

Adopted 2/12/2020

**MINUTES OF THE BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
Brentwood Science Magnet School, 740 South Gretna Green
Wednesday, February 12th, 2020**

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair M. Bisnoff called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Council members present introduced themselves and their representative capacities:

REPRESENTATIVES

Abramson, Daniel
Alfano, Madelyn
Binder, John
Bisnoff, Michelle
Blum, Len
Brown, Pamela
Dohrmann, Barbara
Erdosi, Sidne
Haley, John
Jordan, Carolyn
Klein, Raymond
Krell, Marylin
Morgan, Charley
Rosen, Jacqui
Simmons, Sheila
Stein, Richard

Tenzer, Gary
Yadegar, Sam
Yoshimaru, Gennifer

ALTERNATES

Adomian, Jerry
Chapgier, Flo
Foley, Kathy
Freedman, Nancy
Goldstein, Doris
Hulett, Judie
Morgenthaler, Alisa
Polier, Michael
Rose, Herb

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

GUEST SPEAKERS

Ron Galperin - City Controller

Ron Galperin, as City Controller, is an independent elected City official who oversees how money is managed by the City, which means from expenses on projects, how each department spends the money allotted, for what results, to paychecks for 50,000 employees. Transparency, trust, transformation are the principles by which the Controller's office works. All information is posted online @ LAcontroller.org, and the LA Office received awards for its transparency. Mr. Galperin suggested visiting the site, as becoming better informed makes us better advocates for future projects.

The website has the City budget and scores of other data, for example vendors, revenue information, payroll information, LADWP information or LAX information, properties maps, so it can be an excellent tool for aspiring start-ups and new businesses.

Mr. Galperin was previously a journalist and an attorney when he became obsessed with how city finances were operating. This led him to become Controller, a job which he loves.

Sometimes the Office receives some very interesting questions. For example, one question led the City to use AI to help identify the damaged electrical equipment and reduce the risk of utility caused wildfires.

The Office also reviewed proposition HHH and first reported the first units were extraordinarily expensive due to regulations and consulting fees.

Mappings done by the Controller's Office:

Mapping of noise for LAX

Mapping of LGBTQ resources

Mapping of Parking tickets

Mapping of getting your tax done for free

Mapping of free services provided by the city.

Mapping of property parcels

Questions

1. The City owns 7000 properties, could some be put to use to help homelessness? The so-called City Surplus Properties could be put to better use, so the office is changing the concept of Surplus... the Office has been lobbying the Council so some of those properties can be made available to help the Homelessness crisis.
2. In Sept 2017 criteria were established for homelessness. Lawsuits were directed against the city as in the Jones case. Sidewalks could not be cleaned if a certain number of homeless beds didn't exist. The Boise case has made the City's actions more complicated, so temporary shelters are needed now, and the situation is extremely complex for LAPD and Sanitation.
3. Enforcement of affordable housing units takes place through the housing dept. The number of units is now on the website. We require funds for better enforcement. Also at issue is the balance where some people living in units no longer qualify for the units - how do you make that transition.
4. Quimby funds are an allocation of funds for development of parks and how that money is spent must be on capital improvements. Acquiring new land for parks in LA is extremely expensive and a lot of Quimby money is sitting unused as there is no nearby land to buy, so can we change that law to use funds elsewhere? On other things? That is a legislative question for the City.
5. Why some affordable housing HHH units were so expensive in the end (700K). Reports show that only 11% of the budget was for land, soft costs were very high at 40%, covering lawyers' fees, for example, and the rest was cumulative impact of requirements added by City regulations (for example requirement for parking, nice materials, etc...). In the end only very few developers were chosen.
6. Homeless Authority - Sometimes the Controller gets to help the City by public shaming but also by partnering with them to make them look good. LA Board of Supervisors should be looking more critically at LAHSA.

Captain Jon Tom - West LA Supervising Captain - Email address: 32993@lapd.online

24 years on the job, 18 assignments, worked multiple LAPD departments, as under cover, firearms, office work, seeing how different each division operates. Captain Tom loves LA. His great-great-grandfather came from China. Captain Tom went to University High Schools, then to USC. He started Law School but quit as he loved the Police service. The Westside finished first in crime reduction last year with a 13% reduction, which is why the Westside has fewer patrols than other areas, consequently, it is really important to call even for minor offenses, because numbers of calls are what may bring more resources. For this reason, the response time is longer for the Westside, due to less patrol cars.

BOARD REPORTS

Public Safety – Michelle Bisnoff

San Vicente Homeless

The next Homeless Task Force Public Meeting will take place on Saturday March 28 @ 3:30 pm at the Brentwood Kaufman Library. During the last cleanup, which took place on February 12, 30 lunch boxes were provided by Ms. Bisnoff to Veterans who accepted the offer to go inside the VA and be assessed. BCC has requested more garbage cans on San Vicente.

Please Participate in CERT training the BCC is offering, beginning on March 11. Go to 90049.INFO to sign up.

Outreach for Saint Joseph - Mr. Dawan Moses

Please reach Dawan if you would like to volunteer.

310.741.8423 dmoses@stjosephctr.org

Brentwood is registered as the North Quadrant in Service Planning Area Five and outreach serves the area every Tuesday and Thursday.

Getty Fire

The Getty Museum and Crestwood Hills have agreed to continue to clear the new Getty Fire fire-breaks that were created behind Crestwood Hills during the recent fire.

Verizon is in discussion for cell signal booster sites to help communications in hillside areas; infrared camera information may help LAFD and it is being explored.

A private utility-line consultant will be BCC guest in May to report on the possibility of installing lines underground. Making it available for everybody might change fire insurance for private home-owners. Drones will be used to assess the utility lines.

A Land Use motion regarding building in fire zones is pending discussion at the Feb LUC meeting.

April BCC Off Site Stakeholder Meeting in process.

2019 meeting was a big success.

The discussion for Brentwood Magnet School is tabled until the next meeting; the public meeting on this topic takes place on Monday, March 16 @ 5:30 p.m. at BSMS.

Board Business/Comment:

Motion to approve December 2019 & January 2020 minutes was passed.

Land Use – Richard Stein

1st motion : BCC Land Use Recommendation of Non Opposition to Bru Haus. Passed with 2 abstentions.

2nd motion : Scooter Motion from Sheila Simmons was withdrawn pending further discussion at March BCC Meeting. At the invitation of the NextGen Committee Chair, Pamela Brown, representatives from Lyft, Benjamin Peabody and Gustavo Hernandez, and from Wheel, Elan Buckman introduced themselves and answered Q&A.

Extensive discussion ensued. The City is ending its pilot program for qualifying companies.

The vendors mentioned that more efforts are underway for tracking any scooter left on a sidewalk.

Madelyn Alfano agrees there should be some areas for designated parking.

Carolyn Jordan would like to hear different voices on the issue.

Gary Tenzer would like to have more information before voting on a motion.

PUBLIC COMMENT

~~Wendy Sue Rosen stated that BCC should not post information on the BCC website about clearing hillsides as there is some evidence indicating clearing can be harmful.~~ Wendy-Sue Rosen stated the BCC should not post information on the BCC website about clearing more brush on hillsides than is recommended by experts in the field because there is some evidence over-clearing can be harmful. Chair indicated she is comfortable with posting any LAFD approved information on the website.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

NEXT BCC MEETING: Wednesday, March 11, 2020 at 7 p.m.