

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



GOVERNING BOARD

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TREASURER

MACK HILL
BRYAN KRAMER
JAVIER LOPEZ
TERESA ROMAN
REBECCA TROTZKY-
SIRR

GREATER CYPRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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GREATER CYPRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL **SPECIAL** GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, October 18, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.
Online/Telephonic Meeting via Zoom # 868 4239 6909



DRAFT MINUTES

Board Members	Roll Call
Romana Barajas	Present
Mack Hill	Present
Ash Kramer	Present
Bryan Kramer	Present
Javier Lopez	Absent
Lizette Montes	Absent
Teresa Roman	Absent
Rebecca Trotzky-Sirr	Present

1. Call to Order

- 1.1. The meeting was called to order at 7:13 p.m. by Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council (GCPNC) Chair, Romana Barajas. The minutes taker, Mr. Starr, called the roll [roll call was taken after Ms. Barajas' introductory remarks and a report from Erica Gatica from DONE.] Five (5) board members were present at roll call: Ms. Barajas, Mack Hill, Ash Kramer (Treasurer), Bryan Kramer, and Rebecca Trotzky-Sirr). Quorum (5) was met. Javier Lopez, Lizette Montes (Vice-Chair), and Teresa Roman were absent. Supporting documents were available at <https://cypressparknc.com/gcpnc-special-meeting-10-18-7pm/>.
- 1.2. Ms. Barajas provided instructions on making public comment and accessing interpretation features. She acknowledged that Cypress Park sits on land formerly inhabited by the Tongva people.

2. Comments from Public Officials

- 2.1. **Erica Gatica** (erica.gatica@lacity.org) Empowerment Advocate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), reported. [Note: This report was made prior to roll call.]
Gatica referred to various resources available in the Monthly Profile and on the City Clerk's website. She highlighted that more than one board member would have training coming due in coming months. She noted that Ms. Roman would be able to receive assistance with translation to complete her training.

At this time, Section 4 was taken up.

3. 100 Acre Partnership Update

This item was taken up after 4.1.

Miguel Paredes (mparedes@leeandrewsgroup.com), Senior Outreach Specialist, Lee Andrews Group, reported. [See Appendix.]. He agreed to send flyers for upcoming events and offered to meet in person to share physical flyers. Ms. Barajas suggested distributing flyers through Manos Que Sobreviven, who distribute food at Irving School; she said Ms. Roman's group would be a good opportunity for outreach. Paredes said he had already reached out to Ms. Roman about addressing her group.

Ms. Kramer requested a list of Community Advisory Committee members so stakeholders could bring their concerns to those members "when they bump into them at the grocery store."

4. Public Comments

This section was taken up following Item 2.

4.1. Guadalupe introduced herself as the program manager for a day labor center in Cypress Park (<https://idepsca.org/daylabor>). It would provide covid boosters and flu vaccines to the community on October 27. The organization, IDEPSCA, provided Spanish language materials to the community regarding COVID-19 and monkeypox. They were interested in partnering with GCPNC for a December event. Mr. Hill agreed to email Guadalupe the relevant information.

At this time, Item 3 was taken up.

This section was taken up again at 8:20 p.m., following Item 12.2.

4.2. Leticia Campos said she was with Unidos por NELA, which, she said, consisted of 22 women looking to improve northeast Los Angeles. Over past 3 years, members had volunteered for food distributions and other community events. They would submit a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) application at the November meeting for a planned December event.

At this time (8:24 p.m.), Item 13 was taken up.

5. Sylvia Beltran Introduction (Liaison from Los Angeles Department of Water and Power)

This item was taken up on October 11, 2022 (quorum was not reached and that meeting was not called to order).

6. Chair and Vice Chair Report

This section was taken up at 8:01 p.m. after Section 2.

6.1. Update on member eligibility to vote.

All five members present were eligible to vote on all matters.

6.2. Discussion and Possible Action: Introduce nominees and vote to fill the vacant seat on the board

Ms. Kramer noted that in October 2020 there had been a "robust slate" of community members who had expressed interest in joining the board.

6.3. Discussion and Possible Action: Consider a letter to present GCPNC position on Council File 22-1189 / Elected Officials / Martinez, de Leon and Cedillo / Offensive Misconducts / Racist and Hateful Comments / City Charter / Immediate Resignation Demand / The Resolution resolves that Councilmembers Nury Martinez, Kevin De Leon and Gil Cedillo are CENSURED for their conduct and statements during the referenced meeting of October 2021, and the Council joins the community in demanding their immediate resignation from the Council.

See item 6.4. 6.3 and 6.4 were taken up together.

