

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

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BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2015 - 6:00 P.M.

VALLEY MUNICIPAL BUILDING, COUNCIL CHAMBERS
14410 SYLVAN STREET, 2ND FLOOR
VAN NUYS, CA 91401

1. Introduction (5 minutes)

The meeting began at 6:30 pm.

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

The meeting was called to order by Commission President Karen Mack.

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Karen Mack
Leonard Shaffer
Joy Atkinson
Lydia Grant
Eli Lipman
Olivia Rubio

ABSENT

Victor Medina

Commissioner Shaffer asked to take Item 11 out of order.

11. **PUBLIC HEARING** - Discussion and possible action on McArthur Park Neighborhood Council's bylaw amendment application request to change their Board structure to convert at-large board seats to sector representation seats, and to limit the number of representatives from a single organization who may serve on

the board. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document)
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/MPNC-Bylaws-Adjustments-Application-2015-completed.pdf>
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/FINAL-MPNC-BSC-BONC-7-7-15.pdf> (5 minutes)

Leyla Campos, Senior Project Coordinator for the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment gave an update of the item.

Shaffer made a motion to table any action because the President of the McArthur Park Neighborhood Council requested this be addressed at the next downtown meeting on July 20, 2015 because it's easier for their board members to attend.

ACTION: Motion to table until the July 20, 2015 meeting

VOTE	Mover	Shaffer	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Grant	X			
Lipmen	X			
Mack	X			
Medina				X
Rubio	X			
Shaffer	X			
Total	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries	x	Fails	

Commissioner Shaffer asked to take Item 13 off the agenda because of staff request to conduct further research. There were 4 speaker cards for this item so Commission President Mack moved it up to hear public comment.

13. **PUBLIC HEARING** - Discussion and possible action on. Arleta Neighborhood Council's bylaw amendment application requesting to modify its boundaries to adopt a currently unincorporated area adjacent to the Neighborhood Council's eastern boundary. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document)
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/07/Final-ANC-BSC-BONC-7-2-15.pdf> (5 minutes)

Public Comment
 Bob Pepperman
 John Hernandez
 Tony Wilkinson:
 Jack Weisenegger
 Glenn Bailey

ACTION: Motion to postpone until special meeting during the week of July 27th or in August if July meeting not possible.

VOTE	Mover	Shaffer	Second	Grant
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Grant	X			
Lipmen	X			
Mack	X			
Medina				X
Rubio	X			
Shaffer	X			
Total	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries	x	Fails	

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of 2/12/15, 2/25/15, 3/16/15, 4/9/15, 5/18/15, 6/4/15 and 6/15/15. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document.)
 (3 minutes) <https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/02-12-15-Commission-Special-Meeting-Minutues.pdf>
https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/02-25-15_FINAL_SPECIAL-Commission-MEETING-MINUTES-AGENDA.pdf
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/march-16-2015-Commission-meeting-minutes.pdf>
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/April-9-2015-Special-Commission-Meeting-Minutes.pdf>
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/may-18-2015-Commission-meeting-minutes.pdf>
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/June-4-2015-Commission-meeting-minutes.pdf>
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/june-15-2015-Commission-meeting-notes.pdf>

Commissioner Rubio had a question about February 25. She did attend that meeting but was late. Commissioner Grant said that she was also in attendance on February 25 but marked absent.

ACTION: Motion to Approve Minutes for February 25th (as amended to show Commissioners Rubio and Grant as present), March 16th, and April 9, 2015

VOTE	Mover	Atkinson	Second	Rubio
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Grant	X			
Lipmen	X			
Mack	X			
Medina				X
Rubio	X			
Shaffer	X			
Total	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries	x	Fails	

Commissioner Grant said that she was marked absent on June 15 but was actually here. Rubio said she found a typographical error in her name on the June 15 minutes.

ACTION: Motion to approve amended minutes for May 18th, June 4th, and June 15, 2015 (as amended to show Commissioner Grant present and with a correction to Commissioner Rubio's name)

VOTE	Mover	Grant	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Grant	X			
Lipmen	X			
Mack	X			
Medina				X
Rubio	X			
Shaffer	X			
Total	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries	x	Fails	

Commissioner Shaffer said there was an issue with February 12th minutes because the vote count did not add up. Staff will research and bring back next meeting.

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

No representative present.

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

Christine Rowe
Sarah Ramsawack
Judith Daniels
Jean Strauber
Nila Arslanian
William Kuzman
Glenn Bailey
Ivan Spiegel
Sharon Brewer
Jay Handal

Commission President Mack called Item 7 out of order.

