

**OLYMPIC PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
REVISED BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING MINUTES**

May 6th, 2019 - 7:00 PM-9:00pm

**LOCATION: Catch One: 4067 W Pico Blvd. (Enter from Parking Lot) Los Angeles, CA
90019**

1. Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 7:07

2. Roll call

Attending:

Mitch Edelson
Hank Williams
Milton Gaines
Nina Smith
Peter Wilson
Michael Hagerty
Arturo Ibarra
Gemma Jimenez
Avi Jhingan
Michael Latner
Sarah Song
Oliver Baker
Gerry Pass (*Left the meeting early at 8:50 pm*)
Ramsay Goyal (*Youth/Student Rep*)

Excused Absence:

Dimitrina Gotzeva
Julia Stein

Unexcused Absence:

Curtis Clark

3. Neighborhood Council Board Member Oath

Julien Antelin, from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, led the newly board-members-elect (Arturo Ibarra, Gemma Jimenez, Avi Jhingan, Michael Latner, Sarah Song and Ramsay Goyal) in reciting the Neighborhood Council Board Member

Oath and officially swore them in as Olympic Park Neighborhood Council general board members.

4. Appointments

a. Discussion and/or possible action to appoint President

Mitch Edelson: Asked Julian Antelin to preside over the appointment process until a chair was appointed.

Julien Antelin: Explained the process of appointing new officers to the executive committee to the new board. He said they could nominate any other board member or themselves. A nomination did not need to be seconded. If they accept the nomination, each nominee could give a one-minute statement which would be followed by a public comment period, then a board discussion, and then finally a vote. If there are more than two candidates and none of which have the majority vote, then they would proceed to a run off.

Gerry Pass: Asked if each of the board members could briefly introduce themselves, since there were many new members. **Antelin:** Said they could.

Gemma Jimenez: Introduced herself as a new board member. She said she lives in east area of the district and was born and raised in LA. She said she glad to be joining the board.

Sarah Song: Introduced herself as a new board member. She said also grew up in LA but lives in the west side of the district. She is currently a graduate student pursuing her MBA and is a research assistant for one of her professors. She also works at a non-profit organization part-time as an economic development specialist.

Ramsay Goyal: Introduced himself as the new student representative. He said he is a junior at Loyola High School.

Avi Jhingan: Introduced himself as a new east area representative. He said he has lived in LA for 7 years and moved to this neighborhood about a year ago.

Nina Smith: Introduced herself as a returning board member. She said lives in Hancock Park area. She is retired from the US Airforce and now she just watches the kids.

Pass: Introduced himself as a returning board member. He said he has lived in the area since 2006 and is a LA native. He works in film production and also has a nonprofit that rescues dogs from shelters and trains them to be service animals. He has been on the board for 4 years, represents the west side and is the one responsible for the speed bumps on Tremaine.

Edelson: Introduced himself as a returning board member. He said he owns Catch One, the building where the meeting was taking place. He has been on board for 4 years and was thrilled to see all the new faces at the meeting since it had been a while since the room was so full. He said that he would love to continue to serve as the President for the OPNC.

Michael Hagerty: Introduced himself as a returning board member. He said he grew up in the west area of the district. He currently lives in the west area, on Rimpau Blvd. He is a non-profit children's rights attorney. He has been on the board of about six months and was excited to work with the new board members.

Hank Williams: Introduced himself as a returning board member, representing the west area.

Michael Latner: Introduced himself as a new board member, representing the west area. He said he is originally from Torrance and he moved to the area six months ago.

Oliver Baker: Introduced himself as a returning board member, representing the east area. He said he has been on the board for a year.

Arturo Ibarra: Introduced himself as a new board member, representing the east area. He said he hoped to learn how to be a part of the board.

Peter Wilson: Introduced himself as a returning board member, representing the west area. He said that he has been on the board for two years but that tonight would be his last meeting as he was resigning. Several board members thanked him for his service.

Milton Gaines: Introduced himself as a returning board member. He said he has lived in this neighborhood for 49 years, is a founder of the OPNC and was very excited to see the board so full. He was also reelected new president of the Longwood Area Neighborhood Association.

Gaines nominated Mitch Edelson to the office of chair of the OPNC. Edelson accepted the nomination.

Antelin: Asked if there were any other nominations. There were none.

Gaines moved to close the nominations.

