

CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD  
COMMISSIONERS

ELI LIPMEN  
President

RAY REGALADO  
Vice President

LEONARD SHAFFER  
JOY ATKINSON  
MAGGIE DARETT-QUIROZ  
DEBBIE WEHBE  
QUYEN VO-RAMIREZ

TELEPHONE: (213) 978-1551



ERIC GARCETTI  
MAYOR

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS  
**EMPOWER LA**  
Department of  
NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

20<sup>TH</sup> FLOOR, CITY HALL  
200 NORTH SPRING STREET  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

TELEPHONE: (213) 978-1551  
TOLL-FREE: 3-1-1  
FAX: (213) 978-1751  
E-MAIL: [EmpowerLA@lacity.org](mailto:EmpowerLA@lacity.org)

RAQUEL BELTRÁN  
GENERAL MANAGER

ERRICKA PEDEN  
EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

[www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)

## BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

### REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Tuesday, January 5th, 2021 6:00 PM  
Zoom Meeting Online or By Telephone

To Join the Meeting Dial: (669) 900-6833 or one of the following Toll  
Free Telephone Numbers:  
(833) 548 0282, (888) 475 4499, (877) 853 5257, (833) 548 0276

The toll free feature eliminates long-distance call charges for participants. However, other  
telephone charges may apply from a participant's phone carrier.

Then Enter This Webinar ID: 891 8838 6572 and Press #

You can also join the meeting online by clicking on this link to join the webinar:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89188386572>

---

IN CONFORMITY WITH THE GOVERNOR'S EXECUTIVE ORDER N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) AND  
DUE TO CONCERNS OVER COVID-19, THE BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS  
MEETING WILL BE CONDUCTED ENTIRELY TELEPHONICALLY.

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 días de  
trabajo (72 horas) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION,  
POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL (213) 978-1551.

Every person wishing to address the Commission must dial (669) 900-9128, and enter 947 4462 6758 and then  
press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the  
start of the meeting.

The amount of time for public comment on each agenda item is to be determined by the Chair at each meeting.  
Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to the item on the agenda. The Chair may rule that the  
speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to the item under consideration. If multiple requests for  
public comment are submitted on one agenda item, preference will be granted to members of the public who  
have not spoken previously during the meeting, either during general public comment or on another agenda item.

A member of the public wishing to speak on more than one agenda item at a single meeting shall limit his or her  
remarks to a total of five (5) minutes per meeting. Members of the public who want to speak on multiple agenda  
items for up to five (5) minutes at one time can choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items Comment

AN EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY - AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Page 2 of 8

period. Members of the public who choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items period will be given the opportunity to also speak during General Public Comment.

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. General Public Comment is limited to 15 minutes maximum. No individual speaker will be allowed more than two (2) minutes during General Public Comment, unless presiding officer of the Board decides differently.

As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department at (213) 978-1551.

The agenda is posted for public review in the Main Street Lobby of City Hall East at 200 North Main Street. The Agenda and report(s) related to an agenda item will be available for review at [www.Empowerla.org](http://www.Empowerla.org).

Telecommunication Relay Services

Telecommunications Relay Service is a telephone service that allows persons with hearing or speech disabilities to place and receive telephone calls. If you have limitations hearing or speaking a specially-trained Communications Assistant (CA) can relay telephone conversations for all of your calls. In California, dial **711** to reach the California Relay Service (CRS). If you prefer having your calls immediately answered in your mode of communication, dial one of the toll-free modality- and language-specific numbers below. The call will be routed to the CRS provider.

Type of Call	Language	Toll-free 800 Number
TTY/VCO/HCO to Voice	English	1-800-735-2929
	Spanish	1-800-855-3000
Voice to TTY/VCO/HCO	English	1-800-735-2922
	Spanish	1-800-855-3000
From or to Speech-to- Speech	English & Spanish	1-800-854-7784

Federal regulations specify very strict confidentiality requirements for CAs of all Relay services. No part of the conversation that takes place between callers is revealed or recorded in written, verbal, or any other form. CRS CAs do not participate in the conversation and acquire no benefit from information relayed.

Notice to Paid Representatives If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code Section 48.01 et seq. More information is available at [ethics.lacity.org/lobbying](http://ethics.lacity.org/lobbying). For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or [ethics.commission@lacity.org](mailto:ethics.commission@lacity.org).

1. [6:04 PM] Introduction (5 minutes)
2. [6:09 PM] Call to Order and Commission roll call (1 minute)

Commissioner	Present	Absent
Atkinson	X	
Lipmen	X	
Shaffer	X	
Darett-Quiroz		X
Wehbe	X	
Regalado		X
Vo-Ramirez		X

3. [6:10 PM] Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting 12/21/2020 (5 minutes). [[Board of Neighborhood Commissioner Regular Meeting Minutes 12.21.2020-APPROVED](#)]

Public comment: None.

Action: Commissioner Atkinson made a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of 12/21/2020. Commissioner Wehbe seconded the motion. Motion was approved.

