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CALIFORNIA

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GENERAL MANAGER

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MINUTES

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS  
REGULAR MEETING

MONDAY, APRIL 18, 2011 – 11:30 A.M.

CITY HALL, 10<sup>th</sup> FLOOR CONFERENCE CENTER  
ROOM 1060, 200 NORTH SPRING STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Albert Abrams, President  
Esther Cepeda-Hatch  
Carlene Davis  
John Kim  
Linda Lucks

ABSENT

Daniel Gatica  
Karen Mack

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

BongHwan Kim, General Manager  
Leyla Campos, Senior Project Coordinator  
Grayce Liu, Senior Project Coordinator  
Janet Lindo, Executive Administrative Assistant

CITY ATTORNEY REPRESENTATIVE

Carmen Hawkins, Deputy City Attorney

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

**ACTION: President Abrams gave the introduction.**

2. Call to Order and Commission roll call. (1 minute)

**ACTION: President Abrams called the meeting to order at 11:39 am. Commission roll was called by Executive Administrative Assistant, Janet Lindo.**

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 5, 2011. (3 minutes)

**ACTION: Commissioner Lucks moved that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of April 5, 2011, be approved as written. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Kim.**

**Vote: Ayes - 5, Nays - 0**

**Motion passes unanimously.**

4. General Public Comments - Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. This agenda item will last a total of 15 minutes and no individual speaker will be allowed more than two minutes. (15 minutes)

**ACTION: Public comments were received from:**

Manny Aldana – board member on Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council – voted against the new recommended bylaw changes. Concerned about board member removal procedures.

Manuel Aldana – wants to complain about being interrupted or threatened during public comment.

Betty Bryant - Mid City Neighborhood Council adopted the area bound by La Cienega, Venice, Washington Boulevard and 10 freeway.

Allan DiCastro – re: orphan area conflict with South Robertson Neighborhood Council (SORO) – both want to adopt. Mid City Neighborhood Council (MINC) adopted area roughly bounded by La Cienega, Venice, Washington Boulevard and 10 freeway last March 2010.

Shawn Simons – wants more freedom to be involved without City Council involvement.

Ivan Spiegel – informed the Commission about the September 16, 2011, Neighborhood Council Congress – “How You Can Become More Effective in City Government.”

Barbara Thompson – Mid City Neighborhood Council wants to adopt the orphan area.

Thom Washington – Mid City Neighborhood Council wants to adopt the orphan area.

5. Verbal update from a representative of the Office of the Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, Neighborhood and Community Services. (10 minutes)

**ACTION: None.**

6. General Manager's Report (10 minutes)

1. Briefing on Departmental activities
2. Staffing, budget and other operational matters.
3. Congress of Neighborhoods Update
4. Funding Update

**ACTION: General Manager, BongHwan Kim, provided an update on Departmental activities.**

7. Review and discussion regarding a report prepared by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment of its goals and objectives for the 2011 Fiscal Year. (10 minutes) (Click on the link to view a copy of the report.)

[http://done.lacity.org/dnn/portals/0/documents//LEARN/About\\_NCs/2010-11\\_Dept\\_Priorities\\_Metrics.pdf](http://done.lacity.org/dnn/portals/0/documents//LEARN/About_NCs/2010-11_Dept_Priorities_Metrics.pdf).

**ACTION: None.**

**Public comment received from:**

Glen Bailey – commending the Department for its report – dashboard overview – likes their engagement. (Commission President requested that he place his comments in a letter).

8. **PUBLIC HEARING:** Determination regarding the bylaw amendment application filed by Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council requesting changes to their Board structure. (10 minutes)

**ACTION: Taken out of order before Item No. 7.**

**Commissioner Abrams moved that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners find the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council's requests to change their Board structure from thirty-five (35) to twenty-three (23) Board seats, to reduce their quorum from fifteen (15) to thirteen (13) and to change all Board seats to At-Large seats are consistent with the principles governing a Certified Neighborhood Council's purpose and operations per Article VI, Section 3c of the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils; and APPROVE the following change to the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council's bylaws (as indicated by strikethroughs and italics) as provided (see attached report).**

**Motion seconded by Commissioner Cepeda-Hatch.**

**Vote: Ayes – 5, Nays - 0**

**Motion passes unanimously.**

**Public comments were received from:**

Manny Aldana - board member on Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council – voted against the new recommended bylaw changes. Concerned about board member removal procedures.

Margarita Amador – on the board – wants changes in the bylaws – will make them more efficient – strong relationship with their councilmember.

Vera del Pozo – wants approval of bylaws change.

Rocio Gandara – newly selected Neighborhood Council board member – wants approval of bylaw changes.

Velvet Holquin – new board member – six months – doing their best to represent Boyle Heights.

Teresa Marquez – stakeholder – serving as bylaws chair – uncomfortable with 23 board members wants the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council to continue nonetheless.

William Morrison – wants elimination of the executive board of the Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council.

Ivan Spiegel – helped with the bylaws changes.

9. Discussion regarding the Education and Neighborhoods Committee, Special Joint Meeting with the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, held on March 23, 2011, including an update on the future administration of Neighborhood Council elections by the City Clerk. (20 minutes)

**ACTION: None.**

**Public comment received from:**

Ivan Spiegel – wants the BONC to set up grievance system before any elections.

10. Discussion regarding the term "factual basis stakeholders" under the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils, including a discussion on changing the stakeholder definition in the Plan that could impact the participation of factual basis stakeholders in the Neighborhood Council system. Stakeholders are currently defined as: any individual who lives, works, or owns property in the neighborhood and any individual who declares a stake in the neighborhood and affirms the factual basis for it. (15 minutes)

**ACTION: None.**

**Public comment received from:**

Ivan Spiegel – City Council made a mistake in explaining the original definition, but not sure asking them to get involved is a good idea.

- 11 Discussion and possible action regarding a recommendation to Neighborhood Councils to consider revising their bylaws to include a provision whereby a minimum of one seat or ten percent of the membership of each Neighborhood Council will include a seat reserved for factual basis stakeholder. (15 minutes)

**ACTION: None.**

**Public comment received from:**

Glenn Bailey – Encino Neighborhood Council changed their bylaws for factual basis stakeholders.

Allan DiCastro – We were told there was no need for application. Still unclear although we have an email now (dated 03/15/2011) that has an application packet therein. That is our stake in the ground in so far as receiving a packet on adoption process.

Ivan Spiegel – likes the idea of BONC requesting changes in bylaws for seat set aside for factual basis stakeholders.

12. Commission Business - Comments from Commissioners on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction. (20 minutes)
  1. Comment on Commissioners' own activities/brief announcements.
  2. Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights/ask staff questions for clarification.
  3. Introduce new issues for consideration by the Commission at its next meeting and direct staff to place on the agenda.
  4. Ask staff to research issues and report back to the Commission at a future time.

**ACTION: Comments were received from Commissioners Abrams, Davis, and Lucks.**

13. General Public Comments - Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction. This agenda item will last a total of 15

minutes and no individual speaker will be allowed more than two minutes. (15 minutes)

**ACTION: None.**

**Public comment received from:**

Allan DiCastro – In general favor of “factual basis stakeholder” as approved by City council. Agree with recommendation.

14. Adjourn

**ACTION: President Abrams adjourned the meeting at 2:00 pm.**

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