

**DRAFT**

**MINUTES OF THE BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Zoom Session**

**Wednesday, November 10, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS**

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

Council members present introduced themselves and their representative capacities:

**REPRESENTATIVES**

Aronson, Michele  
Bisnoff, Michelle  
Brown, Pamela  
Dohrmann, Barbara  
Edmunds, Eric  
Goldstein, Doris  
Haley, John  
Klein, Raymond  
Krell, Marylin  
Simmons, Sheila  
Smolen, Neil

Tenzer, Gary  
Yoshimaru, Gennifer

**ALTERNATES**

Deaderick, Lauren  
Freedman, Nancy  
Hulett, Judie  
Jamal, Amber  
LoBuglio, Carolyn  
Rose, Herb  
Stein, Richard

\*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.

**Recognition of USMC Birthday**

The Chair noted that today is the Marine Corps Birthday and called upon Member Watts. Watts explained that the United States Marine Corps began 246 years ago with the formation of two battalions of Marines on November 10, 1775 in Philadelphia. Every November 10 the Marine Corps celebrates its birthday with a formal ball at Marine bases worldwide.

**Approval of Minutes**

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the draft October 2021 Minutes were approved as drafted.

**Chair Announcements** The Chair announced that BCC will resume in-person meetings beginning January 12, 2022 at the Brentwood Presbyterian Church, 12000 San Vicente Blvd.

The Chair next reminded all of the need to take extra precautions with packages and mail during the holiday season, including having the USPS rekey mailboxes in multi-family buildings and for single family residences don not raise the mailbox red flag, use alternate pick up locations such as the Amazon lockers at Whole Foods.

The Chair stated the November Shining Star recipient, Ronnie Krokal, could not attend because she was busy with the work she does that resulted in the award-wildlife rehab and animal rescue. The chair said Ronnie has two lovely dogs looking for good homes and to please consider adopting them.

The Chari urged anyone with information relating to the hit and run fatality on November 4, 2021 at the intersection of Sunset Blvd. and Allenford Ave. to contact the LAPD West traffic Division.

## **Homelessness Task Force - San Vicente Encampment**

The Chair announced that the VA has provided space and services for all veterans formerly living on the sidewalk outside the WLA VA Campus on San Vicente Blvd. She expressed gratitude for the many individuals and entities involved in bringing this about, including the LA County Sheriff, Lieutenants Deedrick, Kitchin, and Nagelmann, the LASD HOST Division, LAPD, SLO Kirk, VA Secretary McDonough, the WLA VA Staff (Matt McGahran, Steve Braverman, Robert McKendrick, Step Up on Second, US Vets, the Salvation Army, LAHSA, the DMV, Village for Vets, and the many others, including residents and stakeholders of Brentwood who helped solve the crisis.

The Chair next recognized Lt. Kitchin of LASD HOST to discuss the project and follow-up questions. Lt. Kitchin stressed that the program's success can be attributed to the close collaboration throughout by the various public agencies, federal, state, county and municipal working together to find a solution for the veterans on the sidewalk. The LASD and its HOST team will continue to monitor the situation and Lt. Kitchin is confident there are plans and methods in place so that veterans will have alternatives that will avoid a recurrence of the encampment.

The Chair called next upon Matthew McGahran Chief of the WLA VA CERS program. Mr. McGahran assured that WLA VA is striving to provide a 24/7 veteran intake program. The major obstacle is finding sufficient staffing personnel. On November 1, 2021 veterans and spouses still living on the sidewalk moved on-site (20+2 spouses); went to hospital for needed treatment (5); two declined services and left the area, but one returned with spouse and accepted services. He explained that many veterans are unaware of the housing options that are available. For this reason, the VA is offering to take veterans on tours of available community housing. Regarding the tiny housing on the VA campus, the priorities are first disabled and female veterans. He said veterans are free to leave the campus, but also reminded all that the WLA VA offers a variety of all-day programming for veterans, including recreation and job training classes.

The Chair next briefly reviewed the tiny transitional housing now available on the WLA VA Campus.

### **LAMC 41.18 Update**

The Chair recognized Dep. City Atty. De La Cruz who reviewed LAMC 41.18 for the BCC Board. Ms. De La Cruz first noted section 41.18 is essentially an accessibility ordinance. Moreover, she said portions of 41.18 are not new, but reflect law pre-existing this year's adoption of the revised 4.18.

Sub-sections (a) & (b) of the revised LAMC 41.18 s are not new and can be enforced now throughout the City by the LAPD without further action by the City Council. Subsection (c) has some new provisions. Under (c) (1) the City Council may designate a School, Day Care Center, Public Park, or Public Library, to be a sensitive use and not allow a person to sit, lie, sleep, or store, use, maintain, or place personal property upon any street, sidewalk, or other public right-of-way within the distance stated on posted signage (up to a maximum of 500 feet) from the sensitive use property. Subsection (c)(2) is similar to (c)(10), except allows the City Council to impose the up to 500 feet prohibition to a designated overpass, underpass, freeway ramp, tunnel, bridge, pedestrian bridge, subway, wash, spreading ground, or active railway, where the City Council determines, in the designating resolution, that the public health, safety, or welfare is served by the prohibition, including, without limitation, by finding that sleeping or lodging within the stated proximity to the designated area is unhealthy, unsafe, or incompatible with safe passage or upon any street, sidewalk, or other public right-of-way. Subsection 41.18 (c) (3) allows the prohibition to extend to up to a maximum of 1,000 feet from a designated facility, opened after January 1, 2018, that provides shelter, safe sleeping, or safe parking to homeless persons, or that serves as a homeless services navigation center. Finally, under 41.18 (d) the City

Council under certain circumstance may extend to prohibition to a section of street, sidewalk, or other public right-of-way. To do so, the City Council must determine, based on specific documentation, that the circumstances of continued sitting, sleeping, lying, storing personal property, or otherwise obstructing the public right-of-way at that location poses a particular and ongoing threat to public health or safety. Such circumstances may include, but are not limited to: (i) the death or serious bodily injury of any person at the location due to a hazardous condition; (ii) repeated serious or violent crimes, including human trafficking, at the location; or (iii) the occurrence of fires that resulted in a fire department response to the location. For each such location, a prohibition pursuant to this subdivision shall be effective for a period of time specified in the resolution, but not to exceed one year.