Without objection, Edelson was appointed OPNC board President.

b. Discussion and/or possible action to appoint Vice-President

Edelson: Gave a summary of the duties of the Vice-President: to serve as President if he was unable to make the meeting and in general as the chief parliamentarian of the board which requires learning Robert's Rules of Order.

Sarah Song nominated herself to be Vice-President.

Without objection, Song was appointed OPNC board Vice-President.

c. Discussion and/or possible action to appoint Treasurer

Edelson nominated Milton Gaines to be the OPNC board Treasurer.

Edelson: Said that Gaines had been steadfast in keeping the board on the right side of the City Clerk office and that he understands the funding procedures very well.

Without objection, Gaines was appointed OPNC board Treasurer.

d. Discussion and/or possible action to appoint Secretary

Edelson: Gave a summary of the duties of the Secretary: to help compile the agenda, keep track of absences and take notes on the meeting.

Edelson nominated Hank Williams to be the OPNC board

Without objection, Williams was appointed OPNC board Secretary.

After Item 4.d the board heard the items out of order as follows: Item 6, Item 5, Items 4.e-g, Item 9.4, Item 8, Items 9.1-3, Items 9.5-6, Item 7 and lastly Item 10.

*****FOR FORMATTING PURPOSES, THE MINUTE TAKER HAS LEFT THE ITEMS IN THE ORDER THEY WERE ORIGINALLY LISTED IN THE AGENDA*****

e. Discussion and/or possible action for designation of Bank Card Holder, Second Signer and Alternate Signer.

Edelson: Said that he is the current Bank Card Holder. He said that both he and Gaines have completed the required in-person funding training and asked if anyone else on the board had yet. No one else had. He asked if anyone else was interested in being the Bank Card Holder, Second Signer or Alternate Signer.

Song: Said she was interested and that she was already planning to go to the training for that the next day.

Gaines: Because there was a lot of paperwork in the rears, he moved to keep the current signatories the same for the month of May. After the paperwork was completed, new signatories could be appointed in June.

Antelin: Said this was not allowed, the signatories had to be appointed.

Edelson nominated Song as the alternate signer. Song accepted.

Gaines moved to appoint Song as the alternate signer, pending completion of the required funding training, and to keep Edelson as the Second Signer and the Bank Card Holder.

Without objection, Song was alternate signer, pending completion of the required funding training, and Edelson was reappointed as the Second Signer and the Bank Card Holder.

f. Discussion and/or possible action for designation of NC Liaisons to City Departments and alliances

Julien Antelin:

1. LANCC

Antelin: Said that via the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition meets once a month to discuss city-wide issues. All NCs can have a representative at these meetings. They meet once a month on the first Saturday of the Month.

Song nominated herself to be a LANCC representative for the OPNC. Gaines seconded.

Without objection, Song was appointed the LANCC rep for the OPNC.

2. ARC

Antelin: Said that the OPNC was not a part of ARC, so they did not need to appoint anyone to that.

3. Budget Rep

Antelin: Said that a Nina Smith is the current Budget Rep. Budget Reps are one of 36 voting Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates. The Budget Rep does not need to be a NC board member, but the board does appoint the Rep. They currently meet the first Monday of the month, at the same time as OPNC meetings.

Edelson: Asked if anyone was interested in being the Budget Rep. **Smith:** Said was the current rep and was interested in continuing the role.

Gaines moved to reappoint Nina Smith as Budget Rep. Wilson seconded.

Without objection, Smith was appointed the OPNC's Budget Rep.

4. Resilience

Antelin: Said that LA was part of network of 50 cities around the world that are working on a resilience strategy for major disasters such as earthquakes, fires or even democratic crisis. Each NC will have their own strategy. They meet once every three months, usually on Tuesdays.

Latner: Said he was interested in the position.

Wilson moved to appoint Michael Latner as the Resilience representative.

Without objection, Latner was appointed the Resilience representative.

5. Homelessness Liason

Antelin: Said that this was an alliance of all the NC members interesting in tackling this issue. They meet once a month on the third Saturday morning of the month.

Gaines and Pass nominated themselves to be Homelessness Liasons.

Without objection, Gaines and Pass were appointed as the Homelessness Liasons.

g. Discussion, appointment and confirmation of committee assignments.

