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CITY OF LOS ANGELES



HOLLYWOOD UNITED  
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Certified Council #52  
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HUNC Board Members:

Debbi Aldahl  
Robert Abrahamian  
Jordan Birnbaum  
Bechir Blagui  
Andrew Ettinger  
Rodney Hargrove  
Scott Larson  
Bree Long  
Jamie Rosenthal  
Hilary Royce  
Erik Sanjurjo  
David H. Schlesinger

Tuesday, January 20th, 2009  
Full Board Meeting at 6:30 pm  
First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood  
Community Room – Upper Terrace, 6054 Yucca St. (East of Gower)

*The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Agenda is posted for public review at Cheremoya Ave Elementary School 6017 Franklin Ave, First Presbyterian Church of Hollywood 1760 Gower, Beachwood Market, 2701 Beldon Dr, Sabor & Cultura Cafe, 5625 Hollywood Blvd., Counterpoint Records & Books, 5911 Franklin Ave. 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, assistive 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 you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Project Coordinator Naheed Qureshi, email: [Naheed.Qureshi@lacity.org](mailto:Naheed.Qureshi@lacity.org) phone 213-473-5391)*

AGENDA ITEMS: ALL ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION AND ACTION UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED

1. 1. Welcome and Roll Call: Board members – Present: : Robert Abrahamian, Jordan Birnbaum, Bechir Blagui, Maurece Chesse, Andy Ettinger, Scott Larson, Jamie Rosenthal, Erik Sanjurjo, Charles Suhayda, Don Paul.  
Excused: Susan Swan, Debbie Aldahl, Rodney Hargrove, Ryan Ole Hass, David Schlesinger  
Absent: Hilary Royce, Bree Long
2. Approval of Minutes: Motion: Robert Abrahamian. Second: Scott Larson. Vote: Yes—9 No—0 Abs—0.

3. LAPD and LAFD Updates

- A. Request to LAPD for update on burglaries (including so-called 'knock-knock' burglaries) and mailbox burglaries

Mike Shea, SR. lead for east end of Hollywd Hills presented the crime statistics for 1/11 to 1/17. He said that north of Franklin there has been very little crime; one stolen car, a couple of car break-ins, one robbery - nothing out of the ordinary. He did mention that there had been several complaints about mail theft.

Officer Shea went over "knock knock burglaries," mentioning they involve "suspicious characters" coming to a resident's door asking questions like "Are you home alone? Can I use the phone?"

Erik Sanjurjo reported that patrons of restaurants along the Franklin strip reported to PS&T that crimes were occurring in this area and also to businesses on the north side of Hollywood Blvd.

Shea did say he is constantly hearing about problems around Tamarind and Franklin but he never gets it first hand. He said there are no out-of-control robberies, no serial robbers.

Scott Larson stressed the fact that people need to continue to remind their neighbors that if there is any sort of incident they need to report it. He also mentioned that magazine salesman have been a huge problem

Officer Armen Sevdalian reminded those present that crimes like "knock-knock" burglaries are the very sort of incidents that neighborhood watch should be involved with.

He mentioned another major complaint is the transients camping under the over ramp and he said that if transients start camping in this area, the police are going to start taking people to jail.

When asked about gang activity, he said it was way down but tagging has gained visibility.

4. Los Angeles City and County Updates including but not limited to:

- A. Mayor's Office Updates
- B. City Council Office Updates
- C. DONE Updates

CD-4

Sharon Shapiro

CERT w/LAPD – March 11<sup>th</sup> at Helen Bernstein High School

Homeless Count – Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>

Sharon Romano from the Hollywood Beautification team spoke about the Million Tree Project. She can be reached at 213-485-3337

5. Public Comment on items not on the Agenda (2 minutes each)

Doug Haines from the East Hollywood Neighborhood Council spoke regarding the problem with trash – sofas, trash, handbills on vehicles.

His NC tries to educate businesses who put handbills on vehicles. They sent ordinance with a letter.