VOTE	Mover	Atkinson	Second	Wehbe
<b>Commissioner</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Atkinson	X			
Lipmen	X			
Shaffer	X			
Darett-Quiroz				X
Wehbe	X			
Regalado				X
Vo-Ramirez				X
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>3</b>
<b>Motion</b>	<b>Carries</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Fails</b>	

4. [6:15 PM] Multiple Agenda Items Comment (15 minutes). – Comments by members of the public who want to speak on all items for up to five minutes at one time can choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items Comment period. Members of the public who choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items period will be given the opportunity to also speak during General Public Comments. This agenda item will last a total of 15 minutes and no individual speaker will be allowed more than five minutes.

Public Comment: None

5. [6:17 PM] General Public Comments (15 minutes). - Comments from the public on non-agenda

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Page 4 of 8

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.

Public comment: Jamie York, Lauren Buisson, Rachael Rose Luckey, Phyllis Ling, Joseph Russel, Jennie Palluzzi, Josh Nadel, Spencer Alfaro, Maebe A. Girl, Teresa Oratery, Glenn Bailey, William E. Goat, Adriana De La Cruz and Judy Harris.

Commissioner comment: None

6. [6:52 PM] General Manager's Report. (15 minutes).
  - a. Staffing, budget, Monthly Profile Reports, and other operational matters
  - b. Link to EmpowerLA Newsletters: <http://tiny.cc/NCnewsletters>

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (D.O.N.E.) comments: Raquel Beltrán, General Manager reported Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, Betty Wong-Oyama, is retiring effective January 15, 2021. Mrs. Beltrán thanked her for her service and acknowledged that it was an honor to work with Betty both prior and during her time as General Manager. She acknowledged how methodical and empathetic Betty has always been with neighborhood councils. Betty has made major contributions in shaping the evolution of the Neighborhood Council System over the years. Mrs. Beltrán stated at a previous Commissioners meeting there was testimony to look at the upload of audio recordings. The issue has been addressed all audio for meetings between May 2020 through December 2020 are on the Commission page. There was no meeting in April 2020, one meeting in March 2020. We would note that as it relates to meetings between September 2019 through December 2019 we only have the minutes available. The City Council took action to implement furloughs and two (2) unpaid holidays as part of the current fiscal year cost saving measure. The department has decided how to implement the furloughs and has communicated this in the monthly profiles to the Neighborhood Council System. Department furloughs will occur on two (2) Fridays a month beginning January 29, 2021. The Department will implement an update to the organization of the neighborhood empowerment advocates to neighborhood council assignments in the month of February 2021. Our Fiscal Year 2021-2022 Proposed Budget has been revised and submitted per the Mayor's instructions with a 7.3 % increase from the prior fiscal year, for a total budget of \$3,036,116.00, which is a \$206,000.00 net. This proposed budget accounts for salary increases negotiated through collective bargaining unions. The two factors that netted a \$206,000.00 increase are the salary increases from the labor agreements and the need to absorb the cost of the Departments' Innovation Division which is funded by resolution authority position and not regular authority positions. Overall, since last year the department has cut over half a million dollars. It has been submitted to City Administrative Office and the Mayor's Office Budget team is currently reviewing it. The department sent communications asking for videos from neighborhood councils regarding their accomplishments in order to create a comprehensive video about the Neighborhood Council System and use it to promote neighborhood councils as a whole. The Data Liaison Program began in February 2020 and had to pause due to COVID-19 and Stay-At-Home orders. Now the Innovation Team has revamped the Data Literacy Programming in partnership with the Office of the Mayor, with the next session scheduled for January 28, 2021, 6pm-7pm. The Office of the Mayor has created a resource that allows you to visualize black owned businesses online as it relates to those businesses that received micro loans or payment protection program support in your neighborhood council area. Mrs. Beltran acknowledged and apologized to Spencer Alfaro, on behalf of the Department, for the

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Page 5 of 8

treatment that Spencer experienced at recent Reseda Neighborhood Council meetings. To address this the Department has communicated with the Labor Relations Division of the City Attorney's Office and continues to take action regarding this matter.

Department Representative comment: Betty Wong-Oyama

Public comment: William E. Goat, Garry Fordyce, Jamie York, Lauren Buisson and Glenn Bailey.

Commissioner comment: Commissioner Lipmen, Commissioner Atkinson, Commissioner Wehbe and Commissioner Shaffer

7. [7:55 PM] Discussion with Neighborhood Council (NC) representatives (10 minutes). - This item pertains to any Neighborhood Council Resolution or Community Impact Statement filed with the City Clerk which relates to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

Public comment: None

Commissioner comment: None

8. [7:55 PM] Verbal updates from elected representatives (5 minutes). Representatives include: Office of the Mayor, Los Angeles City Council, and other City representatives.

Public comment: None

Commissioner comment: None

9. [7:56 PM] Verbal updates from Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates regarding Budget Advocacy (10 minutes).

