

# CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



## GOVERNING BOARD

ROMANA BARAJAS  
CHAIR

LIZETTE MONTES  
VICE-CHAIR

ASH KRAMER  
TREASURER

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

## GREATER CYPRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

1150 CYPRESS AVE  
LOS ANGELES, CA 90065

E-mail: GCPNC@empowerla.org  
Website: cypressparknc.com

## GREATER CYPRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL GOVERNING BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Tuesday, November 15, 2022 – 7:00 P.M.  
Online/Telephonic Meeting via Zoom # 868 4239 6909



## DRAFT MINUTES

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

### 1. Call to Order

- 1.1. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Greater Cypress Park Neighborhood Council (GCPNC) Chair, Romana Barajas. The minutes taker, Mr. Starr, called the roll. Five (5) board members were present at roll call: Ms. Barajas, Ash Kramer (Treasurer), Bryan Kramer, Lizette Montes (Vice-Chair), and Rebecca Trotzky-Sirr. Quorum (5) was met. Mack Hill, Javier Lopez, and Teresa Roman were absent. Simultaneous Spanish-English interpretation was provided. Supporting documents were available at <https://cypressparknc.com/11-14-22-gcpnc-board-meeting/>.
- 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.

*At this time, section 8 was taken up.*

### 2. Comments from Public Officials

*This section was taken up at 7:34 p.m. after Item 8.2.*

- 2.1. **Erica Gatica** ([erica.gatica@lacity.org](mailto:erica.gatica@lacity.org)) Empowerment Advocate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE), reported. GCPNC was selected as an “EVG Hybrid Workgroup” for the East Los Angeles region. The board would be contacted directly with instructions. GCPNC would have its board election on May 20, 2023. DONE would provide more information. She invited GCPNC to provide input regarding community-based organizations that could assist in election outreach. She

said Ms. Roman had not responded to emails regarding her expired trainings and so Gatica and DONE had not yet scheduled a date for Roman to complete the training with language assistance.

Ms. Gatica described said the Community Impact Statement Filing Portal did not support Boards and Committees, and DONE was working on a multi-phase fix.

She noted that Ms. Miramon could vote on non-funding items but was ineligible to vote on funding motions pending completion of the Funding and Ethics training.

- 2.2. Kady Kepner** introduced herself as the Assistant Chief at Los Angeles Fire Department. She cautioned that Cypress Park was in a fire severity zone, and all residents should have an evacuation plan and checklist. Santa Ana winds were coming from the northeast.

### **3. 100 Acre Partnership Update**

*Sarai Jimenez, TNC; Joey Legaspi, Lee Andrews Group, Inc.; Miguel Paredes, Lee Andrews Group, Inc.; Brian Baldauf, MRCA*

**Miguel Paredes** (mparedes@leeandrewsgroup.com), Senior Outreach Specialist, Lee Andrews Group, reported. See Appendix.

Ms. Barajas inquired about the \$2M application Grant for the G2 parcel.

**Brian Baldauf** (info@100acrepartnership.org) from the Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority (MRCA) said there were two US EPA grants the City had received over the years, each for ½ Million Dollars. A new \$2M grant application was due that week. He said there had been a community meeting that week to talk about it. They would reveal design options later in the week.

Ms. Kramer asked who the third Community Advisory Committee member from Cypress Park was, besides Ms. Olmos and Mr./Mrs. Weintraub. Mr. Paredes said the third member had left due to a conflict. He agreed to let the board know if the third seat was available to be filled.

### **4. Paola Posada – NC Elections**

*City of LA Elections Division will provide NC election information*

Paola Posada with City Clerk Election Division reported that she was the Election Administrator for GCPNC, reachable at [clerk.electionsnclacity.org](mailto:clerk.electionsnclacity.org). The 2023 Election Timeline and Handbook were available at <https://clerk.lacity.org/ncelections/>. GCPNC had not yet submitted a polling location so the Clerk was using the information and preferences from 2019, which included use of the library from 10am to 4pm. Candidate filing would begin on January 20<sup>th</sup>. Posada will be election administrator.

### **5. Joe Ibarra - Muralist**

*Request to support repainting the mural “Vistas of Harmony” facing the Cypress Park Recreational Center.*

**Joe Ibarra** said that Mr. Limon had painted the mural in 1997 – Vistas de Harmony – and it was now 25 years old and in need of help. He had spoken with Mr. Limon and received the artist’s permission to paint out the graffiti scribbles. The City was planning to paint over the mural rather than restore it.

Ms. Kramer explained that the board could support a Community Improvement Project (CIP). She would like to “see board support” before they start to “get the ball rolling.”

Ms. Barajas suggested the MTA might fund the restoration.

**After some preliminary discussion, Ms. Barajas moved to write a letter of support for Joe Ibarra to restore the mural. Ms. Kramer seconded.**

In discussion, Bryan asked if there was any way to prevent future graffiti. Mr. Ibarra was not sure if an anti-graffiti coating had ever been applied or could be used in the future.