7. Discussion with various South Valley Neighborhood Council representatives who wish to report concerns, operations, and best practices. Neighborhood Council representatives should complete their questionnaires in advance of the meeting. This matter will last a maximum of 20 minutes and the time will be divided among those representatives wishing to speak. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document.) (20 minutes) <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/11/BEST-PRACTICES-QUESTIONNAIRE.pdf>

Public Comment

Christine Rowe
William Kuzman

6. General Manager's Report. (10 minutes)
 1. Briefing on Departmental activities.
 2. Staffing, budget and other operational matters.

GM Liu explained the exempt position hiring situation. Commissioner Atkinson requested more information on the job positions.

Public Comment

Glenn Bailey
Jay Handal

8. Discussion and possible action on City Council President Herb Wesson's motion CF 15-0524 on Neighborhood Council system issues related to: increasing Neighborhood Council speaking time, language in Community Impact Statements, Neighborhood Council rollover policy, and the Donations ordinance. And the Departments report on this matter. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document) <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/05/Council-President-Herb-Wessons-Motion.pdf> And the Departments report. <https://empowerla.org/wp->

(15 http minutes)

Public Comment

Jay Handal
Ivan Spiegel
Glenn Bailey

Commissioner Shaffer made a motion that the Commission support the report of the Department. Grant seconded. There was disagreement on the various parts of the motion, particularly with whether non-Neighborhood Council Community Councils should get the same speaking rights at City Council as Neighborhood Councils and how much speaking time should be allocated.

ACTION: Motion to table this item until the July 20, 2015 meeting

VOTE	Mover	Grant	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Grant	X			
Lipmen	X			
Mack	X			
Medina				X
Rubio	X			
Shaffer	X			
Total	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries	x	Fails	

9. **PUBLIC HEARING** - Discussion and possible action re: East Hollywood Neighborhood Council's request to modify board structure to increase at-large representation, community sector representation, and update its internal Districts.(Click on the link to view a copy of the document)

<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/East-Hollywood-Board-Structure.pdf>

<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/east-Hollywood-Report.pdf>

(5 minutes)

Leyla Campos made the presentation.

Public Comment

Bob Peppermueller

ACTION: Motion to approve the East Hollywood Neighborhood Council bylaw amendments as presented

VOTE	Mover	Lipman	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Grant	X			
Lipmen	X			
Mack	X			
Medina				X
Rubio	X			
Shaffer	X			
Total	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries	x	Fails	

10. **PUBLIC HEARING** - Discussion and possible action on Van Nuys Neighborhood Council's bylaw amendment application request to modify its boundaries to adopt a currently unincorporated area adjacent to the Neighborhood Council's eastern boundary. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document)

https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/VanNuysNC_latest_20150513.pdf
https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/VanNuysNC_unincorporated_20150513.pdf
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/VNNC.boundaryadjANDbylaws.5.1.15.pdf>
<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/FINAL-VNNC-BAA-BONC-7-7-15.pdf> (5 minutes)

Amber Meshack, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, presented on the adoption of an orphan area to the east of the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council. There was an amendment to the report on the northern boundary description after public comment to clarify that the new northern boundary was to the railroad tracks just south of Saticoy.

Public Comment

Glenn Bailey
 Querino de la Questa
 Audrey Bamber: online comment
 Stephanie Grey: online comment
 Cathy Schreiber
 Tony Wilkinson

ACTION: Motion to approve the Van Nuys Neighborhood Council bylaw amendments with the corrected boundary description.

VOTE	Mover	Lipman	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Grant	X			
Lipmen	X			
Mack	X			
Medina				X
Rubio	X			
Shaffer	X			
Total	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries	x	Fails	

12. **PUBLIC HEARING** - Discussion and possible action on. P.I.C.O. Neighborhood Council's request for a bylaw structure change to reduce board size and eliminate stakeholder category representation seats, including for youth and employees. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document)

<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/PICO-NC-Bylaw-Amendment-Application.pdf>

<https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/03/FINAL-PICO-NC-BSC-BONC-7-7-15.pdf> (5 minutes)

Leyla Campos presented this issue and said that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment is not in agreement with the changes requested. Amber Meshack stated that this is not the appropriate time for this action given the changes to the board.

Public Comment

Ivan Spiegel

Shaffer made a motion that we deny this board change. Atkinson seconded.

ACTION: Motion to deny PICO Neighborhood Council bylaw amendments

VOTE	Mover	Shaffer	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Grant	X			
Lipmen	X			
Mack	X			
Medina				X
Rubio	X			
Shaffer	X			
Total	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries	x	Fails	

14. 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.
 5. Update on 2015 LA Congress of Neighborhoods.

None

15. 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)

None

16. Adjourn – Meeting adjourned at 9:45 pm.

VOTE	Mover	Rubio	Second	Atkinson
Commissioner	Ayes	Nays	Abstention	Absent
Atkinson	X			
Grant	X			
Lipmen	X			
Mack	X			
Medina				X
Rubio	X			
Shaffer	X			
Total	6	0	0	1
Motion	Carries	x	Fails	