

SCNC BOARD

Jeffrey Carter
Ben Di Benedetto
Joshua Gelfat
Victor Helo
Wayne Kartin
Remy Kessler
Ben Neumann
Richard Niederberg
Todd Royal
Lisa Sarkin
Lana Shackelford
Gail Steinberg
Ron Taylor
Rita Villa
John T. Walker



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 7:00pm
at
**CBS Studio Center, Building 8, MPR-3,
4024 Radford, Studio City CA, 91604**

PRESIDENT
John T. Walker

VICE PRESIDENT
TODD ROYAL

TREASURER
Remy Kessler

SECRETARY
Rita C. Villa

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY
Lana Shackelford

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Agenda

1. Call to Order & Roll Call. Jeffrey Carter – present, Ben Di Benedetto – present; Josh Gelfat – present, Victor Helo - present, Wayne Kartin – present, Remy Kessler - present, Ben Neumann present, Richard Niederberg - present, Todd Royal - present, Lisa Sarkin - present, Lana Shackelford – present, Gail Steinberg – present, Ron Taylor – arrived at 7:18 PM, Rita Villa – present, John Walker – present. 13 voting members until 7:18 pm; 14 members present after 7:18pm. 53 stakeholders present.
2. Approval of November 17, 2010 Minutes. **Tabled**
3. Comments by the President (10 min). John Walker thanked stakeholders for attending. He explained the process of the appointment of Ron Taylor to the renter seat. He noted there would be a presentation regarding the Universal Evolution Project DEIR later this evening. He acknowledged the members of the Ad Hoc Committee and thanked them. He also explained the purpose of a DEIR and responding to a DEIR. Additionally, he solicited stakeholder comments and invited stakeholders to participate in the SCNC Committees. He thanked owner of the Patch, blog for getting more information on Studio City out to the public.
4. Introduction of City Controller **Wendy Greuel**. Wendy Greuel said she has been controller for a year and a half. She is a taxpayer advocate looking at how we are spending our dollars. She has 157 staff and the majority of them are working on payroll and vendor payments. She introduced Marisol who is now working for her. She said we now have a policy to use local vendors (in the City of LA). She works on cash flow and gives advice to the mayor. The 4 pillars of spending based on the public are: public safety, public works, recreation and parks, pension reform/health care. She wants to know how much it costs to do each service. We need a long term solution to the budget problem and we need a strong reserve fund. The City needs to be able to respond when there are earthquakes, fires and floods. There are 15 auditors. She believes there should be 120 auditors. Auditors have identified over \$300 million of waste. Automated vehicle locators were not all being used. Only 11% are being used. Hundreds of phone lines not being used and there is only a 53% collection rate on receivables. They

are auditing the DOT to find how they collect tickets. She wants to do a DWP audit. Her website has follow up as to implementation of audit recommendations. They audited DONE and its expenditures. They are auditing the Cell phones and their usage. The City needs to report where revenue will come from. There is not much increase expected in many of the revenue sources so we need to be careful with our spending. Her department is developing an audit plan for the next year over the next couple of months. They need public input. **Richard Adams** addressed the Evolution and the loss of revenue from annexation and detachment plan. The City Council is looking at bringing football team to LA. Richard Niederberg asked what can be done now to make it better down the road for the children. She is looking at best practices for letting contracts. **Barry Johnson** asked if selling and or leasing the parking lots is a long term solution? She said we should not sell unless we get a good price. With respect to the parking lot sales, **Lisa Sarkin** asked if we are getting the tax from parking fees from the parking lot owners. **Wendy Greuel** responded that the challenge is to get City Attorney to go after those parking lot operators that are not submitting their taxes. **Scott Ouellette** said it is important to go after low hanging fruit and he thinks that CPA firms should donate time and money to do this. **Wendy Greuel** said there is no money from CPA firms so she can get to go after low hanging fruit. Her budget has been cut by 200,000. **Mark Gelfat** asked about revenue from tickets from the red light cameras. **Wendy Greuel** said the program is not self sufficient but is \$2 million in the whole. She also noted that a fixed asset audit revealed that they could not find the assets.