Ms De La Cruz stated a person cannot violate any prohibition under 41.18 (c) until: 1. City Council has adopted the appropriate resolution; 2. The City has posted adequate signage at the designated area or areas; and 4. 14 calendar days have elapsed from date signage is posted. She also so explained that violations of 41.18 do not constitute a crime punishable as a misdemeanor unless a person willfully resists, delays, or obstructs a City employee from enforcing this section or who willfully refuses to comply after being requested to do so by an authorized City employee.

The Chair next asked Noah Fleishman from CD 11 whether the Councilman has introduced any motion under the revised section 41.18. Mr. Fleischman explained that Councilman Bonin wants the City Council to adopt a housing now motion. He indicates Councilman Bonin is unlikely to submit a motion under 41.18 until such time as the City can offer appropriate short and long term housing to those who are without housing.

**LAPD Crime Update:** Matt Kirk LAPD Senior Lead Officer for Brentwood ([34713@lapd.online](mailto:34713@lapd.online)) and at 310 444 0744.

He reminded people when looking at the YTD crime figures for Brentwood compared to YTD to keep in mind that Brentwood is an extremely low crime community and there even a small change in the raw number of crimes can result in significant swing from a percentage perspective. For example the 66.7% increase in robberies in Brentwood during 2021 over 2020 was the result of simply 4 more robberies this year. He said the 25.9% increase in grand theft auto resulted from 14 additional thefts, one of which was a golf cart. There don't seem to be as many thefts involving cars parked on the street with keys left in the car. Recently this has primarily involved multi-family housing where due to tandem parking, people may leave their keys in their car.

### **Community Safety Alert**

The chair recognized Pam Brown who reported on a very successful community awareness program during which BCC and SBRA distributed informative flyers throughout the South Brentwood Community. It was so successful it will be repeated in other areas of Brentwood. SLO Kirk asked to be alerted in advance as he would like to participate next time.

**Environmental Committee** Member Freedman gave a short update on the popular Barn Owl Nest Program. The next will seek to place barn owl nest in public locations, such as schools, libraries and parks.

**Transportation update.** The Chair next asked Transportation Chair Doris Goldstein to give a report. Member Goldstein announced the Metro Micro Bus on-demand program will be expanding to include large parts of Brentwood east on Bundy Ave., Westwood, and West LA. Member Goldstein asked her alternate Lauren Deaderick to describe the City's Sidewalk and Transit Amenities Program (STAP). Member Deaderick explained this is a StreetsLA project the will replace and upgrade existing transit shelters and amenities upon the expiration of the current street furniture contract on December 31, 2021. This a citywide project that will be funded through advertising revenue from digital displays. Since it is citywide, there was not assessment made concerning impacts the project may have on any specific location. In view of this the committee's

recommendation is that the BCC defer any comments on STAP until such time as the approval process begins for sites located in Brentwood. With respect to Brentwood, except for 4 locations(Barrington/Chayote, Barrington/Barrington Pl, Barrington/Wilshire and Wilshire. Bundy) to be upgraded in year one of STAP, remaining Brentwood locations aren't scheduled until year three of STAP.

#### **LAFD Drone Team Demonstration ‘**

The Chair recognized Member Gary Tenzer to report on the recent demonstration by LAFD of its Drone Team. Member Tenzer explained all Drone Team pilots are experienced LAFD fixed wing and/or helicopter pilots and licensed by the FAA. He further explained that drones have multiple uses: wildfire, swift water rescues, urban search and rescue, chemical spills, lost or injured hikers, high rise fires and crowd surveillance.

Drones can also help identify high risk areas in advance of a wildfire and pre-map potential burn areas. During wildfires they can coordinate with manned aircraft, map boundaries of fire and hot spots, and direct water drops and ground resources. Following a fire they can identify and map hot spots and direct ground crews to them.

He briefly described the two types of drones and their capabilities and limitations. The primary limitation comes from lack of adequate funding to support more than one drone team. Member Tenzer's personal recommendation is that the BCC urge Councilman Bonin to support the LAFD's funding requests for an expanded drone program when the matter comes before the City Council.

Member Watts at this point assumed the Chair for the remainder of the meeting and he recognized Member Edmunds of the Brentwood Hills HOA to tell its story.

Member Edmunds explained that the Brentwood Hills area was developed beginning in the early 1960's by Art Linkletter. It is a community of approximately 450 homes located on the ridge between Mandeville and Sullivan Canyons. He explained that BHHOA has been very involved with and follows closely the activities of the BCC. It has also been in the forefront of preserving open space and parklands by opposing projects such as the proposed Bachmann development at the terminus of Westridge Road, which enabled the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy to acquire to property. He explained that BHHOA also took the lead opposing the Castle & Cooke project on land now owned by Berggruen and was able to preserve about 480 acres of open space and trails.

**Public Comment** There were none.

The Chair next entertained a motion to adjourn and at about 9:15 a motion to adjourn was duly made, seconded and adopted.

Additional public comments or suggestions may be submitted to: [info@brentwoodcommunitycouncil.org](mailto:info@brentwoodcommunitycouncil.org)

**Next meeting :** December 8, 2021 via Zoom.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Watts  
Secretary