

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF THE BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Brentwood Presbyterian Church**

**12000 San Vicente Boulevard**

**Wednesday, August 10, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Chair Carolyn Jordan called the meeting to order at about 5:30 p.m.

Council members present:

**REPRESENTATIVES**

Aronson, Michelle

Brown, Pamela

Hulett, Judie

Jalali, Meg

Jordan, Carolyn

Klein, Raymond

Krell, Marilyn

Simmons, Sheila

Watts, Larry

**ALTERNATES**

Adomian, Jerry

Arbour, Elyse

Davis, Jane

Freedman, Nancy

Lo Buglio, Carolyn

\*Note: Only those Representatives and Alternates who are present at the meeting will be listed; late arrivals are asked to announce themselves so the Board can recognize them and list them as present.

**Approval of Minutes**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the draft June 2022 Minutes as corrected were approved.

**Guest Speaker**

The Chair recognized Matthew McGahran, the LCSW Chief, Community Engagement and Reintegration Service at GLA VA. Mr. McGahran provided a broad overview and status report concerning efforts to provide housing for about 10,000 homeless veterans in the greater Los Angeles area, or 10% of the national total. He reviewed the current status of the various residential options for veterans offered by GLA VA both on-site and throughout the area it serves. These options range from the domiciliary, tiny houses and tents on campus to off-site apartment units and from short term and bridge to permanent housing. These options are provided through 30 separate programs administered by the VA.

Mr. McGahran then responded to numerous questions from the BCC Board and several public veterans advocates in attendance. The latter were generally critical of the VA's efforts and one veteran described in length the obstacles she has experienced in obtaining benefits at the GLA VA..

**Guest Speaker- Corine Taylor, Community Relations Manager for LA28**

The Chair next recognized Corine Taylor, who gave an overview of LA28, the local organizing committee for the Summer 2028 Olympic and Para-Olympic Games in Los Angeles. Without any new permanent construction to build for the Games, LA28 is focused on developing a shared experience around sport to make the greater Los Angeles community proud to host the 28 Games. Additionally, LA28 is investing up to \$160 million in sports for kids in LA to create a positive impact in advance of the Games and as an investment in a future generation of athletes. Los Angeles has hosted the Games before in 1932 and 1984, but 2028 will be the first time for hosting the Paralympic Games. This will be an opportunity to address the bias towards people with disabilities and to engage our community to create lasting social impact and meaningful change.

## **BCC Committee Updates and Announcements**

**Environmental** -Member Watts reported on a recent Court of Appeals decision which reversed a Superior Court judgment and affirmed a City of Los Angeles decision enforcing the Protected Tree Ordinance revoking all building and grading permits and prohibiting the issuance of new permits for a period of five years. The City's decision came after the developer cut down three protected trees without a permit to do so. The project would have also required the developer to conduct extensive grading to lower a ridge line by 50 feet and remove over a 100,000 cubic yards of soil. The developer says the contemplated project can no longer be built because of the revised Hillside Ordinance restrictions.

**Public Safety**- Member Hulett announced that the next CERT class for Brentwood and the Westside will start on September 12, 2022. Those interested in attending must sign up in advance at Eventbrite.com.

**There were no updates or announcements from the Transportation, LUC, Public schools, Independent Schools, Ministerial, Civic or Homelessness Taskforce Committees.**

### **Board Member and Public Comments**

There were no board comments and the Chair recognized a member of the public, a female veteran who described the many difficulties she has experienced attempting to obtain services from the WLA VA.

### **Adjourn.**

THEREUPON, a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at about 8:00 p.m.

**Next meeting:** September 14, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Watts,  
Secretary