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Stuart Weiss Corresponding Secretary

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Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 8, 2024, 7:00pm

Location: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/96797820685> and by phone
(877) 853-5257 (Meeting ID # 967 9782 0685)

1. **Meeting Called to Order at 7:00 PM**
2. **Pledge of Allegiance led by Ken Blaker**
3. **Roll Call: Committee members present- Michael Lynn, Ken Blaker, Terrence Gomes, Jon Liberman, Stuart Weiss**
4. **General Public Comment: None**
5. **Approval of Outstanding Executive Committee Minutes**
 - a. Draft Minutes from July 11th and 14th, 2024
Motion to approve Outstanding Executive Committee Minutes
Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Jon Liberman; Vote count 5 yes, 0 no; PASSES
6. **Brief Executive Committee Announcements:**
For future meeting agenda, Movies In the Park and Medallion Status Update
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 in opposition to the motion in LA City Council File 24-0867; Neighborhood Council Bylaws / Youth Participation / Diversity Increase / Leadership Growth.

CIS Summary- “The South Robertson 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.”

Full Letter as PDF:

The South Robertson 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 Councils may have justifiable reasons why they do not want a Youth Seat. It should not be assumed that a “one-size 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.

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

- a. 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 Michael Lynn; Seconded by Stuart Weiss; Vote count 5 yes, 0 no;
PASSES**

10. Meeting Adjourned at 8:48 PM

The amount of time for public comment on each agenda item is to be determined by the Chair at each meeting. The Chair will call for Public Comment and verbally instruct Speakers to raise their hands virtually (or telephonically by pressing #9). Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to the item on the agenda. The Chair may rule that the speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to the item under consideration. If multiple requests for public comment are submitted on one agenda item, preference will be granted to members of the public who have not spoken previously during the meeting, either during general public comment or on another agenda item.

Note: *Public comment will be taken for each item where there is discussion and possible action. Public comment and/or participation may occur on other items at the discretion of the Chair. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Committee is prevented from acting on matters brought to its attention that is not included as an item on this meeting's agenda; however, the issue may become the subject of a future meeting. In the interest of addressing all items on the agenda, time limits for individual comments and discussion may be set at the discretion of the Chair.*

Motions that are presented at any committee meeting do not represent an official action or position of the SORO NC, until approved by an affirmative vote at a properly noticed meeting of the General Board.

Public Posting of Agendas -

Neighborhood Council agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Demers & Associates- 1836 1/2 S Robertson Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90035; The Robertson Blvd Library- 1719 S Robertson Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90035; The Robertson Recreation Center- 1641 Preuss Rd, Los Angeles, CA 90035; The Office of Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky - 6380 Wilshire Blvd #800, Los Angeles, CA 90048; Hamilton High School- 2955 S Robertson Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90034
- www.soronc.org
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System (ENS)

Reconsideration and Grievance Process -

For information on the NC's process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the NC Bylaws. The Bylaws are available at our Board meetings and our website www.soronc.org

Notice to Paid Representatives -

If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at our website (soronc.org) or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact us via phone at (310) 295-9920 or via email at info@soronc.org.

SORO NC Board members abide by a code of civility (soronc.org/civilitycode). Any person who interferes with the conduct of a Neighborhood Council meeting by willfully interrupting and/or disrupting the meeting is subject to removal. A peace officer may be requested to assist with the removal should any person fail to comply with an order of removal by the Neighborhood Council. Any person who resists removal by a peace officer is subject to arrest and prosecution pursuant to California Penal Code Section 403.

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 dias de trabajo (72 horas) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL (310) 295-9920.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Translators, sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting us via phone at (310) 295-9920 or via email at info@soronc.org.