

MINUTES OF THE BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Brentwood Presbyterian Church

Wednesday, August 14, 2024

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairwoman Carolyn Jordan acted as the meeting Chair and called the meeting to order at approximately 5:30 p.m. and called the roll.

Council members present:

REPRESENTATIVES

Aronson, Michelle
Akov, Georgia
Alfano, Madelyn
Binder, John
Brown, Pamela
Davis, Jane
Ebtehadj, Amir
Jordon, Carolyn
Klein, Ray
Krell, Marilyn
LoBuglio, Carolyn
Morgan, Kathy

Reifsneinder, Daren

Roll, Barbara

Shaloo, Andrea

Simmons, Sheila

Watts, Larry

ALTERNATES

Arbour, Elyse.

Flannagan, Kathleen

Owens, Ayesha

*Note: Only those Representatives and Alternates who are present at the meeting will be listed; late arrivals are asked to announce themselves to the Board can recognize them and list them as present.

Approval of Minutes

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the June 12, 2024 general meeting were approved.

Getty Center Center's New Exhibition PST ART: Art & Science Collide

The Chair next noted PST ART, fka Pacific Standard Time, will commence on

September 15, 2024. It is a collaboration from the Getty that brings together hundreds of artists every five years around a central theme. This year's theme is "Art & Science Collide" and will be presented to audiences throughout Southern California. With the support of nearly \$20 million in grants from Getty, dozens of cultural, scientific, and community organizations will present more than 60 deeply researched exhibitions and an extraordinary spectrum of public programs over the course of five months, all exploring the intersections of art and science—past, present, and in the imaginable future.

SLO Mathew Kirk Crime Report: The Chair next recognized SLO Mathew Kirk who reported that LAPD data is still unavailable due to a transition to a new system. However, he noted a 45% increase in residential burglaries in Brentwood, with a total of 122 incidents. He mentioned that while bolting safes to the floor used to be sufficient, he has seen safes stolen and pushed down stairs, causing damage.

He also discussed a group of masked individuals known as "First Amendment Auditors" who film on public property without revealing their identity or purpose. SLO Kirk advised ignoring these auditors and not engaging with them, as they are well-versed in the law. Chair Jordan emphasized the importance of reporting all crimes, regardless of how minor they may seem.

Brentwood Green The Chair next recognized LAUSD Trustee Nick Melvoin's District Director Allison Holdorff Polhill and Reginald Brunson, Principal of Brentwood Science Magnet School. They announced that Brentwood Green, the Community School Park located on the campus of BSMS, will reopen to the public. Brentwood Green was organized by the Brentwood community to create a beautiful green campus that would also serve as a park open to the

public during after school hours and on weekends and holidays when the school is closed. The community raised hundreds of thousands of dollars to build a grass playing field, numerous gardens, an amphitheater, new playground equipment and other amenities. Brentwood Green was closed to the public during the pandemic and the community has been working for over two years for it reopen. Allison Holdorff Polhill and Reginald Brunson stated now be open to the public, initially only on Sundays from 8:00 AM to 2:30 PM. Like the Farmer's Market, dogs are not permitted.

To learn more or to make a donation, visit the Brentwood Green website.

<https://brentwoodgreen.org/>

Government Representative Liaisons. There were none.

WRAC Motion. The Chair next called for a discussion of HR 8340 sponsored by Brad Sherman. This a bipartisan sponsored bill that would exclude certain disability benefits from income for the purposes of determining eligibility of disabled veterans for the supported housing program and for other purposes. Although HUD recently changed its rules that does not include disability payments in determining eligibility for HUD-VASH vouchers, that does not aid disabled veterans in other federal programs. Thereafter, following further discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded it was,

RESOLVED, the Brentwood Community Council ("BCC") supports the adoption of HR 8340 and urges the City of Los Angeles to adopt similar motion of support for the bill/

Guest Speaker. The Chair next introduced our CD-11 council member, Councilwoman Traci Park. Park announced she has been recently appointed to the important Budget Committee, as well as the Ad Hoc Committee On The 2028 Olympics And Paralympic Games. She also serves on the Trade, Travel and Tourism, Transportation, and Public Safety

Committees. She explained that the work of the City Council is largely carried out through council committees.

On public safety she stated the City will be conducting three pilot projects with real time crime centers involving surveillance by drones, which will present a number of issues, such as privacy, which have yet to be resolved. She also discussed the new ordinance related to RV parking zones and measures to prevent the theft of copper wire from street lamps. Concerning the 2028 Olympics, her recent trip to Paris provided her with insight into what LA can expect during the 2028 Olympics. She stressed that the 2028 Olympic will be a major endeavor and will require many citizen volunteers to be successful. On the budget, we should not expect to see any expansion of City services, but services should be back to pre-pandemic levels by 2028. In the meantime, the City will continue its practice of not filling positions that have been unfilled for several years

She reminded everyone to sign up for her Better11 newsletter to stay up-to-date with her office. <https://cd11.lacity.gov/>

BCC Committee Updates and Announcements

Land Use Committee.

Matu Steakhouse: The Chair announced the LUC will hold a Zoom meeting on August 27, 2024 at 5:30 PM concerning a CUB Permit application by Matu Steakhouse, 11777 W San Vicente Blvd.

155 South Barrington Place: The Chair reviewed the recommendation of the LUC following its meetings with the Applicant and representatives of BHA. These are set forth in the paper heretofore circulated to All BCC members. Thereafter, following further discussion and upon a motion duly made and seconded it was,

RESOLVED, the Brentwood Community Council (“BCC”) Chair is authorized to forthwith inform the City and the Applicant of the conditions that should be included in the CUB/CUB, and in the absences of these conditions, the BCC will oppose the application.

Transportation. The chair recognized Transportation Representative Lauren Cole. Cole gave a brief update on the status of the Metro Congestion pricing, which continues to move forward.

Public Safety Committee Member Simmons announced the committee will be conducting programs concerning home hardening, Neighborhood Watch and Property Crime Safety. The date(s) and time(s) of these events are to be determined.

Homelessness Taskforce.

The Chair next called for a discussion of the role of Los Angeles County in addressing the homelessness crisis. There followed a discussion concerning how the County must serve the homeless better, including increasing mental health and drug addiction services service.

Thereafter, upon a motion duly made and seconded it was,

RESOLVED, the Brentwood Community Council (“BCC”) Chair is authorized to forthwith inform the L. A. County Board of Supervisors of the BCC’s recommendations concerning the role of LA County in addressing issues arising from the County’s large unhoused population as reflected in the draft paper heretofore circulated to all BCC members.

Chair Announcements

The Chair announced the following:

CARE COURT EXPLAINED: A Zoom meeting will be conducted Andres Lizardo, Court Operations Manager, Linda Boyd, and Caitlin McCann to explain the procedures of the recently established Care Court at 4:00 p.m. on Monday August 26.

Adjournment.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Watts
Secretary