He said if the businesses know about this and there is support then maybe the city will actually show some respect for this. (see hand-out)

Gary Slossberg announced he is formally running for the city council and said he is trying to push for more accountable city government. He said he wants to try to push for real solutions to crime and violence problems and to put money into our prevention programs.

Steven Box

Panini's Restaurant near Hollywood and Gramercy

He spoke regarding the sidewalks on the north side of Hollywood Blvd. He said they're getting worse - the street lights are out and it's an ongoing problem. He also mentioned the sidewalks from Wilton to Western.

This area needs improvement from the City.

6. Update by Director of Animal Welfare Representative Rachel Paap tabled

7, Ron Kaye and the Save L.A. Project, possible motion to support (<http://ronkayela.com/>)

8. Presentation on Prop B (March Election) regarding Solar Energy, possible motion to support/not support

Draft Resolution on Proposition B

Motion: Jordan Birnbaum. Second: Jamie Rosenthal. Vote: Yes—8 No—1 Abs—0.

Draft Resolution to Draft with Amendment

Motion: Bechir Blagui. Second: Robert Abrahamian. Vote: Yes—9 No—0 Abs—0.

(see amended document\*)

(<http://ronkayela.com/>)

Jack Humphreyville East Hollywood NC

Jack spoke about Measure B, adopted by City Council where DWP given the exclusive right to install, maintain, operate and repair all solar fixtures in the city of LA. 400 M Watt solar power.

Jack said the issue here is not solar power, but clean government.

There is one very easy alternative – for the city council to adopt an ordinance.

Jack said they're trying to green wash us, trying to use environmental club, IEA ??? to have exclusive right to install solar power on city lands.

4 Issues:

1. Ballot box legislation

– by being leg through this, we don't get good legislation.

2. Charter changes/moves

These charters eliminate third parties from work and eliminate competitive biddings.

3. Concept of clean government

This is the largest project – the gross cost probably about 3.6 billion dollars and more.

There were no hearings down at City Hall. The meeting of Eric Garcetti's government committee was not privy to slides that DWP went through in a half hour. There was very little information given to the public.

The lobbyists/lawyers drafted all legislation and the DWP was not included and didn't know anything about this.

The LA Times found out about PA report being suppressed.

DWP hired another consulting firm to refute the PA report.

The bottom line: IBEW wants the exclusive contracts in DWP solar project.

4. Impact on rate payers? DWP in one report, 35 to 45 cents more a kilowatt hour. This is 3 to 4 times our current rate. Rates will go higher because of 30 percent bid preference for local companies. DWP crews have a reputation for being very expensive and their work takes twice as long

50 percent higher wages – so we're talking about significant money – not because of solar power but for this legislation. Ron Kaye also spoke against Measure B. He called on the city council to get input of DWP and vet this and analyze this. He said there is a better way – that this is about making a stand against city hall and the people that have the power and corruption that feeds special interest and dirty backroom deals that don't solve our problems. He said that they've intimidated the solar industry, which is fearful that if they speak up, they won't get any part of this deal.

Jim McQuiston then spoke up about Prop B. He said it's the state law and that the city has to do it – that the only people who can connect to the electrical system are the DWP. He went on to say that if people have a better way to do it, they needed to put it up before the state when the city passed the law. He was very upset that the neighborhood councils were not down at the City Council. He advocated the NC's being reactive, but proactive.

Steven Box spoke and said he was at the DWP Commission when Nick P. was there and that "we didn't know anything about it."

Reasons to oppose:

1. We weren't involved – if state law, we don't need a measure pure and simple, we were left out of the process.  
We can't get involved if they won't have the conversation.  
He urged the Board to move in opposition.

Scott Larson recommended amending the motion by striking 3<sup>rd</sup> component sp there was an amendment to strike the 3<sup>rd</sup> point.

