizabeth.Birks@sen.ca.gov. **Not present.**
- k. Office of Congressmember Kamlager-Dove (Riley) - Naomi.Riley@mail.house.gov. **Not Present.**
- l. Other Neighborhood, City and State offices.
Michael Lynn gave report for Kay Hartman, who was not present.

Eitan Gershov entered the meeting at 7:48 PM.

7. Board Membership- Selections, Removals, & Resignations (*Members of the public can choose to speak on multiple agenda items in this section for no more than one (1) minute total, with the time for each speaker to be determined by- 5min divided by # virtual hands raised*)

- a. Motion to Appoint At-Large Representative 4 (Term expires June 30, 2027) **(No Applicants)**
- b. Motion to Appoint At-Large Representative (Unfilled Resident Zone 8 Representative - Term expires June 30, 2027) **(No Applicants)**
- c. Motion to Appoint At-Large Representative (Unfilled Business Representative 5- Term expires June 30, 2027) **(No Applicants)**
- d. Motion to Appoint At-Large Representative (Unfilled Organization Representative 1 - Term expires June 30, 2027) **(No Applicants)**
- e. Motion to Appoint At-Large Representative (Unfilled Organization Representative 3 – Term expires June 30, 2027) **(No Applicants)**
- f. Motion to Appoint Zone 4 Representative seat (Term expires June 30, 2027) **(No Applicants)**
- g. Motion to appoint the SORO NC Secretary (GB051624-01)
Jon Liberman self nominates to become secretary; Baila Romm seconded.

No public comment.

Roll call:

Yes- Joel Weinberger, Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Jason Plummer, Laurie Levine, Marlene Katz, Mitch Cohen, Jon Liberman, Sandy Block, Eitan Gershov.

No- Michael Lynn.

13-Yes, 1-No. Motion Passes.

8. Committees, Liaisons and Alliances

- a. Liaison and Alliance Representative Appointments- **Postponed.**
 - I. Motion to appoint LADWP Representative (GB051624-02)
 - II. Motion to appoint LADWP Alternate Representative (GB051624-03)
 - III. Motion to appoint Budget Advocates Representative (1) (GB051624-04)
 - IV. Motion to appoint Homelessness Representative (GB051624-05)

b. Committee, Liaisons and Alliance Reports

- I. Standing Committees: Executive; Education; Land Use; Public Safety; Homelessness; Outreach; Transportation; Business Advocacy & Development; Parks and Recreation; Budget & Finance; Bylaws; Board Development

Baila Romm of Public Safety reiterated the First Responder event was taking place June 9th and that they will need help on the day of as food servers and booth workers; help is needed that day. Mentioned a couple of incidents in the Pico/Robertson area involving break-ins in local restaurants and a pharmacy and an incident of a man dressed in Muslim garb trying to enter a Jewish High School and preschool.

Michael Lynn from Outreach mentioned SORO will be at Beverlywood Circle Park event handing out swag and could use help; he mentioned if anyone was interested in helping to contact him.

Terrence Gomes discussed the medallions; that they received the list from the medallion committee has been sent to CD 10. Will be looking at funding and permitting process. Meeting was held with Urban Forestry moving forward with recommendation with tree committee to see which locations would be best.

Baila Romm mentioned their previous support for the Yeshiva but recently learned that a preschool would be included though the board was not made aware of this.

Eitan Gershov mentioned this Yeshiva is just for older men; has not heard about a preschool.

Mitch Cohen said the Yeshiva told them they were not going to have a preschool.

- II. Ad-hoc Committees: Tree Removal Notification;
Barry Levine reported there were no emails regarding the trees.
- III. Liaisons and Alliances: LANCC, WRAC, LADWP, Budget Advocates, City Attorney, Sustainability, District 37 Congressional Council, Homelessness

c. Opportunity to Join and/or Change Membership to Board Committees (GB051624-06)
No Changes.

9. Unfinished Business

Multiple Item Public Comment:

- a. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council to fund up to \$6600 for the printing of 19,000 postcards and distribution of 17,928 by USPS Every Door Direct Mailer to residential addresses within the SORO NC (GB051624-07)

No Public Comment.

Jason Plummer moves; Laurie Levine seconded.

Jason Plummer felt a poster or yard sign would work better.

Barry Levine said it was a waste of money; that it would go from cash to trash.

Terrence Gomes stressed direct mail has to be used for direct outreach; postcard does not look professional.

Baila Romm thanked the people who worked on the postcard.

Jon Liberman said the postcard was a method to get some publicity within the SORO boundaries; suggested for the same money a billboard could be done for the next year.

Michael Lynn said the postcard can be fixed but the spending part has to be passed through in terms of the budget. There are other options to fix it.

Terrence Gomes moves to making an Amendment to have the committee takes action on this to fix the post card based on input from tonight's meeting and move forward with it and to take control of it and follow through for design based upon what they heard from tonight's meeting.

Roll call on the amendment:

Yes- Joel Weinberger, Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Michael Lynn, Laurie Levine, Marlene Katz, Jon Liberman, Eitan Gershov.

No- Jason Plummer.

Abstain - Mitch Cohen

Ineligible- Sandy Block

11- Yes, 1- No, and 1- Abstain 1 -Ineligible

Ammendment Passes

Roll call on motion as amended

Yes- Joel Weinberger, Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Terrence Gomes, Michael Lynn, Marlene Katz.

No- Jason Plummer, Ken Blaker, and Barry Levine.

Abstain - Mitch Cohen, Laurie Levine, and Jon Liberman.