5. Appointment of Ron Taylor to Renter's Seat. **John Walker** announced the appointment.
6. Public Comments on non-agenda items within the Boards jurisdiction (2 min. each speaker). **Benjamin Lupu** said he is following up on trailer based advertisements. The law on unhitched trailers went into effect this year. Advertisers are now hitching them to vehicles. That takes up even more space. He wants these advertisements off the streets. Citizens should contact the businesses to say this is not a good use of funds and they will not use their business as long as they use this form of advertising. **Louis Pugliese** is running for school board district #3 for the second time. He is a teacher and he teaches teachers. He is a 30 year resident. He taught for LAUSD for 13 years. He is a Commissioner of the Committee on Youth and Family, We need to do a better job educating kids. He said his website is www.Lou4Schools.com. **Richard Adams** commented on the article in the *LA Weekly* and asked that we read the article and the inclusion of John Walker's comments in it. **Lisa Davis** is outreach chair and would like volunteers to come to outreach meeting and get involved. **Noel Weiss** said his goal is to get the implementation ordinance for SB1818 revised to be sure the economic analysis required by the State is done. He is working to identify where all the properties are located. **Councilman Reyes** is sitting on the motion to amend the ordinance. **Barry Johnson** commented on use of the SCNC office. The Sarah Palin Calendar given as a gift was removed and should be returned.
7. Responses to comments from the Board. **Lisa Sarkin** stated that Barbara Monahan Burke is working on providing information to CD2 related to the SN 1818 ordinance so the Councilman can act on this.
8. Treasurer's report by Remy Kessler. **Remy Kessler** walked the board through the spread sheets and said we are within budget. **John Walker** read the motion. **Moved:** Remy Kessler; **Second:** Wayne Kartin

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council has reviewed the January 2011 Financial statements and hereby accepts and approves them.

Vote: 13 Yes; 0 No; 1 Abstain. Motion Carries.

John Walker noted that motions must be submitted by the chairs with information as to where they will be sent or they will not be put on the agenda in the future.

9. Budget Committee Report by Remy Kessler for Mark Batterman. **Remy Kessler** gave background on the motion. **Richard Adams** reminded us that the LAUSD has a huge budget. He thinks there should be a parent matching fund requirement. He also questioned the product choice; **Marilyn White-Sedel** said she was at the Budget Committee meeting and the computer will have the SCNC logo on it. **Remy Kessler** said there are about 15 students in Studio City that are being served by this program. The use of the ipads will greatly help their learning skills. **John Walker** read the motion.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council approves a funding request from the Studio City public school LAUSD Carlson Home/Hospital School to fund up to \$553.65 towards the purchase of one (1) Ipad computer for use by the school's Studio City students with the condition that the SCNC receives appropriate credit along with any other participating organizations.

Ben Di Benedetto asked if the computer is staying with the student until the student doesn't need it. **Jeff Carter** said we should approve this. **Ben Neumann** asked if we asked why that was the product we were using. **Wayne Kartin** said he has experience with this and the reason they use Ipads is that Apple donates the educational software. **Lisa Sarkin** asked if we would even be allowed to send the money to Iraq. **Remy Kessler** said yes but this has a Studio City connection.

Vote: 14 Yes. Motion Carries.

Remy Kessler said that we have had issues with our website for a long time. The website will be redesigned for \$500 but the designer is doing this so that he can get our monthly business as well. **Remy Kessler** recommends that we support this motion. **Barry Johnson** said he was troubled by the word "redesign". He said the site needs to be more functional not prettier. He asked if this is an approved vendor. **Remy Kessler** said he does the websites for several other LA NC's. **Jeff Carter** said we have not seen a contract and this guy is not in California so he cannot support this. **Ben Neumann** asked if this will be a month to month agreement. He mentioned that we can't enter long term contracts. **Todd Royal** said it is a month to month agreement. **Lisa Sarkin** said will this let us get into the history part of our site and update it. **John Walker** said he has looked at the other NC sites and he likes this vendor's work. **Remy Kessler** said we need to move forward on this. **Gail Steinberg** agrees we should move forward now. **Wayne Kartin** thinks that in light of transparency we should table this for one month.

Motion to table for one month. Moved: Wayne Kartin; Second: Jeff Carter. Ben Di Benedetto said he does not support tabling this motion. **Richard Niederberg** said we have no contract to look at so wants to be sure we own all elements of the website. **Todd Royal** said he does not know if we would be able to own it. But we will have access. **Ben Neumann** called the question. **Vote to Table: 5 Yes; 8 No; 1 Abstain. John Walker** read the motion.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council approves the funding of \$500 for the hiring of Aaron DeVandry, 3912 Rivera Grove #102, Colorado Springs, CO 80922, to re-design the SCNC website.

