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CALIFORNIA

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GENERAL MANAGER

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MINUTES

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, APRIL 5, 2011 – 6:00 P.M.

WILSHIRE CREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL-AUDITORIUM
5241 WEST OLYMPIC BOULEVARD
Los Angeles, CA 90036

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Albert Abrams, President
Daniel Gatica, Vice President
Carlene Davis
John Kim
Linda Lucks
Karen Mack

ABSENT

Esther Cepeda-Hatch

DEPARTMENT STAFF PRESENT

BongHwan Kim, General Manager
Janet Lindo, Executive Administrative Assistant

CITY ATTORNEY REPRESENTATIVE

Anthony-Paul Diaz, Deputy City Attorney
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 6:10 p.m. Commission roll was called by Executive Administrative Assistant, Janet Lindo.

3. Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1, 2011. (3 minutes)

ACTION: Commissioner Mack moved that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 1, 2011, be approved as written. The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Vote: Ayes - 4, 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:

Barry E. Levine – His Neighborhood Council (NC), South Robertson (SORO), wants to annex two adjoining “orphan areas” next to them. Holding hearings.

Margarita Fernandez – Was here before BONC on November 15, 2010, to complain about Greater Echo Park Neighborhood Council – wants grievances dealt with – the NC's Grievance Committee was dismantled.

Doug Fitzsimmons – Also, wants to annex two “orphan” areas – one is not contested, one is contested by Mid-City NC.

Lydia Mather – President of Van Nuys NC. Concerned about being removed from office by manipulation of current bylaws. Asking for intervention on behalf of the Commission.

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 matter

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

Public comment received from:

Barry E. Levine – Sweeping of rollovers retroactive?

7. Discussion and possible action amending Commission Policy No. 2010-03, regarding the Bylaws Table of Contents Policy to extend the April 5, 2011, deadline to June 6, 2011. (10 minutes)

ACTION: Commissioner Lucks moved regarding Commission Policy Number 2011-01:

Be it resolved that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners creates the following policy:

Amendment to its 2010-03 Policy Regarding Bylaw Table of Contents

WHEREAS Section 902 (b) Article IX of the new Charter provides that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners “shall be responsible for policy setting and policy oversight ...and the promulgation of rules and regulations but not be responsible for day-to-day management.”

NOW, THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Commission) establishes this policy to amend the date under which Neighborhood Councils are required to incorporate the Bylaw Table of Contents.

POLICY NUMBER: 2011-01

- 1. Attached as Appendix 1 to this resolution is a copy of the Commission Policy Number 2010-03. Item #2 states:**

Neighborhood Councils shall be required to incorporate the Bylaw Table of Contents into their bylaws through their amendment process within six (6) months from the date of the adoption of this resolution. For those Neighborhood Councils that fail to include the Bylaw Table of Contents within six (6) months, their bylaws shall be deemed amended to include the Bylaw Table of Contents and their existing bylaw provisions shall be re-ordered in compliance with the Bylaw Table of Content.

- 2. The date under which Neighborhood Councils are required to incorporate the Bylaws Table of Contents into their bylaws through their amendment process shall be extended to June 6, 2011.**

The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Kim.

Vote: Ayes - 6, Nays - 0

Motion passes unanimously.

Public comment received from:

Charles Lindenblatt – In favor of extension of the deadline for bylaws changes.

- 8. Discussion regarding the Education and Neighborhoods Committee, Special Joint Meeting with the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, held on March 23, 2011. (20 minutes)**

ACTION: None.

Public comment received from:

Charles Lindenblatt – Was election chair for the last two election cycles – worked on the Election Task Force – was one of three “no” votes.

- 9. Written report from the 2010 and 2011 Ad Hoc Policy Committees, with discussion and possible action regarding possible subject areas for finalization of the 2011 Policy Calendar. (20 minutes)**

ACTION: Commissioner Kim moved that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners adopt an amended 2011 Proposed Policy Calendar that starts in priority order with:

- 1. Mandatory Ethics and New Board Orientation (Completed)**

2. **Factual Basis Stakeholder (In Progress)**
3. **Grievance Policy and Challenge Resolution (for this particular item the Commission will hear back from the Ad Hoc Committee and get a debrief from the Department at the May 3, 2011, Commission meeting).**
4. **Outreach, Diversity and Inclusion.**
5. **Candidate Fundraising and Financial Disclosure (Form 54).**
6. **Election Policy.**
7. **Neighborhood Council Files.**

The Motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis.

Vote: Ayes - 6, Nays - 0

Motion passes unanimously.

A Special Ad Hoc Outreach Committee was established: Commissioners Lucks, Mack, and Gatica.

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. (25 minutes)

ACTION: Commissioner Lucks would like an agenda item with possible action regarding the two points of information she made at the March 1, 2011, Commission meeting (below) so that the Commission can glean public comment on them:

- 1) **Whereas the concern has been expressed by stakeholders around the city regarding the City Council's expansion of the definition of the term stakeholder to allow voters who declare a factual basis stake in the community to be on the boards. I move that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners encourage Neighborhood Councils to review and revise 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 per the February 20, 2008, decision by the City Council to expand the definition of stakeholder to encompass community members who affirm a stake in their community.**
- 2) **I move that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners request the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment staff to draft a letter for possible adoption by the Commission requesting that the City Council consider directing the Neighborhood Councils to set aside a minimum of one seat or ten percent of the Board for a factual basis stakeholder to implement the expanded definition of stakeholder in February 20, 2008, granting the Commission and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment the authority to oversee and enforce the action.**

11. Discussion with various Central area Neighborhood Council representatives who wish to report concerns, operations, and best practices. Neighborhood Council representatives should complete their questionnaire 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. (20 minutes)

ACTION: None.

Public comment received from:

Charles Lindenblatt – Made a presentation – Mid City West Community Council, but as an individual, not a formal presentation by the NC.

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 Commissioner 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: No public comments were received.

14. Adjourn

ACTION: President Abrams adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

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