

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

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GRAYCE LIU
GENERAL MANAGER

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MINUTES

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2015 – 6:00 P.M.

**COUNCIL DISTRICT NINE FIELD OFFICE
4301 SOUTH CENTRAL AVENUE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90011**

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Karen Mack, President
Leonard Shaffer, Vice President
Joy Atkinson
Lydia Grant
Eli Lipmen
Olivia Rubio

ABSENT

Victor Medina

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

Grayce Liu, General Manager
Jeff Brill, Senior Management Analyst II
Leyla Campos, Senior Project Coordinator
Taneda Larios, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate
Janet Lindo, Executive Administrative Assistant

CITY ATTORNEY REPRESENTATIVE

Carmen Hawkins, Deputy City Attorney

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

ACTION: Vice President Shaffer gave the introduction.

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

ACTION: Vice President Shaffer called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. Commission roll was called by Janet Lindo. Commission President Mack arrived at 8:20 p.m.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 12, 2015. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document.) (3 minutes)

http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/01-12-15_draft_SPECIAL-MEETING-MINUTES.pdf

ACTION: Commissioner Atkinson moved that the Minutes of the Special meeting of January 12, 2015, be accepted. Commissioner Grant seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes	<u>5</u>	(Atkinson, Grant, Lipmen, Rubio, Shaffer)
Nays	<u>0</u>	
Abstention	<u>0</u>	
Absent	<u>2</u>	(Mack, Medina)
TOTAL	<u>7</u>	

Motion Carries X
Fails _____

4. Verbal updates from representatives of the Mayor and Los Angeles City Council. (10 minutes)

ACTION: This agenda item taken out of order, after agenda item no. 7. Councilmember Curren D. Price, Jr., welcomed everyone to Council District 9 and spoke in support of certifying the Zapata-King Neighborhood Council.

5. 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 three minutes. (15 minutes)

Public comment received from:

Yolanda Gonzalez, wish to have BONC respond on Carlos Montes grievance and complaints as President of Boyle Heights Neighborhood Council.

6. General Manager's Report. (10 minutes)
1. Briefing on Departmental activities.
 2. Staffing, budget and other operational matters.
 3. Update on Funding Program with recommendations to separate the Congress and Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates account.

ACTION: Grayce Liu, gave her General Manager's Report.

- **Budget and staffing – we are still currently waiting any movement on our exempt positions.**
- **Funding – we have currently 70% compliance with our Monthly Expenditure Reports. Next Friday, the 13th we will be assigning those Neighborhood Councils**

who have not been able to turn in their Monthly Expenditure Reports temporary staffing at their cost in order to bring them up to speed with those reports.

- We will be presenting a request to Education and Neighborhoods Committee this month that will ask them to take the current funding for Congress and Budget Advocates and split the account and cap each of the account at \$100,000.
- Also for Funding, we released new forms last week.
- Coming up we will be providing the end of the year deadlines for closing out the fiscal year.
- The budget package for next fiscal year will also be going out at the end of this month so that Neighborhood Councils will have time to submit their budget package for next fiscal year before it actually starts.
- Communications-website-I did send an email out with the expectation that we were going to launch out Beta website yesterday. Unfortunately because of some glitches at our Department in terms of our Internet service last week we will be launching at little later this week.
- Field – we’re continuing to provide field support. The big news is the Zapata-King Neighborhood Application.

7. Discussion and possible action by the Commission approving Resolutions to enter into contracts and delegate to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment the ability to finalize and execute the following contracts on behalf of the Commission:

Personal Services Agreements for Website Design, Website Maintenance and Website Training namely:

- BitSift Networks
- Civic Resource Group
- EnderTech
- KWALL
- Moore Business Results
- Port Town Websites
- The Cherry Hill Group
- The Mailroom
- The Web Corner
- ZELDESIGN

(Click on the link to view a copy of the document.) 20 minutes

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Memo-to-BONC-Request-for-Contract-Approval-for-Website-Design-Website-Maintenance-and-Website-Training-0127151.pdf>

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Memo-to-BONC-Request-for-Contract-Approval-for-Website-Design-Website-Maintenance-and-Website-Training-012715.pdf>

http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/BitSift-Networks-Contract_DONE-013015.pdf

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Civic-Resource-Group-Contract-DONEt-013015.pdf>

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/EnderTech-Contract-DONE-013015.pdf>

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/KWALL-Contract-DONE-013015.pdf>

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Moore-Business-Results-Contract-DONE-013015.pdf>

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Port-Town-Websites-Contract-DONE-013015.pdf>

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/The-Cherry-Hill-Group-website-contract-DONE-01-30-15.pdf>

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/The-Mailroom-Contract-DONE-013015.pdf>

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/The-Web-Corner-Contract-DONE-013015.pdf>

<http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/ZelDesign-Contract-DONE-013015.pdf>