Edelson: Said that he thought the two most important committees were outreach and PLUM. Outreach plays an important role in getting the word out and working with the social media consultant to keep the community informed about their meetings and actions. **Smith:** Said she thought the Vice President was the chair of outreach. **Edelson:** Said that was the rule once, but it is not in bylaws anymore. He asked if anyone was interested in chairing Outreach.

Hagerty: Asked if there was a limit to the number of people that can be on a committee. **Edelson:** Said there is only a limit on the number of board members that can be on a committee. **Antelin:** Said there could be no more than 4 board members on a committee.

Gaines: Said that chairs of committees must post agendas 48 hours before their meetings in order to be in compliance with the Brown Act. **Edelson:** Said that the committee meeting minutes must be posted as well.

Smith nominated herself to be the outreach chair. **Song** seconded.

Without objection, **Smith** was appointed the outreach chair.

Edelson: Said that outreach meetings were currently taking place at the West Traffic Bureau community room at Wellsworth Station on Venice on Thursdays following the OPNC meeting from 7 to 9 pm, but the new committee could change that meeting time and place if they wanted. He asked if anyone else was interested in joining the committee. Ibarra and Jimenez said they would join. Edelson then asked if anyone was interested in being chair of the PLUM committee, which typically meets at the same time as Outreach.

Smith: Said that she would recommend that Edelson chair PLUM. **Edelson:** Said he unfortunately did not have the time, but recommended that Oliver Baker chair PLUM because he works on the construction/development arena and had good knowledge of the planning process.

Baker: Said he would be interested. **Edelson:** Said that typically PLUM and Outreach met at the same time, at the same location and that the first hour would be for Outreach and the second for PLUM. He asked if Baker would like to continue that.

Gaines moved to appoint **Baker** as the PLUM committee chair. **Williams** seconded.

Without objection, **Baker** was appointed the PLUM chair.

Edelson: Asked if anyone was interested in being on the PLUM committee.

Jhingan: Said he was interested. **Edelson:** Asked if he would be interested in being on the Outreach committee too since they met at the same time. **Jhingan:** Said, yes he would do both.

Edelson: Said he knew that Gerry Pass was interested in continuing to chair the Public Safety committee chair. He asked Pass when he would hold those meetings. **Pass:** Said he could hold them on Wednesday or Thursdays. **Edelson:** Asked if anyone else was also interested in being on that committee. **Haggerty:** Said he was interested.

Gaines moved to appoint **Pass** as the Public Safety committee chair. **Williams** seconded.

Without objection, **Pass** was appointed the Public Safety committee chair.

Edelson: Said that all of the committee meetings must be held within the boundaries of the OPNC. He asked if anyone else was interested in chairing committees. **Latner:** said he was interested in chairing the environmental and Health Services committee.

Gaines moved to appoint Latner as the Environmental and Health Services committee chair. Williams seconded.

Without objection, Latner was appointed the Environmental and Health Services committee chair.

Edelson: Said that the matters that would normally come before any of the other committees that do not currently have a chair/members would instead come before the full board.

5. Special presentations and reports: City/State Reps reports

Angie Aramayo, Central Area Representative for the Mayor's Office: She said would not be able to attend every OPNC meeting but she would send monthly emails with three to four bullet point updates from the Mayor's Office. She had a few updates:

- The Mayor had a new program called HIRE LA's Youth which is working on getting youth off the street via entry level jobs, internships and mentorships. It is available to any youth in any community.
- The Mayor had proposed \$10.6 billion budget that the City Council will be finalizing within the next week or so. \$458 million is proposed for homelessness, \$940 million for infrastructure investment, including sidewalks and Vision Zero, and \$399 million is proposed for unforeseen expenditures and emergencies. City Council can change some things, but this is what the Mayor is proposing. She said if the OPNC has specific questions on the budget that they could reach out to her and she could also send them a bluebook guideline breaks down every budget proposal the Mayor has.
- She congratulated both the new and old board members on their recent elections. She said she was a former neighborhood council member herself and she looked forward to working with them all.

Gaines: Asked if she was on their email list. She said she should be, but if not she would get on it.

Julien Antelin, from DONE: had a few announcements:

- He reminded the board had a conflict of interest regarding an agenda item they should disclose the conflict to the board and recuse themselves from the discussion.
- He said DONE would have city-wide leadership training on how to run meetings, bylaws, and other neighborhood council basics. The training is not mandatory but new members are encouraged and welcome to come. He also gave them a document called "10 Things to Know for Board Members".

