

P: (310) 295-9920 E: info@soronc.org

W: soronc.org

Michael Lynn President

Ken Blaker

Terrence Gomes

Jon Liberman Secretary

Stuart Weiss Corresponding Secretary



## **Executive Committee Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, August 8, 2024, 7:00pm

Meetings end at 8:30pm unless the Committee votes to end earlier or extend the time.

**Location: online-** <a href="https://us02web.zoom.us/j/96797820685">https://us02web.zoom.us/j/96797820685</a> and by phone (877) 853 5257 (Meeting ID No. 967 9782 0685)

- 1. Meeting Called to Order at
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance led by
- 3. Roll Call:

Committee Members Present: Michael Lynn, Ken Blaker, Terrence Gomes, Jon Liberman, Stuart Weiss

Ken Blaker left meeting at 7:50 PM

- 4. General Public Comment:
- 5. Approval of Outstanding Executive Committee Minutes
  - a. Draft Minutes from July 11, 2024 Meeting
  - **b.** Draft Minutes from July 14, 2024 Special Meeting
  - c. Draft Minutes from July 29, 2024 Special Meeting

Motion to approve all three sets of Minutes

Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Jon Liberman; Vote count- Yes 05, No 0; PASSES

- 6. Brief Executive Committee Announcements
- 7. Old Business
  - a. None
- 8. New Business
  - a. Discussion and possible action on recommending that the SORO NC submit a Community Impact Statement on LA City Council File 24-0867; To Neighborhoods and Community Enrichment Committee Motion (Rodriguez -Hernandez) relative to Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, with assistance

of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, and relevant departments be requested to provide recommendations on potential methods and options to amend the Neighborhood Council Bylaws (Bylaws) to ensure youth participation in Neighborhood Councils including the designation of a youth seat on each Neighborhood Council board to increase diversity and allow for leadership growth.

Motion to recommend that the SORO NC submit the following Community Impact Statement (CIS) in Opposition of the Motion in LA City Council File 24-0867 Neighborhood Council Bylaws / Youth Participation / Diversity CIS- "The South Robertson Increase / Leadership Growth. Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) opposes the motion presented by Councilwoman Monica Rodriguez. The Los Angeles City Charter establishes us as independent Neighborhood Councils and it is improper and offensive for the City Council to dictate decisions that should only come from the Neighborhood Councils. Term limits for Neighborhood Council Boardmembers should not be limited for several reasons. Continuity permits current Boards historical perspective of long-term issues facing Stakeholders. While term limits are an important safeguard against corruption among paid policymakers who control large budgets, our Boardmembers are empowered with influence, rather than policy or big budgets, and term limits for Neighborhood Council members is a negative. Many Boards have problems filling Board seats. Reducing the pool of potential Boardmembers is both short sighted and could lead to Boards not reflecting the demographics of their Stakeholders. Term limits for Boardmembers could also have the opposite effect on Stakeholder participation, especially where many Neighborhood Councils have a small number of Stakeholders that have the energy, interest, or time to devote towards being a Neighborhood Council Boardmember. The SORO NC has had a Youth Seat for over 20 years, however, we recognize that this might not fit for other Neighborhood Councils based on their unique demographics and their Bylaws language that regulate voting. Some NCs may not have many high school age youths within their boundaries. Other Neighborhood Council's may have justifiable reasons why they do not want a Youth Seat. It should not be assumed that a "onesize fits all" approach is appropriate for every one of the 99 Neighborhood Councils. The City Council should not infringe on the autonomy of the **Neighborhood Councils.** 

Moved by Michael Lynn; Seconded by Stuart; Vote count- Yes 4, No 0; PASSES

## 9. Review and Approval of Proposed Agenda for the August 15, 2024 General Board Meeting

 Discussion and possible action on Formatting and Obligatory Language; Amending, Annotation or Removal of Any Item; Order/position of Items; and Approval of Agenda

Motion to Approve the August 15, 2024 General Board Meeting Agenda Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Jon Liberman; Vote count- Yes 4, No 0; PASSES

## 10. Meeting Adjourned at 8:48 PM