ACTION: Commissioner Atkinson moved that we approve and authorize the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) to execute the personal services agreements with the following ten consultants to provide website design, website maintenance and website training for the Department and Neighborhood Councils:

- BitSift Networks
- Civic Resource Group
- EnderTech
- KWALL
- Moore Business Results
- Port Town Websites
- The Cherry Hill Group
- The Mailroom
- The Web Corner
- ZELDESIGN

And that (b) we authorize the General Manager of DONE or designee to execute and make any necessary technical adjustments and corrections consistent with the Mayor and City Council instructions related to the matter subject to the approval of the City Administrative Officer and authorize the City Controller to implement these instructions and also move that the proposed contracts are for a period of three years each commencing upon the date of the City Clerk attestation. The total contract amount with the vendors will vary depending on the size of the individual Neighborhood Council. Commissioner Grant seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes	<u>5</u> (Atkinson, Grant, Lipmen, Rubio, Shaffer)
Nays	<u>0</u>
Abstention	<u>0</u>
Absent	<u>2</u> (Mack, Medina)
TOTAL	<u>7</u>

Motion Carries **X**
Fails

Public comment received from:

Cindy Cleghorn, we've transitioned into using one of the contractors that's on the list and I just wanted to express our gratitude for that transition.

8. **PUBLIC HEARING** and determination regarding the Application for Neighborhood Council Certification submitted by Zapata King Neighborhood Council, File No. 14-114. (60 minutes)
http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Zapata-King-NC_Staff-Report_bylaws-01-30-14.pdf
http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Zapata-King-Certification_FINALreport_memo_01-30-15.pdf

ACTION: Regarding the Zapata-King Neighborhood Council, Certification Application, File No. 14-114, Commissioner Atkinson moved that the Commission take action by:

1. **ADOPTING** the findings contained in the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment's Evaluation of the Certification Application report, dated January 30, 2015, for the Zapata King Neighborhood Council.
2. **FIND** that the boundaries meet the criteria set forth in the Plan and **APPROVED** the final staff boundary determination as:
 - **North:** South side of Martin Luther King Boulevard, between Central Avenue on the East, continuing West to the 110 Freeway;
 - **East:** West side of Central Avenue between Martin Luther King Boulevard on the North and Slauson Avenue on the South;
 - **South:** North side of Slauson Avenue, between Central Avenue on the East, continuing West to the 110 Freeway;
 - **West:** East side of the 110 Freeway between Martin Luther King Boulevard on the North and Slauson Avenue on the South.
3. **FIND** that the boundaries satisfy the criteria stated in the Plan, including that the boundaries contain a minimum population size of 20,000 stakeholders, that the boundaries follow historic and contemporary community and neighborhood borders, and that the area is geographically compact and contiguous.
4. **FIND** that though the Applicant has satisfied the outreach criteria including the collection of 266 original unique signatures as set forth in Article III section 2(b) of the Plan, there are additional efforts that should be made to continue ongoing outreach efforts as detailed and recommended in the Department's Evaluation of Certification Application report.

5. **FIND** that the applicant has satisfied the governing structure for a Neighborhood Council's proposed board as set forth in Article III section 2(c) (ii) (s) of the Plan.
6. **FIND** that based on the reports presented by the Department to the Commission and any additional evidence presented during the public hearing that the Applicant satisfies the criteria set forth in the Plan and Los Angeles Administrative Code section 22.810.1(b).
7. **CERTIFY** the Applicant as a Los Angeles City Neighborhood Council, thereby approving the application.

Commissioner Grant seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes	<u>5</u>	(Atkinson, Grant, Lipmen, Rubio, Shaffer)
Nays	<u>0</u>	
Abstention	<u>0</u>	
Absent	<u>2</u>	(Mack, Medina)
TOTAL	<u>7</u>	

Motion Carries	<u>X</u>
Fails	<u> </u>

Public comment received from:

Sonia J. Brown, asking that the council please approve Zapata-King Neighborhood Council.

Joy Enix, representing SLAANC and the ECSWNDC, we look forward to you guys certifying Zapata-King.

Esther Glaze, representing both SLAANC and CANN DU Neighborhood Council. We are in favor of Zapata-King. We're looking forward to working with them once you certify them.

Yolanda Gonzalez, protests the name Zapata-King, will turn in personal letter and documentation on the name Zapata.

Marian Sunde, it's thrilling to see a Neighborhood Council come into being.

Pedro Tavera, this council is going to give us more resources, it's going to give us a lot more to work with. It's going to educate not only the students, but that way we can educate our parents.

9. Commission Committee Report. (5 minutes)
 1. Ad Hoc Committee re Outreach (Members: Atkinson-Chair, Mack, and Rubio)

ACTION: None.