Edelson: Said he sent an email to all the board members with a RSVP link to the event.

- Antelin said all board members are required to complete the training on funding, ethics and the code of conduct. He asked who has not completed the training yet. Ibarra, Latner and Song had not yet completed the training. So, Antelin said they were not allowed to vote on funding matters at this meeting. He asked them to send their training certificates to him as soon as they completed the training. Also student rep Ramsay Goyal was not allowed to vote on funding in general.
- He said anyone appointed to be the Second Signer, Alternate Signer or Bank Card holder will require additional training. The next training session was May 7th at City Hall, and there would also be one on Saturday May 18th in Reseda.
- He encouraged them to listen to the Empower LA podcast which had interviews with different people involved in the Neighborhood Council system. He said it was a great way to learn more about what was happening in the City. There was recently an interview with Council Member Ryu, a former Neighborhood Council board member. It is hosted by Greg Shears.
- He said the Department of City Planning is organizing a NC Planning 101 session with a specific focus on environmental regulations on Monday May 20th at 11214 W Exposition Blvd. He said if they could not go he could also send them a link to youtube videos from the DCP on the planning process.
- He said you can now report parked scooters that are blocking areas to LA 311 via the app. The scooter provider will remove the scooter within 2 hours.

Edelson: Asked when the new NC budget was due.

Antelin: Said the current budget will end June 30th, and the new fiscal year starts on July 1st. The last check payment is June 1st, and June 20th is the last date they can use the credit card. There is also a new rule now where you can apply to have up to \$10,000 of unused funds roll over.

Ibarra: Asked about an email he received about a tour of a LADWP facility in the valley.

Antelin: Said the tour was actually of a facility in Owens Valley. It is a two-day trip designed to inform the community about the water they drink. You have to register for the tour but it is free. It is a 2-day trip and food and room and board are provided. Participants will be picked up at a meet-up point in the valley.

Edelson: Thanked Antelin and encouraged the board to use Antelin as a resource if they had any questions about the NC process.

6. LAPD Wilshire and Olympic SLO update

Harry Cho, Senior Lead Officer Olympic Division: Introduced himself. He said he was one of 10 Senior Lead Officers in the Olympic Division. The area he is responsible for is between Normandie and Western from Pico to San Marino and between Western and Crenshaw from Pico to Wilshire. A lot of crime in the area lately has consisted of car break-ins. He urged the community to not leave anything in

their cars as that encourages thieves to break into them. Also, several elderly women have been robbed in the western corridor, along Olympic. Recently a woman was robbed as she was entering a mall the Galleria mall. The thief knocked her down and stole her purse. Another woman's purse was recently snatched by a young man as she was walking down the Western and Harrington area. The young man was later stopped in a car with two other juveniles the Country Club Park area and was found to have the woman's ID on him. The thief turned out to be just 15 years old.

Gaines: Said that maybe the young man was following in someone older's footsteps.

Hebel Rodriguez, Senior Lead Officer Wilshire Division:

He introduced himself. He said his car, 7A47, goes from Venice Blvd to Wilshire Blvd, between Crenshaw Blvd and Redondo Blvd. For the past several months all SLO's were deployed to the north end of the division due to a spike in robberies, particularly in the Melrose corridor. Tourists in the area who were not paying attention to their surroundings are being ambushed and robbed. Also, there have been several robberies in the area with weapons such as knives or guns, as well as some purse snatches. There have also been several cases of credit card fraud from organized groups from the east coast, such as New York or Chicago. As a result of the LAPD's efforts there was a decrease in robberies. They removed 4 guns from that area as well. But, a few days ago they were reassigned back to their main areas. He even got to dance with a community member at a recently fun LANA gathering, which has been posted online. They have seen a decrease in burglaries in his area, with only 3 burglaries in one month. But unfortunately, the amount of car breaks was the same. Car break in are typically between 10 to 13 a month, and this past month there were 13 total. He urged the community not to leave items in their cars, as their windows will get smashed. 6 out of 13 car robberies had smashed windows. However, there is still a 20% decrease in crime. 2 out of the 6 robberies had weapons involved, one was a gun and the other was a knife. 4 out of the 6 robberies were thefts from stores wherein a thief was caught shoplifting by shop owner and the thief used physical force to get away. He also wanted to mention that they will have their open house on May 19th from 12-4 pm to celebrate their 150th anniversary.

