

MINUTES OF THE BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
Electronic Meeting Via Zoom
Wednesday, December 10, 2020

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair M. Bisnoff called the meeting to order at about 7: 00 p.m.

The Chair called the roll and the following Council members announced their presence and their representative capacities:

REPRESENTATIVES

Abramson, Dan
Alfano, Madelyn -BV Chamber
Aronson, Michelle- SVBD
Binder, John- UMCA
Bisnoff, Michelle Chair & Safety
Brown, Pamela- Ministerial
Dohrmann, Barbara-BASC HOA
Goldstein, Doris- Transportation
Haley, John- Crestwood Hills HOA
Jordan, Carolyn- Vice-Chair & MAL
Klein, Raymond- BHA
Krell, Marilyn- Multi-Family Residential
Rosen, Jaqui - BG HOA
Simmons, Sheila- Civic & Cultural
Stein, Richard- Treasurer
Stephens, Josh-Land Use

Tenzer, Gary- MCA
Watts, Larry Sec. & SC HOA
Yadegar, Sam - BT HOA
Yoshimaru, Gennifer-Educ. Ind. Schools

ALTERNATES

Alyse Arbour, SBRA
Adomian, Jerry - BHHOA
Chapgier, Flo - MAL
Freedman, Nancy - Envormental
Hulett, Judie-Safety
Lyons, Janet- Educ. Ind. Schools
Morganthaler, Alisa- Multi-Family Residential
Polier, Michael-Civic & Cultural
Rose, Herb- BT HOA

*Note: Only those Representatives and Alternates who announced their presence at the outset of the meeting are listed.

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call.** The Chair called the meeting to order at about 7:00 p.m. and announced a quorum was present following a roll call.
- 2. October Minutes.** The Chair next asked for approval of the minutes. Upon a motion duly made and seconded the November 11, 2020 minutes were approved.
- 3. Chair Announcements.** The Chair thanked Member Aronson, Keith Shaw of Brentwood Gardens, and Gail Levy of Douglas Emmett for the Holiday video and call to support our local Brentwood businesses. She also described charitable donation options for charities that serve our community, including meals for WLA LAPD Station and LAFD Stations 109 and 19, Village for Vets, WLA Meals on Wheels and the WLA LAPD Toy Drive.
- 4. Nominating Committee Report and Elections.** The Chair recognized Nominating Committee Chair, Alsa Morganthaler who presented the following slate of nominations: Chair Michelle Bisnoff, Vice Chair Carolyn Jordan, Secretary Larry Watts, Treasurer Richard Stein and Non-Officer EC Member Dan Abramson. Member Morganthaler next ask for nominations from the floor and there were none. Thereafter an electronic vote was taken and the slate was elected.

5. Community Policing Report. The Chair next called upon WLA LAPD SLO Matt Kirk for his report. Officer Kirk announced there was an increase in robberies due to an early morning incident in which what appeared to be a homeless man stole a laptop from an Uber food delivery driver. The increase in crime YTD 2019 over 2020 occurred at the beginning of the pandemic, though he has seen a slight increase in recent weeks. Thefts from vehicles continues to be a problem because people leave valuables in plain sight in car seat.

The Chair next asked about increased speeding and accidents on Sunset Boulevard. It appeared speeding was up at beginning of pandemic, but at present about normal. Collisions from Church Lane to Allenford. There were about 51 collisions in 2019 and YTD in 2020 about 35, which he attributes to reduced traffic. The Chair next asked Member Jordan for her personal observations. She noted several recent serious collisions that could be attributed excess speed and noted the continued weekly Wednesday night cavalcade of motorcycle clubs.

The Package and bicycle thefts Apparent false report of armed home invasion.

6. Covid Status. The Chair gave a brief report, noting increases in testing and reported new cases in LA County wide. She also noted testing is being conducted at the homeless encampment at WLA VA on San Vicente.

7. Covid lockdown orders. Chair recognized Member Alfano to describe litigation over LA County shutdown of outdoor dining. She reported the California Restaurant Association obtained a court injunction against recent LA County shutdown of outdoor dining on grounds the order was not based upon scientific evidence. However its impact has been negated by recent statewide stay-at-home order.

8. CD 11 Update. The next Chair next asked Durrah Wagner from CD-11 for a report. Ms. Wagner briefly noted LA County is at threat level Red and that there is a short term one-time cash benefit plan available for food service employees. She is working on clean-up of areas on San Vicente where food trucks and efforts to limit illegal parking of the truck. Construction work is allowed to continue subject to additional rules. The farmers' market has instituted new health and safety guidelines. She noted Councilman Bonin support shared housing. She addressed certain questions concerning LAHASA which she said are subject to a number of federal, state and local regulations.

9. Congressman Lieu's Office. The Chair recognized Janet Turner. She noted that the safe camping program is temporarily not admitting additional veterans into the program due to several Covid infections. WLA VA has no current authority to provide temporary housing on the WLA Campus, including tiny homes. However, Lieu supports the concept and VA will work with a partner such as City of LA on this. VA cannot provide services to veterans who received dishonorable discharges. However, some such discharges were for reasons that no longer are grounds for a dishonorable discharge. The VA will work with those veterans who may now be eligible to have their discharge status upgraded.