10. Discussion by the Commission identifying outstanding policy recommendations from the Regional Panels, e.g., subdivision of Neighborhood Councils, prioritization of the policies that should be addressed by City Council and possible action approving a letter on these policies and their priorities to the Education and Neighborhoods Committee and City Council. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document.) (10 minutes)

http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Working-Group-17-motions_.pdf

ACTION: Commissioner Shaffer moved to send a letter in this general form with possible priorities and the recommendation that the Committee take action with regards to each one. Commissioner Lipmen seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes	<u>6</u>	(Atkinson, Grant, Lipmen, Mack, Rubio, Shaffer)
Nays	<u>0</u>	
Abstention	<u>0</u>	
Absent	<u>1</u>	(Medina)
TOTAL	<u>7</u>	

Motion Carries X
Fails _____

Public comment received from:

Charles Lindenblatt, Mid City West Community Council, these are pretty good ideas. I particularly support no. 6, allowing city agenda to have the full text of community impact statements and I also like the idea of giving five minutes to official Neighborhood Council designees.

11. Discussion regarding the proposed ordinance that establishes Neighborhood Council Regional Grievance Panels (CF 15-0067). Possible action by the Commission includes but is not limited to taking a position with respect to the proposed ordinance and/or making suggestions or recommendations regarding the proposed ordinance and possible action approving a draft letter to be sent to the Education and Neighborhoods Committee and City Council on this matter. (10 minutes)

<http://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=15-0067>

ACTION: None.

Public comment received from:

Darlene Atkins, Budget Advocate, does this ordinance apply to the Budget Advocates?

Charles Lindenblatt, I think the ordinance is a great step forward.

12. Discussion and possible action relation to the distribution of February Commission Newsletter. (15 minutes)

ACTION: Commissioner Lipmen made a motion to distribute the February Commission Newsletter with inclusion of Zapata-King, with inclusion of details on how to sign up for the leadership training and to provide feedback on the regional grievance process. Commissioner Grant seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes	<u>6</u> (Atkinson, Grant, Lipmen, Mack, Rubio, Shaffer)
Nays	<u>0</u>
Abstention	<u>0</u>
Absent	<u>1</u> (Medina)
TOTAL	<u>7</u>

Motion Carries X
Fails _____

13. Commission Business - Comment from Commissioners on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction. (15 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: None.

14. 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 three minutes. (15 minutes)

ACTION: Public comment received from:

Darlene Atkins, I would still like to know the roles and responsibilities of the Department with the Budget Advocates. Also, my Neighborhood Council currently does not have a quorum, one of our board members is out on maternity leave, we would like to know if we could have a short quorum or what can the Commission do for us that can allow us to conduct business? I would still like to get some clear cut lines on the Budget Advocates and the roles and responsibilities of the Department. It's just unclear on how they conduct business, it's unethical at times, it's inappropriate and I feel I have been discriminated against racially and economically.

Joy Enix, my concern is as a SLAANC member is that the complaints are that we join these committees whether we're Budget Advocates or the survey that you got the 17 different suggestions that you guys have from Neighborhood Councils and if you're new you are disrespected because you walk in with this cabal of people that have been together, they're friends so I haven't faced racial discrimination, but I have been disrespected and I think that it is your responsibility, especially if they're receiving tax

payers funding, then maybe we need to separate and do our own Budget Advocates in the South or take it to the E&N because there is a reason South LA is not participating because they are not feeling welcomed. It's something you guys need to look into.

Esther Glaze, I'm representing SLAANC right now, one of the things that is troubling to us is the fact that we have Budget Advocates who come and tell us that they are being taunted as though to say they might be put off and I thought these were people that we elected so I don't know if they could just be put off being Budget Advocates for us.

Danielle Lafayette, Chair, Empowerment Congress West Area Neighborhood Development Council, Congress of Neighborhoods, I just want to know when the meetings are because I don't receive anything for those meetings and how can we get involved in South LA?

On the same note, I'm a Budget Advocate, South LA, this is my second year. I do enjoy being a Budget Advocate. I do agree that I think that there should be something that connects because it is called the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates. If it is the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates then there should be something in place from the Commission to regulate it a little bit because like she said there is a lot of racial discrimination and a lot of economic discrimination as far as us being from South LA and trying to participate and then it is really controlled from outside of Neighborhood Councils.

15. Adjourn

ACTION: At 9:39 p.m., Commissioner Lipmen moved that the meeting be adjourned in honor of long time City Hall reporter, Rick Orlov. Commissioner Shaffer seconded the motion.

VOTE:

Ayes	<u>6</u>	(Atkinson, Grant, Lipmen, Mack, Rubio, Shaffer)
Nays	<u>0</u>	
Abstention	<u>0</u>	
Absent	<u>1</u>	(Medina)
TOTAL	<u>7</u>	

Motion Carries	<u>X</u>
Fails	_____

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