Cho: Said that if you follow their division on social media, they plan to post more relevant information on the website soon.

Board Comment:

Gaines: Asked Rodriguez to email him the flyer for the open house. Rodriguez said he would.

Public Question

A community member, who did not identify herself, said she was new to the neighborhood and asked if there are any diversion programs in place in the neighborhood. She said she lived Orange Drive between Wilson and Pico.

Cho: Said they have a diversion program for only juveniles that are arrested for less serious crimes, such as shoplifting. The juveniles get counseling and then have a counseling session with the victim of the crime with their parent. If the juvenile does not follow the guidelines of the program then they would inform the district attorney and they would file charges later on. But the goal is to prevent them from being booked.

Rodriguez: Said there was a similar program, he believed through the City Attorney's office, for juveniles who have no history of being arrested before. The juveniles go through the process of a court hearing in front of peers of their age through high school. He said it was a really good program and that he had sat through one at LA high. He strongly recommended it. The students are the judge and will decide their sentencing. They often send them to get counseling or community service and he believed that often works. If they do not comply with the terms then they have to go to a real hearing.

Cho: Said there were about 4 or 5 nonprofits that dealt with incorrigible kids that parents or the community in general could use as a resource.

7. Public comment on non-agenda items

Sasha Feldstein: Said she lived Orange between Olympic and Pico. She urges the NC to have a goal of looking into spending their money more wisely and proactively so that they are not scrambling to spend money at the end of next year again.

Edelson: Asked her to sign up for their email blast on their website. The OPNC will have a budget committee meeting soon, that he invited her to come participate in.

Andra Muldov: Said she is resident of the county. She is volunteer on behalf of the Food & Water Watch, an environmental nonprofit focused on healthy food and a clean environment. They want to ask LADWP to consider a bolder goal for transitioning to renewable energy. Their target goal of is currently 2045 and according to most studies we may not have that much time. So they would like DWP to consider a target goal transitioning to a system completely devoid of fossil fuels by 2030. She'd like to add a motion for a CIS reflecting that sentiment to the agenda.

Edelson: Asked her to email him to arrange that.

Carla, Stakeholder: Said everyone seemed confused about what the money they were allocating was even going toward. She hoped next time they had to spend \$20,000 they planned to have something more specific in mind. **Edelson:** Said he totally understood her frustration. He said the that budget that they are working with right now, that closed at the end of the next month, was voted on by the last board. By July 1st he said they will have a new budget. They have not had a very active outreach board, which is where typically a lot of NC funds go. But he hoped with the new board there would be a more active outreach committee. He agreed with her and Ms. Feldstein that their money needed to be spent more wisely. He said his email is mitchedelson@gmail.com and that anyone from the public is welcome to email him.

His phone number is 323-301-8775 so if you have a more urgent situation, you can call or text him.

Nina Smith: Gave a quick presentation on the White Paper. It has 32 budget reports on the budget advocates' interviews with the departments. She sent the OPNC board a letter from the budget advocate board which lists what is in the report. She emailed the report to all the OPNC board members, but it is also available online to the public. She recommends that all of the board take the time to read the report. The Budget Advocates have recommended that the City of LA appoint a City Manager and the report outlines why. She also said that because the budget advocates meeting was at the same time as the OPNC meeting she would alternate every other month between them. **Edelson:** Asked her to email him if there was anything she wanted him to know when she couldn't make the OPNC meetings.

8. Administrative

Gaines: Said that they actually had the MERs for January through May 2019 available to approve.

Hagerty moved to approve the January, February, March, April and May 2019 Monthly Expenditure Reports. Edelson seconded.

Without objection, the January, February, March, April and May 2019 Monthly Expenditure Reports were unanimously approved.

Edelson: Said he knew other NCs used a consent calendar and said that they use one in the future out of respect for everyone's time. He said he would place the minutes, the MERs and the AppleOne invoices onto the consent calendar to try to consolidate the agenda.

- 1. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Reports for January 2019**
- 2. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Reports for February 2019**
- 3. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Reports for April 2019**
- 4. Approval and payment of Apple One invoices**
 - i. S7506894 - \$69.30**
 - ii. S7598119 - \$46.20**
 - iii. S7554943 - \$150.15**
 - iv. S7686618 - \$53.82**

Pass moved to approve the payment of all four Apple One invoices. Jhingan seconded.

