



General Board Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 15, 2024, 7:00pm

Meetings end at 9:30pm unless the Board votes to end earlier or extend the time.

Location: Burton House Hotel, 1177 S Beverly Dr, Los Angeles, CA 90035- Meeting Room

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1. **Meeting Called to Order at: 7:08pm by Michael Lynn**
 2. **Pledge of Allegiance led by: Jon Liberman**
 3. **Roll Call:**
Board Members Present: Joel Weinberger, Michael Lynn, Stuart Weiss, Terrence Gomes, Barry Levine, Margarita Guzman, Jason Plummer, Mitch Cohen, Joseph Mollaie, Jon Liberman, Ken Blaker, Sara Messall, Marlene Katz, Shirley Traum

Board Members Absent: Baila Romm, Michelle Frankel, Cheryl Holstrom, Kevin McCarthy, Laurie Levine, Avihi Youshaei.

14 Present, 6 Absent. Quorum established.

Noah Damsky entered the meeting at 7:19PM
Sandy Block entered the meeting at 7:28PM

Ken Blaker left the meeting at 7:38PM and reentered the meeting at 8:10PM
Margarita Guzman left the meeting at 8:11PM
 4. **General Public Comment: Public Comment 1-**
 5. **Brief Board Announcements: None.**
 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. **Present, gave report.**
 - c. Office of Councilmember Hutt (Guevara) - mayra.guevara@lacity.org. **Present, gave report.**
 - d. Office of Councilmember Yaroslavsky (Rodriguez) - cairo.rodriguez@lacity.org.
Present, gave report.

- e. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Erving) – commission@empowerla.org. **Not present.**
- 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. **Present, gave report.**
- 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 Congressman Kamlager-Dove (Benarroch) - Jackson.Benarroch@mail.house.gov. **Not present.**
- l. Other Neighborhood, City and State offices. **None.**

Noah Damsky entered the meeting at 7:19 PM.

Sandy Block entered the meeting at 7:28 PM.

Ken Blaker left the meeting at 7:38 PM.

7. Board Membership- Selections, Removals, & Resignations Public Comment:

- a. Announcement of the resignation of Benji Karben from the SORO NC General Board. The At-Large Representative 5 (Term expires June 30, 2025) is now open to applicants.
Michael Lynn announced Benji Karben’s resignation; the At-Large 5 seat is now open for application.
- b. Announcement of the resignation of Tiffany Miller from the SORO NC General Board. The At-Large Representative 8 (Formerly Zone 8 Representative seat- Term expires June 30, 2027) is now open to applicants.
Michael Lynn announced Tiffany Miller’s resignation from the board; the At-Large 8 seat is now open for application.

8. Committees, Liaisons and Alliances

- a. Liaison and Alliance Representative Appointments
 - I. Motion to appoint LADWP Alternate Representative (GB081524-01)
Postponed.
 - II. Motion to appoint Budget Advocates Representative (1) (GB081524-02)
Michael Lynn said there was going to be 2 seats open. **Postponed.**
- 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
Michael Lynn mentioned with regards to Executive that they still have SORO t-shirts.

Jon Liberman mentioned Movies in the Park event with CD5, August 25th at 6 PM.

Michael Lynn mentioned for Outreach that there was a great response with the postcards; there was a lot of engagement, people gave commentary about the needs of the neighborhood; he mentioned there were still a few routes needed to be covered; mentioned he would be sending an email out for anyone interested in volunteering.

- II. Ad-hoc Committees: Tree Removal Notification
- III. Liaisons and Alliances: LANCC, WRAC, LADWP, Budget Advocates, City Attorney, Sustainability, District 37 Congressional Council, Homelessness

Terrence Gomes said Budget Advocate meetings meet on the 1st Monday and 3rd Saturday of the month.

- c. Opportunity to Join and/or Change Membership to Board Committees (GB081524-03)
Margarita Guzman was added to Education.

Ken Blaker re-entered the meeting at 8:10 PM.

2. Unfinished Business
Public Comment: None.

Margarita Guzman left the meeting at 8:11 PM.

- a. Motion for the SORO NC to adopt an alternate selection process rather than participate in a City-conducted election (SORO NC Bylaws- Section 6: Other Election Related Language) and create an Ad-hoc Elections Committee to create the Selection Process and carry out the planning, marketing and logistics of the Selection process. This Ad-hoc Elections Committee shall consist of five (5) Boardmembers and shall terminate immediately after completion of the Selection. **The Board must approve the selection process by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the Boardmembers present.** (GB081524-04)

Moved by Jon Liberman; Seconded by Terrence Gomes.