- 6.4. Discussion and Possible Action: Consider a letter to present GCPNC position on Council File 22-1195 / Racially Insensitive and Divisive Statements / Professional Conduct Failure / City Charter /Ground for Removal (Blumenfield- Rodriguez –Price): Motion to censure Councilmembers Cedillo, DeLeon and Martinez for their racially insensitive and divisive statements, as reported in the media, which constitute a gross failure to conform with and meet the highest standards of personal and professional conduct, even if their actions do not constitute a ground for removal from office under the Charter.

Items 6.3 and 6.4 were taken up together.

Mr. Hill spoke in support of both 6.3 and 6.4 and said Councilmembers Cedillo and De Leon should resign and Eunisses Hernandez should be placed in Mr. Cedillo's seat upon Cedillo's resignation.

Ms. Kramer said the same letter could be used for both 6.3 and 6.4.

Ms. Kramer said the behavior of the four people caught on tape was unacceptable [Note: including Nury Martinez and Ron Herrera]. She argued the GCPNC should call on Cedillo and Martinez to be removed from their committee assignments and that the two should resign immediately. She read a letter written by Mr. Hill. There were some minor edits during the meeting.

"The Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council condemns the hatred, racism, bigotry, homophobia, classism, ignorance, gerrymandering and sheer corruption of power and insists that Kevin DeLeon and Gil Cedillo follow suit with Nury Martinez and resign their LA City Council positions immediately. Such viewpoints are unacceptable in Cypress Park and the city of Los Angeles.

Councilmember elect Hernandez should immediately take her elected seat on behalf of CD1.

It is imperative that an examination and study be done on the current city districts and design a redistricting process that is outside of the control of current election officials which may include additional city council seats to be able to represent the city more equitably for all.

An investigation by the city attorney's office as well as the appropriate state and federal agencies should commence immediately into the corruption surrounding these council members and city hall."

Mr. Hill moved that the draft of the GCPNC statement on the current situation at City Council be put forward to the public in English & Spanish and attached in support of Council Files 22-1189 and 22-1195. **Ms. Kramer** seconded. There was no additional public comment or board discussion. The motion **passed** unanimously. Three members were absent (Lopez, Montes, Roman).

- 6.5. Discuss and Possible Action: Consider a letter to present GCPNC position on [CF 22-1070 Neighborhood Council Meetings](#) / EmpowerLA Virtual Governance (EVG) System / In-Person / DONE with assistance from the City Attorney will create a report on viable options for conducting NC meetings in the future (virtual, in-person, hybrid) options

Ms. Barajas noted that GCPNC had more participation when meetings were held in person. She invited board members to bring motions regarding a CIS. Mr. Hill said he had completed a survey that included his detailed response. He noted that Governor Newsom planned to "lift" the state of emergency in February 2023, which might serve as a "bookend" for other levels of government.

No motion was made.

7. Land Use and Housing/Homelessness Committee Action Items

- 7.1. Discuss and Possible Action: Consider a letter of support for protecting the black walnut tree to city planners: Letter Draft - <https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ID-EsDBTDWH4B6-5vb20MR5b8CZEjECjvOjK29Xaby8/edit>

Ms. Kramer said a form letter had been shared with GCPNC for it to sign on. Enforcement of the current rules was lacking, she said.

Ms. Kramer added “Cypress Park abuts Mount Washington, and the hillside is a habitat for the black walnut tree” to the draft letter.

Ms. Kramer moved to send the letter to the many people in the planning department that need to see it. **Mr. Kramer** seconded. There was no additional public comment or board discussion. The motion **passed** unanimously. Three members were absent (Lopez, Montes, Roman).

8. Neighborhood Purpose Grant Committee Updates

8.1. No updates were provided.

9. Treasurer’s Report

1. Approval of August 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report

Ms. Kramer noted that the agenda should have read “July and August 2022 Monthly Expenditure Reports.”

Ms. Kramer moved to approve the July and August 2022 MERs. **Mr. Hill** seconded. There was no additional public comment or board discussion. The motion **passed** unanimously. Three members were absent (Lopez, Montes, Roman).

2. Approval of September 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report

It was agreed to postpone this item to November.

10. Consent Calendar

Approve August and September Regular Meeting Minutes

Ms. Kramer moved to approve the Consent Calendar. **Ms. Barajas** seconded. The motion **passed** unanimously. Three members were absent (Lopez, Montes, Roman).

11. Action Items

11.1. Using USPS bulk mail to reach stakeholders with no internet and who are not easy to reach to promote GCPNC. <http://tiny.cc/BulkMailForNCs>

Ms. Barajas said the idea for mailers came prior to COVID. She was interested in board input. Ms. Kramer spoke in support and said it would be effective in January—after the election after the holiday catalog rush.