Vote: 9 Yes; 5 No; Motion Carries.

10. VANC Report by Arlene Samek. **Arlene Samek** stated that a report had previously been sent to the board. The highlights of the report are: (i) the sidewalk repair ordinance will give homeowners only 90 days to get repairs done. Only 4 NC's have done a CIS on this. (ii) We only have one parking pass now. (iii) Budgeting for NC's next year is beginning now. An ad hoc committee on the budget has been formed and they want participants from all NC's. (iv) Most NC's want elections to go back to the NC's from the City Clerk as that will save money. (v) Looking for a list of things the SCNC has done so it can be sent to the City. **Lisa Davis** will get in touch with Valley Alliance about iv and v above. **Arlene Samek** also reported that the CIS's we submit are not being read by the City Council as they are not on the Agendas. Council file number 05-18-3 LACC 62.104 is for the sidewalk repair ordinance issue. **Todd Royal** thanked Arlene Samek for getting the parking pass. Rita Villa said that the SCNC has already passed a motion and send a letter on the sidewalk repair issue. It should be submitted as a CIS. **Ben Di Benedetto** said the BID has sent letters also. **Barry Johnson** said Federal stimulus money should be used to fix roads and sidewalks.
11. Land Use Committee Report by Lisa Sarkin. **Lisa Sarkin** gave a report on the Land Use Meeting see minutes attached. She also reported that only three potholes were filled out of the 165 sent in by her committee. **Remy Kessler** said he reported a pothole and it was filled within a week. **Ron Taylor** asked what was happening with the Walgreens. **Lisa Sarkin** also reported that the LUC has received more liquor license applications and we already have more that we are supposed to have in Studio City. **Lana Shackelford** said we are becoming Saloon City not Studio City. **Richard Adams** reported that the Equinox owners are now looking for funding. Our restrictions are helping preserve the Lodge look of the property. **Lisa Sarkin** reported that we have been informed that we will not get a refund from the DWP even though they acknowledge we have been overcharged. **Barry Johnson** said it is outrageous that we are not getting a refund.
12. Cultural Affairs Committee report by Richard Niederberg. **Richard Niederberg** reported that the cultural affairs committee is participating in Survey LA and they are looking for events of cultural interest.
13. Outreach Committee report by Lisa Cahan-Davis. **Lisa Cahan-Davis** said they met on the 10th and there was no quorum but there were lots of visitors. The Outreach Committee would like to be involved with the web site design. They would also like to improve the script to help stakeholders when they call the SCN office. **Lisa Cahan-Davis** asked if the SCNC will host a debate for the CD 2 election?
14. Transportation Committee report by Ben Di Benedetto/Scott Ouellette. **Ben Di Benedetto** said they met in December and they heard from FAST. (Free Angelinos from Stopped Traffic). They also heard from the Chamber of Commerce about the food truck issue. There is a motion before City Council on the Food Truck issue. They are trying to find out what is going on with the request for permit parking up by Fryman Canyon. The Lower Irdell permit parking comes up for renewal soon. They also received an update on the Universal Evolution Plan. **Barry Johnson** said that with respect to the unhitched trailer issue, a trailer with a bicycle attached to the trailer cannot be ticketed under the law. The language was wrong not because it did not include all things that a trailer can be attached to. **Wayne Kartin** left at 9:10 pm. Now 13 voting members present.

15. Bylaws Committee report by Ron Taylor. **Ron Taylor** said his laptop got fried with water but it has been repaired. The Bylaws committee did not meet. The grievance issues will be taken up at the next Bylaws Committee meeting.