In public comment, **Julian** noted that this is what he does for a living and could share best practices regarding mural restoration. Noted even minor restoration involves going through channels with the city.

The motion **carried** with all 6 present (A. Kramer, B. Kramer, Montes, Trotzky-Sirr, Miramon, Barajas) voting in favor. Three (3) were absent (Hill, Lopez, Roman).

## 6. Mike Santos

*Introducing 2 new restaurants coming to Cypress Park.*

**Mike Santos** said that he and his business partner, chef Melissa Lopez, would be opening a two restaurants in Cypress Park—at 1215 and 1215 ½ Cypress Ave.— a pizza restaurant with takeout and delivery and a Portuguese full-service restaurant with 25 seats. He would be hiring staff in the next few months and welcomed applicants from the community. The Portuguese restaurant had a beer/wine license, and it was his plan not to pursue a full bar. Given the limited parking, he welcomed ideas from the community. Business hours had not yet been established, though they had discussed 10pm for the restaurant.

## 7. Public Comments

7.1. There were no public comments.

## 8. Chair and Vice Chair Report

*This section was taken up after Section 1.*

### 8.1. Update on member eligibility to vote.

It was explained that Teresa had emailed, saying she was taking a test, possibly the Ethics and/or Funding test she needed to be current.

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

**Julian Bermudez** introduced himself as a resident for more than 20 years. He owned a business on Cypress Ave. diagonal from the library. He was interested in the inner workings of the City and the neighborhood. During COVID, he was mindful of what was happening in the neighborhood.

**Erica Miramon** introduced herself as part of the group Unidos por NELA, and 6-year member of the community. She wanted to “do more events” for the community and reach more people.

**Evelia Hernandez** said she supported Miramon.

At this time, Ms. Barajas explained that she had professional and personal commitments preventing her from continuing in her role on the GCPNC.

After some discussion, **Ms. Barajas** moved to put Erica Miramon to fill the vacant seat for the NC. **Ms. Montes** seconded. There was no additional discussion or public comment. The motion carried with all five members voting in favor (A. Kramer, B. Kramer, Montes, Trotzky-Sirr, Barajas). Three were absent (Hill, Lopez, Roman).

Ms. Miramon was welcomed to the board.

*At this time (7:34 p.m.), Section 2 was taken up.*

### 8.3. Discussion and Possible Action: Consider submitting a Community Impact Statement letter of support for Council File 23-0002-S1 / Independent Redistricting Process / New Commission /New Redistricting Maps / City of Los Angeles / April 2023 Special Election: The Resolution is requesting that the City of Los Angeles would urge the State of California through an emergency clause to move forward on a Bill similar to Senate Bill (SB) that creates an independent process with a new commission and new redistricting maps for the City of Los Angeles before the April 2023 special elections.

**Ms. Barajas** moved to file a CIS in support of CF as above. \_\_\_\_\_ seconded. The motion **carried** with all six (6) members voting in favor (A. Kramer, B. Kramer, Miramon, Montes, Trotzky-Sirr, Barajas).

- 8.4. Discussion and Possible Action: Consider submitting a Community Impact Statement letter of support for Council File 22-1285, Rules of the City Council / Censured Councilmember /Charter The motion is requesting to amend the Rules of the City Council to include a list of potential consequences that can be imposed upon a censured Councilmember.  
It was agreed to postpone the item to the next meeting.

9. **Land Use and Housing/Homelessness Committee Action Items**

- 9.1. Updates from the Land Use and Housing/Homelessness Committee:  
Ms. Kramer provided a brief report.

10.

10.1. **Instituto de Educacion Popular del Sur de California for \$3000 – Grant will be used to provide "Free Coat drive & covid education" event on December 15th at the Cypress Park Community Job Center**

**Guadalupe Garcia** from the Instituto de Educacion Popular del Sur de California (IDEPSCA) presented. She described the support provided by the organization to the Cypress Park community, including employment support, COVID and flu vaccines, and more. At their planned winter event, they would be providing personal protective equipment supplies to community members and COVID program information, including in Spanish, which was sparse when COVID came out. The event was planned for sometime between December 15 and 22. Their partner, PCHC, helped immigrant communities to sign up for health care during the annual enrollment period.

The funding being requested was to help provide winter clothes, to print COVID education materials, and to pay for pizza. They planned to purchase 70 jackets at approximately \$25/each.

After some questions had been posed, Ms. Kramer noted the NPG application included the budget. She noted the original NPG budget had been \$16,000, of which \$4,350 had been spent, leaving \$11,650. She noted the GCPNC had provided grants to the group in the past.

