

Approved 5/12/21 BCC Meeting
MINUTES OF THE BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING
Zoom Session
Wednesday, April 14, 2021

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair M. Bisnoff called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

Council members present introduced themselves and their representative capacities:

REPRESENTATIVES

Abramson, Daniel
Alkov, Georgia
Aronson, Michele
Binder, John
Bisnoff, Michelle
Brown, Pamela
Dohrmann, Barbara
Goldstein, Doris
Jordan, Carolyn
Klein, Raymond
Krell, Marylin
Rosen, Jacqui
Simmons, Sheila
Stein, Richard

Tenzer, Gary
Watts, Larry
Yoshimaru, Gennifer

ALTERNATES

Adomian, Jerry
Arbour, Elyse
Chapgier, Flo
Freedman, Nancy
Haley, John
Hulett, Judie
Lo Buglio, Carolyn
Rose, Herb

*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 – Deferred.

Moment of Gratitude: BCC Food Drive Results – Pam Brown & Sheila Simmons
800 Lbs- enough to feed 300 people for a month. Huge success with great help from
Honorary Mayor Kathleen O'Hara

Skirball & Getty soon to re-open.

PUBLIC SAFETY – Matt Kirk, Senior Lead Officer 34713@lapd.online

Total violent crime significantly up from 4 to 8, mostly due to recent domestic abuse and one involving a homeless individual, while burglaries actually down, jewelry items are the primary property taken.

Solar cameras are coming in, facilitated by BCC in uppermost locations where crime may have taken place

GOVERNMENT REPORTS –

Homelessness

LASD Crime Update : Lt. Nagelman, LASD denagelm@lasd.org

San Vicente encampment homicide investigation is ongoing. LASD is also addressing road hazards, arson, bike and other thefts and drug paraphernalia. The cone issue seems to get better as homeless seem to be policing each other better.

Restriping the sidewalk will be done when a complete clean occurs, which has been delayed due to the COVID crisis. LASD works with the VA and other service providers and it hopeful progress will continue. During comprehensive clean-up will also seek cooperation in getting smaller tents that take up less space on the sidewalk. A LASD patrol usually visits the encampment daily, sometimes twice daily. Often LAPD takes calls before the Sheriff arrives at site.

There have been several arrests for narcotics violations, but can only make violations are observed on County sidewalk.

Janet Turner, representative for Congressman Ted Lieu Re : Outreach Results to

Encampment : There are currently 49 Veterans living on San Vicente, 11 have declined services, 5 are not eligible for VA healthcare services, 4 have received housing vouchers, 2 are not veterans, 7 have expressed interest but to date have not received services. 24 veterans are being treated by VA doctors. janet.turner@mail.house.gov

The VA does outreach to the encampment each Tuesday and Friday and it is visited daily by a VA representative.

There is no current waiting lists and these openings for these homeless programs:

66 openings at CTRS/Safe Camping

26 openings at Bridge Shelter

88 Openings at Domiciliary

Homeless Motions

1. The chair next called for a discussion of **Council File 21-0350 (Bonin) Use of Public Beaches and Parks and a proposed motion to oppose it unless it is amended**

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1IjMsd2vKDmTWLzyoG000I5WWArCVhds08weOL0laM/edit>

After board discussion, the Chair invited public comments:

A resident of Venice Beach expressed opposition to use of public parks as proposed in Bonin motion, making them possibly unsafe. The speaker stated promises of improving public safety and reducing crime have not been fulfilled in Venice. There were other comments supporting the BCC motion.

Thereupon the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

2. The chair next called discussion of the proposed motion to oppose the **Council File 21-0031 Voluntary Sanitary Cleanup unless it is amended to continue with mandatory sidewalk cleaning.**

The Chair next asked for Public Comments and a Venice Beach resident stated voluntary clean up doesn't work and mandatory cleanup is far better.

Thereupon the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

Homelessness- Special Guest Speakers

The chair next called upon the Rev. Andy Bales, CEO, Union Rescue

He said a major problem is that LA City and LA County prohibit recipients of grants to aid the homeless from taking actions to reduce the use of drugs and alcohol at shelters and missions.

Rev. Bales would have sought funding for a building to house families but neither the City nor the County would waive this policy for the building. As a result Union Rescue Mission relies solely upon private funds.

A better solution to large building which take a long time to construct, would be the establishment of many small units such as brand new mobile homes.

The Chair next invited Mayor Claudia Bill de la Pena Thousand Oaks to address the BCC. She noted VCSD has assigned two deputies to help serve the vulnerable homeless population. Forward thinking is needed to comply with *Boise* decision and with the public's desire to reduce homelessness on the street.

Deputy Cordova : Following the *Boise* decision, because 1000 Oaks has not yet a homeless shelter, homeless persons in the City were given a time frame between 10 pm and 6 am to rest and then directed to leave so sidewalks are free during the day, when street camping is prohibited. Other policies were to not provide direct assistance but provide help through approved program and a public education campaign. Flyers urged the public not to give to panhandlers but to organization with programs giving services to homeless.

BCC Homelessness Task Force The Chair recognized Carolyn Jordan who discussed the background of the Task Force First Draft of Comprehensive Motion
https://drive.google.com/file/d/199Ckcnwcoo_z0-IYJzkGr0HMiZ89z2lk/view

The 2020 homeless population in Brentwood was about 2023.

The BCC web site has slides explaining the work of the BCC homelessness task force.

The BCC is focusing on the more prevalent factors contributing to homelessness: mental illness, addiction and PTSD.

BCC supports increased mental health/substance abuse treatment facilities, legislation to relax W&I Code sec. 5150 hold rules.

Those providing services to the homeless say a carrot and stick approach is necessary.

Teaching the community how to donate to services, not to panhandlers,, but to programs like Project Roomkey for Vets.

The focus of measure H and HHH should change to providing small units as described by Rev Andy Bales.

There will be a Public Webinar April 19 2-3:30 details can be found on the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiatives website.

No action was taken on the draft motion which will be considered at May meeting.

Elected Official Updates : Zac Gaidzik for Supervisor Sheila Kuehl reported the County has been doing clean up and offered help to relocate homeless people from the San Vicente Sidewalk. Comments from the Board and public comments expressed disbelief with the lack of progress made by the county.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Civic and Cultural Affairs – Sheila Simmons

Motions :

Council File 09-0969-S3 (City Planning)

BCC supports WRAC motion re SB 15.

Thereupon the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions

BCC motion to support WRAC position opposing the City Planning CAO suggested Appeal Fee Increase to \$16,097.

Thereupon the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

BCC Motion Supporting WARC Motion regarding Affordable Housing State Bills : SB15& SCA2
Thereupon the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions

Motion re Council file 21-0063 to use City property for use for affordable housing.

Thereupon the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions

Motion re Council file 21-0040 changing design standards for temporary homeless shelters.

Thereupon the motion passed unanimously with no abstentions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Wendy Sue Rosen noted it is important to not criminalize the homeless population.

ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting was adjourned at about 9:31 p.m.

NEXT BCC MEETING: Scheduled for Wednesday, May 12, 2020.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Watts, Secretary