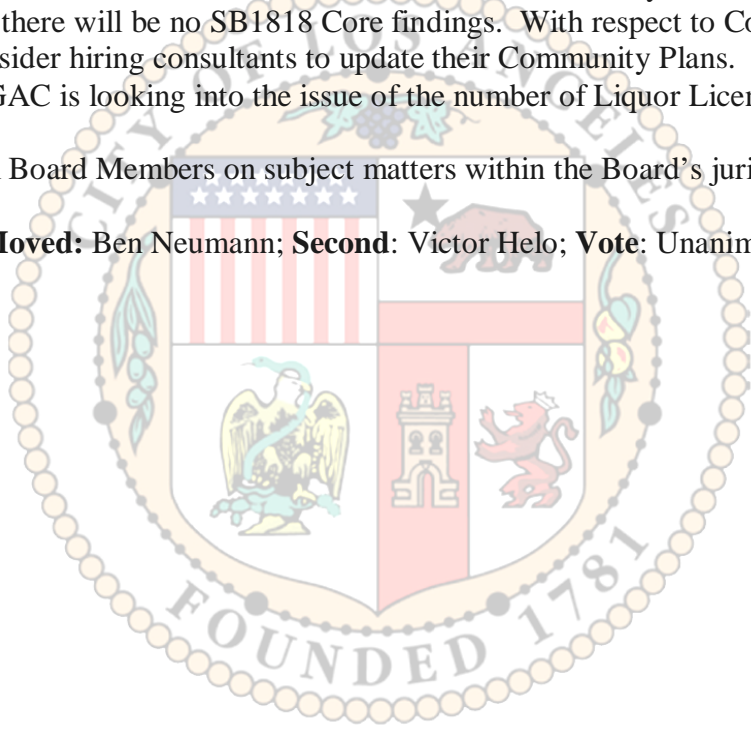
16. Crime & Safety Committee report by **Wayne Kartin. Tabled.**

17. Government Affairs Committee Report by Barbara Monahan Burke. **Barbara Monahan Burke** reported that GAC is working on all the many planning related issues. The DWP ratepayer advocate will be on the next ballot. GAC submitted water comments on the DEIR. We are still working on the Housing Element to get the 4 goals of the housing element to be corrected. The Census shows that we have not had the increase in population expected as was put in the housing element. She also reported that the GAC tries to keep up with the council file numbers so we get the right one on the CIS when the Board has passed a motion related to a council file item.

Barry Johnson said he thinks it is intentional that there are so many numbers related to one issue. **Noel Weiss** said there will be no SB1818 Core findings. With respect to Community Plans he said NC's should consider hiring consultants to update their Community Plans. **Barbara Monahan Burke** said the GAC is looking into the issue of the number of Liquor Licenses granted in Studio City.

18. Comments from Board Members on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction. **None.**

19. Adjournment. **Moved:** Ben Neumann; **Second:** Victor Helo; **Vote:** Unanimous. **Motion Carries**



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SPECIAL BOARD MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, January 19 2011 7PM
at

**CBS Studio Center, Building 8, MPR-3
4024 Radford, Studio City CA, 91604**

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1. Call to Order and Roll Call. Jeffrey Carter – present, Ben Di Benedetto – present; Josh Gelfat – present, Victor Helo - present, Wayne Kartin – excused, Remy Kessler - present, Ben Neumann present, Richard Niederberg - present, Todd Royal - present, Lisa Sarkin - present, Lana Shackelford – present, Gail Steinberg – present, Ron Taylor – present, Rita Villa –present, John Walker – present. 13 voting members

2. Approval of Minutes. None.

3. Public Comment on non-agenda items within the Committee's jurisdiction. Barry Johnson stated that last year we got proper Studio City signage around the perimeter of Studio City.

4. Member's Responses to Public Comments. None.

5. John Walker read the motion.

MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council requests the board of the MTA to rightfully rename the Universal City Metro Rail the Studio City/Universal City Metro Rail Station. Except for the signage on top of the station, the change should be implemented into the schedule and other PR documents when they are ready to be replaced. (Motion comes from Government Affairs).

Motion to amend the language of the motion as follows: **Moved:** Lisa Sarkin; **Second:** Ben Di Benedetto. **Vote:** 13:0:0. **Motion Carries.**

AMENDED MOTION: The Board of the Studio City Neighborhood Council requests the board of the MTA to rightfully rename the Universal City Metro Station the Studio City/Universal City Metro Station because it is geographically located entirely within the boundary of Studio City, and change the signage over the station. The change should be implemented into the schedule and other PR documents when they are ready to be replaced.

Richard Adams said he supports the motion. **Barry Johnson** showed that there have been at least 4 station name charges and he listed them. He asked the board to make the council offices aware of our motion. **Vote:** 13:0:0. **Motion Carries.**

6. Adjournment. Moved: Todd Royal; **Second: Vote:** 13:0:0. **Motion Carries.**