Roll Call:

Joel Weinberger Yes, Michael Lynn Yes, Stuart Weiss Yes, Noah Damsky Yes, Terrence Gomes Yes, Barry Levine Yes, Shirley Traum Yes, Ken Blaker Yes, Jason Plummer Yes, Sandy Block Yes, Marlene Katz Yes, Sara Messall Yes, Mitch Cohen Yes, Joseph Mollaie Yes, Jon Liberman Yes. 15 Yes, 0 No

Motion to approve Terrence Gomes, Michael Lynn, Joseph Mollaie, Stuart Weiss and Jason Plummer as the 5 members for the ad-hoc committee.

Moved by Jon Liberman, Seconded by Terrence Gomes

Roll Call:

Joel Weinberger Yes, Michael Lynn Yes, Stuart Weiss Yes, Noah Damsky Yes, Terrence Gomes Yes, Barry Levine Yes, Shirley Traum Yes, Ken Blaker Yes, Jason Plummer Yes, Sandy Block Yes, Marlene Katz Yes, Sara Messall Yes, Mitch Cohen Yes, Joseph Mollaie Yes, Jon Liberman Yes.

15 Yes, 0 No

- b. Motion for the SORO NC to schedule its regular General Board meetings for fiscal year 2024-25 to be held at the Burton House (formerly Residence Inn) on the third Thursday of each month, except for the October meeting, which will be scheduled on Tuesday, October 15, 2024. If physical location is unavailable for any meeting, it will be held online (GB081524-05)

Moved by Jon Liberman; Seconded by Joel Weinberger.

Jason Plummer moved to amend the motion to make virtual meetings the default rather than in-person, Seconded by Terrence Gomes.

Roll Call on Amendment

Joel Weinberger No, Michael Lynn No, Stuart Weiss No, Noah Damsky No, Terrence Gomes No, Barry Levine No, Shirley Traum Yes, Ken Blaker No, Jason Plummer Yes, Sandy Block No, Marlene Katz Yes, Sara Messall No, Mitch Cohen No, Joseph Mollaie No, Jon Liberman No.

3 Yes, 12 No. Amendment fails.

Roll Call on original motion

Joel Weinberger Yes, Michael Lynn Yes, Stuart Weiss Yes, Noah Damsky Yes, Terrence Gomes Yes, Barry Levine Yes, Shirley Traum Yes, Ken Blaker Yes, Jason Plummer Yes, Sandy Block Yes, Marlene Katz Yes, Sara Messall Yes, Mitch Cohen Yes, Joseph Mollaie Yes, Jon Liberman Yes.

15 Yes, 0 No

11. Consent Agenda

Public Comment: None

Items Removed: None

- a. Motion to approve July 18, 2024 General Board Meeting Draft Minutes (GB081524-06)
- b. Motion to approve July 30, 2024 General Board Special Meeting Draft Minutes (GB081524-07)
- c. Motion to approve July 2024 MER Report (GB081524-08)
- d. Motion for the SORO NC to submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in Opposition of 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 CIS as PDF attachment] (GB081524-09)
- e. Motion for the SORO NC to send a letter to CD-5 Councilwoman Yaroslavsky requesting that she open a council file to require the Bureau of Engineering to fast-track Permit Applications for the purpose of installing Security Bollards in the public right of way, protecting sensitive locations throughout the City of Los Angeles from vehicular ramming attacks. (GB081524-10)
- f. Motion for the SORO NC to submit a Community Impact Statement (CIS) in support of the motion in Council File 23-0002-S144 to support SB 960 and encourage

complete street facilities on State roads as sponsored by local jurisdictions or transit agencies (GB081524-11)

- g. Motion for the SORO NC to send a letter to Councilwomen Yaroslavsky and Hutt to thank them for their support of Council File 23-0002-S11 on streamlining electric rail projects and reiterate that the SORO NC supports their vote and AB 2503 (GB081524-12)

Roll Call:

**Joel Weinberger Yes, Michael Lynn Yes, Stuart Weiss Yes, Noah Damsky Yes, Terrence Gomes Yes, Barry Levine Yes, Shirley Traum Yes, Ken Blaker Yes, Jason Plummer Yes, Sandy Block Yes, Marlene Katz Yes, Sara Messall Yes, Mitch Cohen Yes, Joseph Mollaie Yes, Jon Liberman Yes.
15 Yes, 0 No**

12. New Business

- a. None

13. Meeting Adjourned at: 9:00 PM by Michael Lynn.