10. Homelessness Update. The Chair gave this update, noting LAPD has started collaborating with LA Health to reduce need for police responses to non-violent and mental health events. Additionally, LA County Homeless services provider St. Joseph Center is for the first time extending outreach services to various areas in Brentwood, including underpass 405 at Church Lane and Montana and the Sepulveda Pass area. Further, LA County Health is reaching out to San Vicente encampment to provide

outreach and covid testing. The Sheriff will start enforcing the fire ordinance in view of recent open fires on the San Vicente encampment. and request for County intervention in project Roomkey or "Encampment to Home."

11. Land Use Report. The Chair addressed ABC licensing ordinance

- a. Berggruen Scoping meeting present not a lot of new information on project itself. However, Berggruen is trying a new process to obtain a permit for their project through a Specific Plan. A scoping response on behalf of the BCC will be drafted. Major issues, wildfires, impacts on wildlife, open space and public access. Response will not address whether the project should be supported or opposed, but what environmental subjects will be studied in the EIR. In response to a question whether this is premature without seeing a draft of the proposed Specific Plan No intent to use Mandeville Canyon as an evacuation alternative emergency evacuation route.

12. BCC Motion Update. Public Comment.

13. LAPD Alternative Funding Proposals.

14. LAPD Rates. The Chair recognized Member Jordan who addressed whether LADWP should adjust Tier 3 pricing to take into account impact of remote working during pandemic. Motion to send letter to Bonin re

15. Board Comments. Member Polier urged members to put individuals under 50 in touch with him about Advisory 49 which dedicated to expanding outreach to the fast growing demographic (young adults) in Brentwood. Nancy noted city is ending petroleum drilling in residential zones. Klein commented on layoff of police officers that might be avoided if raises be postponed. No update on homeless litigation

16. Adjournment. The Chair invited a motion to adjourn and upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned sine die at approximately 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Watts, Secretary

ATTACHMENT TO BCC NOVEMBER 11, 2020 MINUTES

MOTIONS ADOPTED BY BCC ON NOVEMBER 11, 2020

SUPPORTING VERSION B+ SIGN ORDINANCE

RESOLVED, Brentwood Community Council (“BCC”) Neighborhood Council fully supports Version B+ of the proposed sign ordinance as approved by the City Planning Commission on 10/22/2015, Council File 11-1705. We request the PLUM committee of the Los Angeles City Council adopt a version of the ordinance, which accomplishes the following goals that are important to the stakeholders of our community: 1. Disapproves any amnesty for existing billboards that lack permits or have been altered in violation of their permits 2. Disapproves the “grandfathering” of any sign districts that were not approved in the ordinance when it was reviewed by CPC in 2009. 3. Disapproves any new process, including a Conditional Use Permit process to authorize construction or operation of digital off-site signs outside of sign districts 4. Restricts any new off-site signs, including digital billboards, to sign districts in the 22 areas already zoned as Regional Commercial for high-intensity commercial use 5. Requires existing billboards to be taken down before any new off-site signs can go up in sign districts. The take down ratio of existing signs to new signs should be 5:1 for conventional and 10:1 for digital 6. Ban on new digital billboards or on conversion of existing billboards to digital 7. Request that the City Attorney review all signs without permits and those altered in violation of their permits for enforcement action and compliance. 8. Prohibits any off-site signage in city parks, recreation facilities and open spaces 9. Provides for stiff civil penalties with escalating penalties for erecting or maintaining illegal signs and for multiple or repeat offenses so that penalties are not viewed as a cost of doing business.

SUPPORTING WRAC REQUESTED CHANGES TO COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE PROCESS GENERALLY

RESOLVED, Brentwood Community Council (“BCC”) Neighborhood Council fully supports WRAC position include for official input to the Los Angeles Department of City Planning in reference to the WRAC Member Community Plan updates, a delay of 6 months due to COVID 19 and restrictions related to public access, meetings and participation and further request the following:

An appropriate assessment of how the COVID 19 and future pandemics will impact current and future mobility, housing, design, environmental and health and safety needs and concerns;

Current and future data projections relevant to the task of updating all WRAC member Community Plans;

Incorporation of an additional step in the Community Plan update timeline that allows for presentation of the staff draft plan and an associated public comment period, or a second and revised concept plan phase.

Allocation of time for staff to review public comments and incorporate changes to reflect input prior to issuing any NOP for the start of the environmental review process. It is improper to issue an NOP and conduct a DEIR for a draft plan that the community has had neither the chance to see or review.

Thorough public outreach is a must and should include all stakeholders. The Planning Department has not allocated proper time or resources, and City Council must do so moving forward so that no stakeholders are left uninformed about the process.