Ms. Barajas said she would add this to the December agenda.

12. New Business and ideas for future meetings

[Note: This section was erroneously labeled as section 11 in the agenda. Numbers have been corrected in these minutes.]

12.1. Discuss on GCPNC Social Media Channel Guidelines (2019): Reviewing and/or amending the guidelines for what can be posted and possibly enhancing social media channels.

Ms. Kramer said the Facebook administrator was former Chair, Clint Birdsong. She noted “Gloria” was the admin for other accounts and a transition was in process. She said they should have access to the Facebook and Instagram accounts soon. She did not know about any Twitter account.

Ms. Barajas would add the item to the next agenda as an update.

Ms. Kramer noted TikTok was the key to young people. She suggested hiring someone to manage a Facebook account and suggested asking Ms. Gatica.

In public comment, **Letty** said her niece studied marketing at Cal State LA performed some marketing for Unidos por NELA. Many students did the same at piece rates, she said.

- 12.2.** Discuss old media accounts and how to re-establish them or other accounts to increase awareness of the NC and community events and resources.

See above.

13. Upcoming Meetings and Events

- Governing Board Meeting: Tuesday, November 8, 2022 at 7:00PM
- Monday, November 7, 2022 at 6:00pm

14. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m. without objection.

Respectfully submitted by Conrad Starr.

Appendix

LARER Project	Agency	October 2022
<p>Paseo del Rio Community Engagement</p>	<p>MRCA</p>	<p>The 100 Acre Partnership would like to thank you for providing us the opportunity to share with your Neighborhood Council our October Monthly Updates.</p> <p>From August 13th to September 12th our team followed up on Community Workshop One with a continued effort to solicit community feedback on the Paseo del Río at Taylor Yard Project through our Community Questionnaire. During that period we collected nearly 800 surveys. This feedback will be key towards the design options presented at Community Workshop Two.</p> <p>Community Workshop Two will be hosted on two days at Sotomayor High School. The 1st meeting will be on Thursday, November 17th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM. This meeting will be hosted in English with Spanish Translation. The 2nd meeting will be hosted on Saturday, November 19th from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. This meeting will be hosted in Spanish with English Translation. We will be presenting the proposed design alternatives based on community input. Your feedback will be key to the development of a design that best meets the community's interests. Families are welcome. Food and beverages will be provided. Please note that both workshops will feature the same content.</p> <p>We invite you to stay in touch via our website, social media and newsletter.</p>
<p>Paseo del Rio G2 Design</p>	<p>City</p>	<p>Pre-design is on-going. The design team has been incorporating feedback from the first community workshop into its conceptual designs and is excited to share at the second community workshop, which will take place over two days: 11/17 and 11/19.</p>
<p>TNC Demonstration Project</p>	<p>State Parks & TNC</p>	<p>TNC invites you to join them for coffee and conversation about brownfield transformation and the Bowtie Demonstration Project on 10/8 and 10/22 from 10 am to 11:30 am outside at Rio de Los Angeles State Park, in collaboration with Anahuak Youth Sports Association. Conversations will be hosted in Spanish with English-language interpretation. Flyers were shared with Neighborhood Council members last month, and they can also be accessed here (https://tnc.box.com/s/m0g0aques9v6g1jyt3t0owztee2owm) in Spanish and here (https://tnc.box.com/s/7crtkwnsyvnsq407t5ez1scxxhjfsnvx) in English. Thank you for getting the word out and we look forward to seeing you!</p>

Prop O Water Quality Project	City	(see above)
Equity Strategy	City	We are finalizing the project agreement and setting up team. Public engagement will begin in the fall.
Rio de Los Angeles State Park Fields	City	The project is in the design stage. The project team is anticipating a public meeting in November to review the final design.
LARER Project		The City and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers are continuing to meet to develop an agreement for the future work along the entire 11-mile project area.
UC Riverside Phyto & Myco Research Project at G2	City	UCR and the Friends of the LA River conducted a tour of the study area for high school students from the Sonia Sotomayor Learning Academies in September. Research is on track.
Taylor Yard Community and Wildlife Access Reconnecting Communities Pilot Grant Application	City	The City is applying for a planning grant that will include additional community outreach to develop methods to create better multimodal (pedestrian, bicycles, transit) connections between the surrounding communities and the 100-Acre Partners Projects at Taylor Yard and also improve the wildlife connections between Rio de Los Angeles State Park and G2. If the City receives the grant more information will become available.