Without objection, the invoice payments were approved.

- 5. Approval and payment of Moore Business Results invoices:**
 - i. INV OPNC 2019 0301 for \$259.56**

- ii. INV OPNC 2019 0401 for \$329.81
- iii. INV OPNC 2019 0501 for \$420.32

Edelson: Said that Moore Business Results operates the OPNC's facebook and social media.

Pass: Asked when the most recent invoice was from. **Edelson:** May. **Pass:** Asked about some of the price updates in the more recent bills. **Edelson:** Said some of the updates were for the election but also some of the charges were because she charges penalties and interest for not paying the bill in a timely manner, which he thought was fair. The OPNC had not been able to pay her because they had not met quorum at recent meetings and could not approve those payments.

Gaines: Said they already paid their elections bill and that these were the standard monthly payments, plus the late fee interest.

Baker moved to approve the three invoice payments. Pass seconded.

Without objection, the invoice payments were unanimously approved.

6. Approval of February minutes

Gaines moved to approve the February 2019 minutes. Wilson seconded the motion.

Without objection, February 2019 minutes were approved.

7. Discussion and Approval of OPNC 2018-2019 Budget Adjustments to prepare for \$10,000 Rollover into next fiscal year.

Song moved to approve the OPNC 2018-2019 Budget Adjustments to prepare for \$10,000 Rollover into next fiscal year. Ibarra seconded.

Board Comment:

Gaines: Said that this item was out of order because he has not done a Treasurer report yet and the board cannot vote until they know what their current budget is.

Edelson tabled the motion and called on the Treasurer to give his report.

Gaines: Said the OPNC gets \$42,000 a fiscal year. This fiscal year they have spent \$8,989.07, leaving \$33,010.93 left to spend. The invoices they just approved were all encumbered, meaning they were already part of the \$8,089.07 that he recorded as spent funds. He said that in the NPG funding motions it is says "up to" a dollar amount in case they are off by a few dollars here and there they

can still adjust. Since their goal is to roll over \$10,000, he said they need to spend the remaining \$23,000.93 on the NPG motion. Minus the \$5,000 they already approved in Item 9.4, that leaves \$18,010.93

Smith: Said she would like to ask the board to transfer money to the budget advocates. **Edelson:** Said that was already on the agenda.

9. New Business

1. Discussion and possible board action to approve purchase of a \$1000 advertisement in Country Club Park Neighborhood Associations Newsletter

Edelson: Said that Country Club Park Neighborhood Associations had both a calendar and a newsletter and that he thought it would be good to be engaged with those communities in their neighborhood. After speaking with treasurer, they offered \$1,000 for a calendar ad and \$1,000 for a newsletter ad. He suggested putting basic information in the ad about when and where the OPNC meets and invite the stakeholders to get involved in the local NC.

Gaines moved to approve a purchase of a \$1000 advertisement in Country Club Park Neighborhood Association's Newsletter and a \$1000 advertisement in Country Club Park Neighborhood Association's calendar for outreach and efforts. Smith seconded.

Without objection, the purchase was approved.

2. Discussion and possible board action to approve purchase of a \$1000 advertisement in Country Club Park Neighborhood Associations Calendar

Approved in previous item.

3. Discussion and possible board action to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) up to \$25,000 to Longwood Area Neighborhood Association for 12th street alley maintenance and/or supporting LANA's digital outreach initiatives

Gaines recused himself because he is the founder and president of LANA.

Antelin: Said to make sure Gaines does not sign the application if the NPG is approved.

Pass: Said the item was not appropriate without fact or details on what exactly the NPG will be used for.

Edelson: Asked if anyone knew about the issues facing the 12th Street alley.

Ibarra: Asked where the alley was exactly. **Song:** Said she believed it as north or Pico.

Edelson: Said it was his understanding that LANA pays to maintain the alley - keep it free from debris and litter.

Wilson: Said there are gates on both side of the alley. Years ago, it was a gang hangout. Now, it is very overgrown.

Public Comment:

Lynn, Stakeholder: Said she objected to this funding because the alley maintenance felt like a Department of Transportation problem. Also, it is likely when the gates were put up that LANA had to sign something saying they would maintain it.

Board Comment:

Pass: Said that the way the law reads along alleyways, the property owners are responsible for maintaining up to the middle of the alley between their properties.