- a. Additional information regarding the Budget Advocates is available at <https://www.budgetadvocates.com/>

Budget Advocate comment: Jack Humphreveille

Public comment: William E. Goat

Commissioner comment: Commissioner Lipmen

10. [8:12 PM] Verbal updates regarding the 2021 Neighborhood Council Elections (10 minutes).
  - a. Representatives from the Office of the City Clerk's Election Division. <https://clerk.lacity.org/elections/neighborhood-council-election>
  - b. Representatives from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. ([Department of Neighborhood Empowerment 2021 Neighborhood Council Election Strategy](#))

City Representative comment: Renee McDade (City Clerk) and Thomas Soong (Neighborhood Empowerment)

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Page 6 of 8

Public comment: Brandi D'Amore, Lauren Buisson, Jamie York, Glenn Bailey and William E. Goat

Commissioner comment: Commissioner Lipmen, Commissioner Shaffer and Commissioner Atkinson

11. [8:49 PM] Discussion on [Draft Digital Media Policy](#) for Neighborhood Councils (5 minutes).

City Representative comment: Raquel Beltrán (Neighborhood Empowerment)

Public comment: Josh Nadel, Brandi D'Amore, Adriana De La Cruz, Glenn Bailey and William E Goat.

Commissioner comment: Commissioner Lipmen

12. [9:07 PM] Commission Business (15 minutes). - Comment from Commissioners on matters within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction.
- a. Brief report on Commissioners' own activities/brief announcements.
  - b. Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights/ask staff questions for clarification.
  - c. Introduce new issues for consideration by the Commission at its next meeting and direct staff to place on the agenda.
  - d. Ask staff to research issues and report back to the Commission at a future time.

Public comment: Josh Nadel, Brian Allen, Spencer Alfaro, Jamie York, Adriana De La Cruz and Judy Harris

Commissioner comment: Commissioner Lipmen and Commissioner Shaffer

- 13 [9:30 PM] Adjourn

Action: Commissioner Shaffer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Atkinson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

<b>VOTE</b>	<b>Mover</b>	<b>Shaffer</b>	<b>Second</b>	<b>Atkinson</b>
<b>Commissioner</b>	<b>Ayes</b>	<b>Nays</b>	<b>Abstain</b>	<b>Absent</b>
<b>Atkinson</b>	X			
<b>Lipmen</b>	X			X
<b>Shaffer</b>	X			
<b>Darett-Quiroz</b>				X
<b>Wehbe</b>	X			X
<b>Regalado</b>				X
<b>Vo-Ramirez</b>				X
<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>			<b>3</b>

Motion	Carries	X	Fails	
--------	---------	---	-------	--

**Future Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Meetings (INFORMATION ONLY)**

*(Please note: The items listed below are tentative and may be subject to change. You are encouraged to visit the City's website at [www.lacity.org](http://www.lacity.org) to view Commission agendas and subscribe through the City's Early Notification System Subscription page to receive the Commission's agendas via email.)*

- Special Meeting on Tuesday, February 16, 2021 at 1:00pm – Zoom Webinar – Connection Information TBD
- Regular Meeting on Tuesday, March 2, 2021 at 6:00pm – Zoom Webinar – Connection Information TBD
- Regular Meeting on Monday, March 15, 2021 at 1:00pm – Zoom Webinar – Connection

**FINALIZATION OF BOARD ACTION:**

**Per City Charter Section 245, the Board's determination shall become final at the expiration of the next five meeting days of the Council during which the City Council has convened in regular session, unless the City Council acts within that timeframe by a two-thirds vote to bring the action before them or to waive review of the action.**

**EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES:**

**If you challenge these agenda items in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence on these matters delivered to this agency at or prior to the public hearing. California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6 governs the time in which a party may seek judicial review of this determination. Under that provision, a petitioner may seek judicial review of any decision of the City pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.5 only if the petition for Writ of Mandate pursuant to that section is filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which the City's decision became final.**

**RECONSIDERATION:**

**The Commission may make a MOTION TO RECONSIDER and alter its action taken on any item listed on this agenda at any time during this meeting, or make a MOTION TO RECONSIDER at its next regular meeting as indicated below:**

**If the Commission moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at the *initial* meeting wherein an action was taken, then the underlying item may be reconsidered at that time.**

**If the Commission moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at the *next regular meeting* then consideration of the item may *only* occur at this regularly scheduled meeting if the item for consideration has been placed on that meeting's agenda. If the underlying item**

BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Tuesday, January 5, 2021

Page 8 of 8

**for reconsideration has not been placed on the agenda for that next regular meeting, then it shall be considered at a subsequent meeting pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.**

**PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS:**

**In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners in advance of their meetings, may be viewed at the office of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, located at City Hall, 20<sup>th</sup> Floor, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, by clicking on the Department's Web site at <http://www.EmpowerLA.org> or at the Commission meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, contact the Department at (213) 978-1551 or via e-mail: [Commission@EmpowerLA.org](mailto:Commission@EmpowerLA.org).**