Inelligible – Eitan Gershov, Sandy Block

6 -Yes, 3- No, 3 – Abstain. 2- Ineligible. Motion Passes.

- b. Motion for the SORO NC to fund up to \$300.00 for printed materials for outreach for emergency preparedness offered by the Neighborhood Team Program sponsored by the SORO NC (GB051624-08)

Terrence Gomes moves; Jon Liberman seconded.

No Public Comment.

Roll call

Yes-, Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Michael Lynn, Jason Plummer, Laurie Levine, Marlene Katz, Jon Liberman, Mitch Cohen.

**Abstain - Joel Weinberger. Ineligible- Eitan Gershov, Sandy Block
11- Yes, 0- No, and 1- Abstain. 2 -Ineligible. Motion Passes.**

- c. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council to Fund up to \$1000 for the purchase of lawn signs to promote open SORO NC Board seats (GB051624-09)

Terrence Gomes moves; Jon Liberman seconded.

No public Comment.

Terrence Gomes mentioned the city seal can be added to the sign as well.

Roll call

Yes- Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Michael Lynn, Jason Plummer, Laurie Levine, Marlene Katz, Jon Liberman, Mitch Cohen, Joel Weinberger, Sara Messall.

Sara Messall entered the meeting at 8:25 PM.

13-Yes, 0-No, 0-Abstains, 2- Ineligible. Motion Passes.

10. Consent Agenda

Multiple Item Public Comment:

No public comment.

Jason Plummer removes item D. Joel Weinberger removes item F. Jon Liberman removes item E.

- a. Motion to approve April 18, 2024 General Board Meeting Draft Minutes (GB051624-10)
- b. Motion to approve April 2024 MER Report (GB051624-11)
- c. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council to write a letter to the ZA in support of the Total Wines & More liquor license application at 9527 W. Pico Blvd. (GB051624-12)
- d. ~~Motion for the SORO NC to rescind its prior support of the Ocean Café (1517-1521 S. Robertson Blvd.) liquor license application and send a new letter of opposition to the ZA (GB051624-13)~~

- e. ~~Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council to Fund up to \$2000 for the purchase of a speaker system for use at SORO NC meetings and events (GB051624-14)~~
- f. ~~Motion for the SORO NC to write a letter and file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of CF 24-0846, Councilwoman Heather Hutt's motion to ban cashless businesses within the city, recommending for the motion to define these as "all businesses with physical locations" (GB051624-15)~~
- g. Motion for the SORO NC to: file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in CF 24-0465 and write a letter to Mayor Bass expressing that Neighborhood Councils should have been provided a 45-day window to act on the appointment of Carmen Chang as the next DONE General Manager prior to her confirmation, so as to discuss issues of importance to the NCs and the NC system prior to such confirmation, as is the right of the Neighborhood Councils granted under Article V, Section 508 of the City Charter (GB051624-16)

Voting on A, B, C and G.

Jon Liberman moves; Jason Plummer seconded.

Roll call

Yes- Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Michael Lynn, Jason Plummer, Laurie Levine, Marlene Katz, Jon Liberman, Mitch Cohen, Joel Weinberger, Sara Messall, Sandy Block, Eitan Gershov.

15 – Yes, 0- No, 0- Abstain. Motion passes.

10 d. Motion for the SORO NC to rescind its prior support of the Ocean Café (1517-1521 S. Robertson Blvd.) liquor license application and send a new letter of opposition to the ZA (GB051624-13)

Terrence Gomes moves; Jon Liberman seconded.

Roll Call:

Yes- Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Ken Blaker, Michael Lynn, Laurie Levine, Jon Liberman, Mitch Cohen, Sandy Block.

No- Joel Weinberger, Jason Plummer, Sara Messall, and Marlene Katz.

Abstain- Eitan Gershov.

10 – Yes, 4- No, 1- Abstain. Motion passes.

10 e. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council to Fund up to \$2000 for the purchase of a speaker system for use at SORO NC meetings and events (GB051624-14)

Terrence Gomes moves; Baila Romm seconded.

Roll Call:

Yes- Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Terrence Gomes, Ken Blaker, Michael Lynn, Laurie Levine, Mitch Cohen, Joel Weinberger, Jason Plummer, Sara Messall, and Marlene Katz.

No- Barry Levine, Jon Liberman.

Ineligible- Eitan Gershov, Sandy Block

Abstain- Joel Weinberger.

10 – Yes, 2- No, 1- Abstain. Motion passes.

10 f. Motion for the SORO NC to write a letter and file a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of CF 24-0846, Councilwoman Heather Hutt's motion to ban cashless businesses within the city, recommending for the motion to define these as "all businesses with physical locations" (GB051624-15)

Terrence Gomes moves; Jon Liberman seconded.

Roll Call:

Yes- Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Sandy Block, Jason Plummer,

No- Joel Weinberger, Sara Messall, Marlene Katz, Ken Blaker, Eitan Gershov.

Abstain- Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Laurie Levine, Mitch Cohen.

6 – Yes, 5- No, 4- Abstain. Motion passes.

11. New Business

a. Motion to approve SORO NC 2023-2024 revised budget (GB051624-17)

**Terrence Gomes moves; Baila Romm seconded.
No Public Comment.**

Roll Call:

Yes- Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Michael Lynn, Jon Liberman, Jason Plummer, Joel Weinberger, Sara Messall, Marlene Katz, Ken Blaker, Baila Romm, Benji Karbon, Laurie Levine, Mitch Cohen.

Ineligible- Eitan Gershov, Sandy Block

13 – Yes, 0- No, 0- Abstain 2- Ineligible. Motion passes.

12. Michael Lynn adjourned the meeting at 9:32 PM.