REQUESTING CHANGES TO THE BRENTWOOD-PACIFIC PALISADES COMMUNITY PLAN UPDATE PROCESS

WHEREAS, The BCC, in conjunction with our Community Plan neighbors, the Pacific Palisades Community Council (PPCC), is currently engaged in preparing for the city's review of our Community Plan. We recognize the delays and difficulties imposed by Covid19.

RESOLVED THEREFORE, that deadlines for review by the BCC and PPCC be extended by 6 months. In keeping with the motion from WRAC (which the BCC supports), we also request that the Department of City Planning issue an assessment of how Covid19 will impact current and future mobility, housing, design, environmental and health and safety needs and concerns as well as current and future data projections relevant to the task of updating all WRAC member Community Plans.

SUPPORTING RESUMPTION OF CLEAN-UPS OF STREET ENCAMPMENTS

WHEREAS, Encampment clean ups were suspended due to COVID. Those clean ups have been resumed in limited areas and LA SAN recommends reinstating cleanups City-wide. A motion is now pending that the clean ups be reinstated City-wide.

RESOLVED. The BCC supports Buscaino and Lee's motion to resume CARES+ clean ups City-wide, including in the BCC territory. This letter of support should be made part of Council File 20-0417.

SUPPORTING AMENDMENTS TO MUNICIPAL CODE RELATED TO SIDEWALK CAMPING AND BULKY ITEM CLEAN-UP

WHEREAS, Based on a prior motion signed by Councilmembers Blumenfield, Rodriguez, Buscaino, Krekorian, Price, Lee and Cedillo , the office of the City Attorney has submitted a proposed Ordinance Amendment to each of the Sidewalk and Bulky Item Ordinances, which have been suspended for some time due to court challenges, legal settlements, and COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the City Attorney's draft ordinance does the following:

- 1) prohibits sitting, lying, sleeping, etc. in a manner that violates ADA; or
- 2) within 10 feet of any operational entrance, exit, driveway or loading dock.
- 3) upon posting of signage and resolution of City Council, no sitting, lying, sleeping, etc., or maintaining personal property within radius to be specified by City Council resolution (up to 500 feet) of (i) a designated facility that provided housing shelter, supportive services, safe parking, or storage to homeless persons or (ii) a designated freeway overpass, underpass, ramp, tunnel or pedestrian subway, if in any such case the City Council determines public health, safety welfare is served by the prohibition;
- 4) prohibit sitting, lying or sleeping in street, sidewalk or other publicly owned property if that person has been offered shelter;

Violations would be eligible for prosecution in a diversion program.

As to bulky items, the revisions to the Ordinance would implement the following:

Bulky items, other than those designed as shelter, can be removed and discarded without notice. Shelters that do not constitute tents could be removed and discarded with notice, with enforcement suspended while the City appeals Garcia vs. City of LA.

Personal Property not to be stored where signage posted in area designated by City Council resolution, where storage interferes with ADA passageway, or within areas protected by 41.18 to allow for transit.

RESOLVED THEREFORE, BCC strongly supports the City Attorney's amendments to LAMC 41.18 and 56.11, and encourages the City Council to approve the amendments offered by the City Attorney as written.

MOTION RELATED TO ACTION REQUESTED OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

WHEREAS, there has been camping and obstruction of the sidewalks on Wilshire Boulevard and San Vicente Boulevard adjacent to the West Los Angeles Veterans Administration Campus; and

WHEREAS, the sidewalks at these locations or situated on unincorporated land belong to Los Angeles County;

RESOLVED THEREFORE, the BCC urges the County of Los Angeles adopt an ordinance similar to the City Attorney's proposed amendments to LAMC 41.18 and 56.11.

SUBSTITUTE MOTION BY COUNCILMEMBERS BONIN AND RYU

WHEREAS, Councilmembers Bonin and Ryu have offered a substitute Motion to the one discussed above by Councilmembers Blumenfield, Rodriguez, Buscaino, Krekorian, Price, Lee and Cedillo; and

WHEREAS, the substitute motion requests a series of plans and reports; and

WHEREAS, all the efforts being requested in the substitute motion are well intended, Brentwood's constituents are looking for action.

RESOLVED THEREFORE, the BCC urges Councilmember Bonin to support the efforts of Councilmembers Blumenfield, Rodriguez, Buscaino, Krekorian, Price, Lee and Cedillo, and the office of the City Attorney, and support the amendments to the Sidewalk Ordinance and the Bulky Item Ordinance. The BCC supports Councilmember Bonin's "Substitute Motion" as a separate stand-alone motion rather than as an alternative to efforts of Councilmembers Blumenfield, Rodriguez, Buscaino, Krekorian, Price, Lee and Cedillo and the office of the City Attorney. In particular, the BCC supports Councilmember Bonin's proposal to have a mobile App developed that will provide real-time information to those working directly with the homeless on shelter/housing options. BCC is concerned that if Councilman Bonin's motion is adopted in lieu of the efforts of Councilmembers Blumenfield, Rodriguez, Buscaino, Krekorian, Price, Lee and Cedillo, and the office of the City Attorney, the result will be to slow rather than accelerate the process of facilitating the housing of those currently living on the street.