



General Board Meeting Draft Minutes

Thursday, October 16, 2025 @ 7:00 PM

Location: Online via Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89787982890> and by phone (877) 853 5257 (Meeting ID No. 897 8798 2890).

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- 1. Meeting Called to Order by Chair Michael Lynn at 7:21 PM**
 - 2. Pledge of Allegiance led by: Sandy Block**
 - 3. Roll Call: Terrence Gomes**
Board Members Present- Baila Romm, Stuart Weiss, Terrence Gomes, Michael Lynn, Michelle Bega, Barry Levine, Mallory Smith, Nathan Maryamian, Jason Plummer, Sandy Block, Beth Klein, Marlene Katz, Joseph Mollaie, Shirley Traum, Margarita Guzman

Board Members Absent- Mitch Cohen, Joe Lisuzzo, Judit Maull, Meera Srinivasan, Jack Twajri

Megan Golding entered the meeting at 7:30 PM.
Shia Fisher entered the meeting at 7:31 PM.
Ryan Spivey joined the meeting at 7:58 PM
Noah Damsky entered the meeting at 8:11 PM.
 - 4. General Public Comment: No public comment**
 - 5. Brief Board Announcements**
 Items for Committee Agendas and other Brief Board Announcements
Michael Lynn informed the Board that the November Board Meeting will be held at a new location, Claude Pepper Senior Citizens Center, located on La Cienega Blvd. Parking will be available in the center's lot, with additional street parking available on La Cienega after 6:00 PM. The meeting will begin promptly at 6:30 PM and must conclude by 9:00 PM. All attendees are required to vacate the premises by 9:15 PM.

Michael Lynn also shared that December's Board Meeting will be conducted virtually.
 - 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 Councilwoman Yaroslavsky, CD-5 (Rodriguez) - cairo.rodriquez@lacity.org - **Present, gave report**
- d. Office of Councilwoman Hutt, CD-10 (Guevara) - mayra.guevara@lacity.org - **Present, gave report**
- e. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Erving) - commission@empowerla.org - **Not present**
- f. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Manzo)- alfonso.manzo@lacity.org - **Not present**
- g. Office of Mayor Bass (Hull) - jennifer.hull@lacity.org - **Not present**
- h. Office of County Supervisor Mitchell, 2nd District (Park) - DPark@bos.lacounty.gov - **Not present**
- i. Office of County Supervisor Horvath, 3rd District (Laflan) - ALaflen@bos.lacounty.gov - **Present, gave report**
- j. Office of State Assemblymember Bryan, AD-55 (Persoff) - Michelle.Persoff@asm.ca.gov - **Not Present**
- k. Office of State Senator Smallwood-Cuevas, SD-28 (Hickambottom) - Ann.Hickambottom@sen.ca.gov - **Not present**
- l. Office of Congressman Kamlager-Dove, CD-37 (Benarroch) - Jackson.Benarroch@mail.house.gov - **Not Present**
- m. Other Neighborhood, City and State offices

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

- a. Motion to appoint the At-Large Representative seat (term expires June 30, 2029) *Stakeholder who is at least 18 years of age at the time of the appointment*
No Applicants. Continue to next General Board Meeting
- b. Motion to appoint the At-Large Representative seat (formerly Resident Zone 8) (term expires June 30, 2027) *Stakeholder who is at least 18 years of age at the time of the appointment (GB101625-01)*
 - Ryan Spivey
Mr. Spivey has been active with the SORO Neighborhood Council since February 2025. He shared that he is looking to get involved with the community, especially as it relates to public safety. He has a background in grassroots organizing and campaigns and works with pro-bono attorneys for housing affairs.
 - Miger Diaz
Mr. Diaz shared that he is a long-time local resident who owns several businesses in the SORO neighborhood. He expressed that joining the Board is a way to help out with the community.

Public Comment - 1

Baila Romm asked candidates about what changes they would like to see in the SORO community. Mr. Diaz said he would focus on cleaning up homelessness and addressing the graffiti and gang

presence, as safety is a priority for the community. Mr. Spivey answered that he would focus on improving public safety and trash pickup by forming a group to help with the effort on weekends. He also mentioned working with local representatives to address the rise of ghost kitchens in the community and the need for better parking for delivery drivers since double parking is a hazard.

Beth Klein asked the candidates how they would make time to participate and show their level of commitment. Mr. Spivey said he has a track record for showing up in the community and has only missed one meeting since February. Mr. Diaz mentioned his background as a business owner and parent in the community. As a single father to a young daughter, he said safety and wants to be helpful for the community he cares about.

Barry Levine requested clarification on this item that had been moved from the September Board Meeting, following a motion by Terrence Gomes to postpone the vote pending guidance from the City Attorney's Office on a potential conflict of interest. Michael Lynn reported that the City Attorney came back with advice that there is no conflict of interest, and the Board can proceed with the item during the current meeting.