9. Update on Neighborhood Council File proposal. City Council voted to reconfirm previous action from January of 2008 that requires NC's Board members filling out a Form 700 to take part. New version called a Form 54, but it's nearly as detailed (list of properties, stocks and businesses, as well as loans and other financial information). Possible motion. (see hand-out)

The City Council voted to reconfirm previous action from January of 2008 that requires NC's board members to fill out a Form 700 to take part. New version called a Form 54, but it's nearly as detailed (list of properties, stocks and businesses, as well as loans and other financial information).

Erik Sanjurjo said the council is requiring it. The majority of board members would have to participate.

10. Executive Committee Reports including but not limited to:

- A. President (out sick)
- B. Vice-President
  - 1. Update on NBC/Universal Project Working Group
- C. Treasurer
  - 1. Budget update

11. Committee & Liaison Reports/Updates including but not limited to:

- A. PS&T
  - 1. Update, if any, regarding timetable for removal of No-Parking signs on Bronson north of Foothill
  - 2. Proposed letter to MTA regarding preferred route for new subway Purple Line.
  - 3. Report on recent increases to parking meter rates and plans for new meters.
  - 4. Status of City's efforts to modify rules around permit parking.
- B. Renters

1. Request for funds, up to \$1500 for funding of proposed March Renter's Town hall (date, time, location TBD). The \$1500 will cover outreach and food for the event

Don Paul put this request for funds on the HUNC February agenda.

12. New Business/Announcements

Don Paul is bringing a handbill motion next month.

As an FYI, Erik Sanjurjo said the neighborhood empowerment is helping DOT put together some community meetings because they've been criticized for being very slow about it.

13. Old Business

14. Submission of proposed Agenda items for February

#### ADJOURNMENT

*Process for Reconsideration The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed on the agenda if that reconsideration takes place before the end of the meeting at which it was considered or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: (1) Make a Motion for Reconsideration and, if approved, (2) hear the matter and take an action. If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the next meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: (1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and (2) a [Proposed] action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A Motion for Reconsideration can only be made by a Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken. If a Motion for Reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Recording Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.*

\* DRAFT

### HOLLYWOOD UNITED NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL RESOLUTION ON PROPOSITION B ON THE MARCH 3, 2009 BALLOT

**WHEREAS** the multibillion dollar Solar Energy program, the largest in DWP history; may be implemented with a city ordinance without having to change the City Charter; and,

**WHEREAS** the Neighborhood Councils were not provided with timely information or adequate opportunity to provide meaningful input and comment to the City Council, violating both the City Charter and the NC LADWP Memorandum of Understanding; and,

**WHEREAS** DWP has not "vetted" the Solar Energy program nor has its Board of Commissioners approved the Solar Energy program; and

**WHEREAS** there is "no analysis relative to the number and quality of jobs which will be created."

**WHEREAS** there has been no discussion or analysis regarding the impact on the Charter; and,

**WHEREAS** the City Council approved the multibillion dollar Solar Energy ballot measure within just three weeks; and,

**WHEREAS** the power rates were increased by about 25% in April and July; and,

**WHEREAS** PA Consulting found that the program would cost "much more" than \$3.6 billion, "it is likely that the ECAF would need to be increased by 2½ to 3 times," and "base rate increases are needed."

**WHEREAS** the NC advocates a further transparency in the process and further more the NC requests a full and complete public hearing.

**WHEREAS** the provisions of this ballot measure relating the 30% bid preference and the DWP work crews will increase costs by hundreds of millions, if not a billion dollars; and,

**WHEREAS** PA Consulting found the solar program to be "extremely risky" and "extremely aggressive," "DWP does not have the planning mechanisms and resources in place to accomplish this program," and "it does not appear that DWP has the capability to adequately take on this program."

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that whereas this Neighborhood Council supports green power and sustainable energy, it does not support the Proposition B and urges a NO vote on March 3, 2009; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Neighborhood Council urges the City Council to pass an ordinance to implement the Solar Energy program after properly vetting the program; and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Neighborhood Council provide the City with a Community Impact Statement.