Williams: Said he knew public works was partially responsible for this alley. He had the alley cleaned up last year before the LANA block party but it is a public work's jurisdiction.

Edelson: Said that the funds were also potentially for LANA's outreach efforts.

Song: Asked if the money they had left would be lost if they did not spend the remaining amount. **Edelson:** Said yes, unless they arranged a special meeting soon. They could do also joint board meeting with the outreach committee. **Song:** Suggested a NPG up to \$1,000 to help LANA with basic clean up supplies.

Pass moved to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) of up to \$1,000 to the Longwood Area Neighborhood Association for 12th street alley maintenance and/or supporting LANA's digital outreach initiatives. Song seconded.

Antelin: Recommended tabling the motion because the request was too vague.

Pass withdrew his motion.

Pass left the meeting after this Item, at 8:50 pm.

4. Discussion and possible board action to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) up to \$25,000 to Koreatown Youth Community Center (KYCC) for tree planting, graffiti removal, and/or general clean up in OPNC's boundaries

Edelson: Said that it has been the prerogative of the board in the past to try to spend all of the remainder of the NC's allotted funds before the end of the fiscal year, save for the \$10,000 that will roll over into next year. He said that this NPG requested up to \$25,000, because after the OPNC approves the payment of their outstanding invoices then they would have approximately \$25,000 left. **Gaines:** Said the OPNC currently had unspent \$33,010.99 in total. **Edelson:** Said that the city does not like spending over \$5,000 without a contract. He recommended keeping all of the NPG amounts under \$5,000

Song recused herself because she is also a member of the Koreatown Youth Community Center organization and left the room for the duration of the discussion.

Public Comment:

Rachel Malarich, KYCC Assistant Director of Environmental Services: Said that she did not know Song was on the board so she did not mention her as a contact when she submitted the NPG. She said KYCC's Environmental Services programs include graffiti removal and a clean streets program including litter abatement. They do graffiti removal program is via a 311 system in which people can report graffiti and the KYCC will send crews to remove it. They also do tree planting and maintenance. She brought a map with her of the species of trees they planted in the area last June. Many of those trees were along Olympic Blvd. They received funding from a state grant to maintain those trees. **Edelson:** Asked what the species the trees were. **Malarich:** Said there was a long list on the map she provided but she is a certified arborist and they try to have a diverse group of trees so that if one species gets a disease, it won't infect the rest and result in them losing the entire population of newly planted trees. **Edelson:** Said he read in the LA Times that there was a shade crisis going on right now. **Malarich:** Said she was also on the Community Forest Advisory Committee to the City and that another tree expert was on their staff as well. Part of their programming with tree planting and maintenance is part of a City Plan's fund by DWP – a "triangle" commitment to water program in which any homeowner who requests it can get a free tree planted in front of their home in a parkway space if it fits. The KYCC's crews will then come out and assess the area, get approval from the city and plant the tree for free.

Goyal: Asked if the trees were mostly native to the local area. **Malarich:** Said by and large they are not. They try to plant a native species when it is appropriate but unfortunately this area does not have a lot of native species. And most of the native species are high water users which they do not want to

plant in an area that is not near a body of water. Also, they are often too big to be planted in the parkway areas.

Pass: Asked if you call 311 for the litter removal or the KYCC's phone number. **Malarich:** Said that there currently there were issues with reaching KYCC via 311 that they were currently working with the city on resolving. In the meantime, you can contact their KYCC office directly and they will schedule a clean-up. **Pass:** Said he asked because the homeless camps near his home have left a lot of garbage in the past. But, when he has called the city to request a clean-up they told him that it could not be collected because it was loose trash and not in a bag or container. **Malarich:** Said they can pick up loose litter but when a homeless camp is involved they are often required to involve the Dept of Sanitation, they are not allowed to get too close and handle it on their own. But they can come take a look at the area in question and figure out what they are allowed to do.

A community member who did not identify herself asked how long it usually takes to get a tree installed and how big the tree would get. **Malarich:** Said it depended on the time of year, but typically 3 to 6 months. They are 15-gallon tree which is 6 to 8 feet tall and an inch and half in diameter.

Another community member asked if they could rethink some of plantings in the medians along Hope. The ones where she lives look quite shabby.