Megan Golding entered the meeting at 7:30 PM. Shia Fisher entered the meeting at 7:31 PM.

**Motion to appoint the At-Large Representative
Moved by Shia Fisher; Seconded by Baila Romm.**

Roll call; Terrence Gomes

Megan Golding - Abstain, Baila Romm - Ryan Spivey, Shia Fisher - Abstain, Stuart Weiss - Ryan Spivey, Terrence Gomes - Abstain, Michael Lynn - Ryan Spivey, Michelle Bega - Ryan Spivey; Barry Levine - Ryan Spivey, Mallory Smith - Ryan Spivey, Margarita Guzman - Miger Diaz, Jason Plummer - Ryan Spivey, Sandy - Ryan Spivey, Marlene Katz - Ryan Spivey, Joseph Mollaie - Abstain, Shirley Traum - Ryan Spivey, Beth Klein - Ryan Spivey.

11 votes for Ryan Sivey, 1 vote for Miger Diaz, 4 - Abstain, 1 ineligible

Ryan Spivey joined the meeting at 7:58 PM.

Joseph Mollaie raised a point of inquiry regarding why some attendees had their cameras turned off during the public meeting. Michael Lynn clarified that the standard practice is for attendees to keep their cameras on at all times, unless there are bandwidth or technical issues. He added that it is preferred for participants to display their profile photos if they are unable to keep their cameras on.

8. Committees, Liaisons and Alliances

a. Liaison and Alliance Representative Appointments

- I. Motion to appoint Budget Advocates Representative 2 (GB101625-02)
Chair continued this item to the next General Board meeting.

b. Committee, Liaisons and Alliance Reports

- I. Standing Committees: Executive (Lynn); Education (Guzman); Land Use (Cohen); Public Safety (Gomes/Romm); Outreach (Lynn); Transportation (Plummer); Budget & Finance (Gomes); Bylaws (Fisher); Board Development (Plummer)

Executive- Michael Lynn shared that the next General Board Meeting will include an item on producing business cards and T-shirts for Board Members. He will send an email to Committee members' SORONC addresses to obtain a motion to order the appropriate amount. If the motion passes at the Executive Committee, it will be brought to a vote at the next General Board Meeting.

Education- Margarita Guzman said there were no reports as the Committee's next meeting will be held on October 20.

Land Use- Mitch Cohen was not present to provide report.

Public Safety- Baila Romm said the Committee has a meeting in December.

Outreach- Michael Lynn encouraged Board Members to join the community clean-up effort on Sunday, October 19 to speak with stakeholders. The Neighborhood Council will also participate in the Rec Center Fall Festival on October 30 and provide refreshments and bags.

No reports from Transportation, Budget & Finance and Bylaws.

Board Development- Jason Plummer will coordinate with Baila Romm to schedule the Board retreat.

- II. Ad-hoc Committees: None
- III. Liaisons and Alliances: LANCC (Gomes), WRAC (Lynn), LADWP (Plummer, Maull), Budget Advocates (Maull), City Attorney (Lynn), District 37 Congressional Council (Weiss), Homelessness (Katz)

WRAC- Jason Plummer shared a presentation from LADOT regarding the Westwood Blvd Safety and Mobility Project. The proposed project aims to improve safety and accessibility by creating dedicated bus and bike lanes and implementing sidewalk improvements to help reduce injuries and fatalities from traffic collisions. Jason will share the presentation with Michael Lynn for posting on the SORO website.

Noah Damsky entered the meeting at 8:11 PM.

LADWP- Jason Plummer shared a presentation on the Comprehensive Affordable Multifamily Retrofits (CAMR), which would provide owners of low-income, multi-family housing with upgrades to reduce carbon footprint.

Congressional Council- Stuart Weiss said he is ready to attend any meetings for stakeholders and community members with the Congresswoman's office.

- c. Opportunity for Boardmembers to Join and/or Change Membership of Standing Committees (GB101625-03)**

Michael Lynn said that Ryan Spivey and the new Boardmembers who joined in September are encouraged to join Standing Committees.

Baila Romm asked whether members of the community can join a committee. Michael Lynn clarified that community members can join at the committee level for committee roles and once they are approved at that level, the committee will motion the General Board to confirm their committee membership.

Joseph Mollaie asked whether the homelessness committee has been disbanded. Michael Lynn said the committee was disbanded.

Ryan Spivey joins Public Safety.

Michael Lynn reminded members that if a committee has more than six Boardmembers, only the first six Boardmembers to arrive may participate in the meeting. Any Boardmembers arriving after the first six can only observe.