Malarich: Said those trees were under the Bureau of Street Service's jurisdiction and the KYCC does not regularly work on those. They have contracts to work on the Wilshire medians, which they re-landscaped and maintain.

Edelson: Asked if they worked with homeowner's associations about what they want in their communities. **Malarich:** Said they did. **Edelson:** Said he knew Country Club Park was interested as well.

Gaines: Asked how much money they were requesting. **Malarich:** Said they were requesting \$5,000. They get much of their money from contracts, but they want to go above and beyond with their work. **Edelson:** Said he works on Pico and has been impressed with their work. He has seen their crew repainting over graffiti the night after the graffiti was left.

***Gaines** moved to approve up to \$5,000 for Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) up to \$25,000 to Koreatown Youth Community Center (KYCC) for tree planting, graffiti removal, and/or general clean up in OPNC's boundaries. **Hagerty** seconded.*

Without objection, the motion was approved unanimously. (Board members who had not completed their funding training and the student rep, Ramsay Goyal, could not participate in the vote).

5. Discussion and possible board action to adopt a resolution supporting Budget Advocates up to \$25,000.

Edelson: Asked Smith how much the OPNC gave to the Budget Advocates last year. **Smith:** \$19,000, which was great because the budget advocates could really use the money.

Edelson: Asked what they needed the money for. **Smith:** Equipment for town halls, copies, and other supplies.

Edelson: Asked what exactly Budget Advocates do. **Smith:** Said this was her first year as a budget advocate. She attended a lot of the meetings. There are 36 advocates and she represent Region 6. There are 6 NCs in region 6 in total. She is supposed to go to each Region 6 NCs and talk about the budget. They also interview the 32 departments in the city of LA in order to understand how much money the city is spending by department. They usually interview the supervisor of reach department. She found out that 62% of the \$9 billion budget goes to the police, 28% to the fire department, the rest are split among the other agencies. She learned that most departments need money to hire personnel. They have many projects, but very little money. Public Works and Transportation in particular need personnel. The budget of the City of LA is deficit. She gave out what the budget advocates call “the White Paper,” which summaries the budget advocates’ findings.

Edelson: Asked Antelin what the Budget Advocates’ total budget is. **Antelin:** Said it depends each year. Typically, the city allocated them \$10,000 in funds every year and then the receive money from the NCs. Last year their total amount was \$80,000.

***Baker** moved to adopt a resolution supporting Budget Advocates up to \$6,010.93. **Song** seconded.*

***Jimenez** objected to the motion but was ineligible to vote because she had not yet completed the funding training.*

Without objection, the motion was approved.

6. Discussion and possible board action to adopt a resolution supporting the event organized by the Neighborhood Council Congress up to \$25,000.

Edelson: Asked Antelin to explain the event. **Antelin:** Said the event is organized by NCC. A group of NC members from different meet once a month until event. It will take place in the City Hall Council Chambers. There will be a lot workshops and conferences. It is a City-wide event and 600-800 people typically show up. Meeting are on third Saturday of the month, and the event will be on the third Saturday of September. It is an opportunity for NCs to talk about many issues they are addressing – from CISs to homelessness initiatives.

Edelson: Asked Antelin what the budget was for the event. **Antelin:** He did not know. The event is at a city facility so they do not have to pay for the space, but they do have to pay for food, security, sanitation, audio/visual, etc.

Edelson: Asked if anyone wanted to hold special meeting to allocate the remaining funds to other causes, besides just the congress event, before the deadline.

Gaines: Said that another \$500 of the remaining funds would go toward other operation expense, \$90 will go to constant contact, \$45 for pizza the next two meetings, and there will also be the new AppleOne payments. In total, he thought they needed to keep around \$1,000 for the OPNC's bills until the deadline.

*Hagerty moved to allocate up to \$8,000 to the support the Neighborhood Council Congress event, reserving \$2,000 for recurring payments. **Jhingan** seconded.*

Board Discussion:

Baker: Asked if the Neighborhood Council Congress event was a better use of their funds than supporting the Budget Advocates.

Antelin: Said that Budget Advocate funds will be controlled by the City Council.

Without objection, the motion to allocate up to \$8,000 to the support the Neighborhood Council Congress event, reserving \$2,000 for recurring payments was approved.

10. Adjournment (next meeting on June 3rdth @ Catch One)

*Gaines moved to adjourn the meeting. **Wilson** seconded.*

Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 9:21 pm