9. Unfinished Business

- a. None**

10. Consent Agenda

Multiple Item Public Comment: No public comment

Item Removals: None

- a. Motion to accept the September 18, 2025 General Board Meeting Draft Minutes (GB101625-04)**
- b. Motion to approve the September 2025 Monthly Expenditure Report (GB101625-05)**
- c. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to co-sponsor the CD-10 Festival of Lights/Winter Wonderland Event at Reynier Park on December 15, 2025, including funding of up to \$1500 for refreshments. (GB101625-06)**
- d. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to fund up to \$250 for the purchase of a 60' x 24" x 65.3" shelving unit with wheels (GB101625-07)**

- e. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to fund up to \$50.00 for the purchase of four (4) 27-gallon (28.6" x 19.6" x 15.2") storage containers (GB101625-08)
- f. Motion for the South Robertson Neighborhoods Council (SORO NC) to approve the REVISED FY2025-2026 SORO NC Budget (GB101625-09)

**Motion to Approve Items on Consent Agenda
Moved by Beth Klein; Seconded by Terrence Gomes**

Roll Call; Terrence Gomes

Megan Golding- Yes, Baila Romm- Yes, Shia Fisher - Yes, Stuart Weiss - Yes, Terrence Gomes- Yes, Michael Lynn- Yes, Michelle Bega- Yes, Barry Levine- Yes, Mallory Smith- Yes, Margarita Guzman- Yes, Jason Plummer- Yes, Sandy- Yes, Beth Klein- Yes, Marlene Katz- Yes Joseph Mollaie- Yes, Shirley Traum- Yes

16 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain. Motion Passes.

11. New Business

- a. Motion for the SORO NC to create a Trees (Trimming, Planting, and Removals) Ad-Hoc Committee, with up to 6 Boardmembers (GB101625-10)

Public Comment: None

Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Jason Plummer

Baila Romm asked where the Trees Ad-Hoc Committee appears in the budget. Michael Lynn clarified that this Ad-Hoc Committee will not handle any budgets, but will focus on logistics related to tree trimming, planting, and removal within the neighborhood, as well as issues such as developer notifications for tree removals.

Baila Romm had a follow-up question about where the money would come from to remove or trim any trees not connected to a development. Michael Lynn said it would be from another committee, such as Executive, Outreach or Public Safety. Michael Lynn added that at some point, a Member will need to amend the motion to include the names of the Board Members and the end date of the committee.

Beth Klein asked for clarification on whether the Ad-Hoc Committee would participate in the actual planting of trees. Michael Lynn explained that, as an example, if SORO NC were to undertake a community interest project involving tree planting and the Board approved it, the Ad-Hoc Committee would be responsible for providing recommendations on where the trees should be planted.

Michael Lynn explained the difference between Ad-Hoc and Standing Committees. He noted that Standing Committees must be agendized and follow the Brown Act, while Ad-Hoc Committees are designed to address issues that arise between meetings. Terrence Gomes clarified that the Ad-Hoc Committee

allows the Neighborhood Council to act quickly on urgent matters, with goals spanning short-term tree removals, mid-term goals like permit assistance, and long-term neighborhood planting projects. He added that SORO NC has \$9,000 designated for tree planting.

Stuart Weiss, Joseph Mollaie, Nathan Maryamian, Megan Golding, and Ryan Spivey expressed interest in joining the Ad-Hoc Committee.

Terrence Gomes made an amendment make the Ad-Hoc Committee end date June 30, 2025 and vote again in July.

Motion to Amend to include names of members Stuart Weiss, Joseph Mollaie, Nathan Maryamian, Megan Golding, and Ryan Spivey and set end date for June 30

Moved by Terrence Gomes; Seconded by Shia Fisher

Roll Call; Terrence Gomes

Megan Golding- Yes, Baila Romm- Yes, Shia Fisher - Yes, Stuart Weiss - Yes, Terrence Gomes- Yes, Michael Lynn- Yes, Michelle Bega- Yes, Barry Levine- Yes, Mallory Smith- Yes, Margarita Guzman- Yes, Jason Plummer- Yes, Sandy- Yes, Beth Klein- Yes, Marlene Katz- Yes, Joseph Mollaie- Yes, Shirley Traum- Yes

16 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain

Vote on Motion as Amended “Motion for the SORO NC to create a Trees (Trimming, Planting, and Removals) Ad-Hoc Committee, with Boardmembers Stuart Weiss, Joseph Mollaie, Nathan Maryamian, Megan Golding, and Ryan Spivey; and set end date of June 30, 2025”.

Roll Call; Terrence Gomes

Megan Golding- Yes, Baila Romm- Yes, Shia Fisher - Yes, Stuart Weiss - Yes, Terrence Gomes- Yes, Michael Lynn- Yes, Michelle Bega- Yes, Barry Levine- Yes, Mallory Smith- Yes, Margarita Guzman- Yes, Jason Plummer- Yes, Sandy- Yes, Beth Klein- Yes, Marlene Katz- Yes, Joseph Mollaie- Yes, Shirley Traum- Yes

16 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain. Trees Ad-Hoc Committee formed.

12. Items Removed from Consent Agenda
None

13. Meeting adjourned by Chair at 8:50PM, without objection.