**Ms. Kramer moved to support the \$3,000 NPG request. Mr. Kramer seconded. No board comments or public comment. The motion carried with all five (5) eligible members voting yes. Ms. Miramon was ineligible, and three (3) were absent (Hill, Lopez, Roman).**

10.2. **Manos Que Sobreviven for \$5000 – To be used for their annual Thanksgiving Food Giveaway to be held November 23, 2022.**

Lenni said she was an assistant and a “mom-volunteer” for the organization. She requested support for the “Turkey Drive” to hand out to families who had pre-registered as well as for “walk-ups.” They were partnering with Unidos por NELA to reach out to families who might benefit from turkey dinner. To date, they had received at least 100 pre-registrations and 60-80 from Unidos por NELA. The goal was to have the event go forward and provide each family a giant turkey that they had already ordered from an LA food bank at \$30 per turkey. Additionally, they wished to provide each family with a large pumpkin pie. Lenni said the registration form asked which neighborhood the respondent was from. The majority were “from your neighborhood because we have such a long relationship with you,” she said. The event was to be held at Irving Middle School like in past years.

Responding to Romana, Lenni explained that they had an additional event scheduled for the Silverlake area for which the Silverlake Neighborhood Council had granted \$500 for a certain number of turkeys for families from that neighborhood.

**Andrew Montealegre** said he was a cofounder of Manos que Sobreviven. The group had a relationship with Irving, he said, and they needed use of Irving's large freezer, noting the strict rules at LAUSD. It continued to be feasible to distribute 300 turkeys from that location. The principal was willing to help on their day off, and the kitchen staff manager allowed them to keep food onsite.

Ms. Barajas expressed concern about the NPG budget and the upcoming holiday events and toy drives.

Ms. Kramer suggested that Ms. Miramon might wish to recuse from the item.

After proposals of providing \$3,000 to the group, Mr. Kramer suggested \$3,600 would cover the turkeys but not the pies.

**Mr. Kramer** moved to fund a \$3,600 NPG to Manos que Sobreviven for their Thanksgiving Drive. **Ms. Montes** seconded. There was no additional public comment or board discussion. The motion **carried** with all five (5) eligible members voting yes. Ms. Miramon was ineligible, and three (3) were absent (Hill, Lopez, Roman).

#### **11. Treasurer's Report**

- Approval of the September 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report

**Ms. Kramer** moved to approve the September 2022 MER. **Ms. Barajas** seconded. The motion carried with all 5 with all five (5) eligible members voting yes. Ms. Miramon was ineligible, and three (3) were absent (Hill, Lopez, Roman).

- Approval of the October 2022 Monthly Expenditure Report

**Ms. Kramer** moved to approve the October 2022 MER. **Ms. Barajas** seconded. The motion carried with all 5 with all five (5) eligible members voting yes. Ms. Miramon was ineligible, and three (3) were absent (Hill, Lopez, Roman).

#### **12. Consent Calendar**

- Approve October Regular Meeting Minutes (S/B special meeting)

**Ms. Barajas** moved to approve the Consent Calendar. **Ms. Kramer** seconded. The motion **carried** with all six (6) members voting in favor. Three (3) were absent (Hill, Lopez, Roman).

#### **13. Action Items**

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

It was agreed to postpone the item.

- 13.2. Discussion and Possible Action: Discuss GCPNC Social Media Account Updates

Ms. Kramer said that Mr. Hill had managed to access the social accounts and was now successfully posting on behalf of GCPNC. Ms. Kramer advised that anyone wishing to post should send the relevant information to Mr. Hill.

#### **14. New Business and ideas for future meetings**

It was suggested that with Ms. Barajas' planned resignation, the cardholders and signers would need to be replaced accordingly.

#### **15. Upcoming Meetings and Events**

No action was taken on this item.

**16. Adjournment**

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 p.m. without objection.**

*Respectfully submitted by Conrad Starr.*

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Appendix

LARER Project	Agency	November 2022
Paseo del Rio Community Engagement	MRCA	<p>The 100 Acre Partnership would like to thank you for providing us the opportunity to share with your Neighborhood Council our November Monthly Updates.</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 from Workshop 1. 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>
Paseo del Rio Bowtie Design	State Parks	
Paseo del Rio G2 Design	City	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.
TNC Demonstration Project	State Parks & TNC	No updates for 11/2022. Folks are always welcome to reach out to Sarai Jimenez at sarai.jimenez@tnc.org.
Prop O Water Quality Project	City	(see above)
Bowtie (non-PdR, non-TNC)	State Parks	
G2 (non-PdR, non-WQ)	City	No update
Equity Strategy	City	
Rio de Los Angeles State Park	State Parks	
Rio de Los Angeles State Park Fields	City	The project is in the design stage and developing 80% designs to submit to Recreation and Parks for review. A public meeting will be held after that.
Misc Community Engagement	MRCA	
Misc Community Engagement	State Parks & TNC	
Misc Community Engagement	City	
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



		and working on initial Hydraulic models for the river channel.
<b>UC Riverside Phyto &amp; Myco Research Project at G2</b>	<b>City</b>	No update.

**Neighborhood Council Meetings**

- Cypress Park Neighborhood Council – Tuesday, November 8<sup>th</sup>
- Elysian Valley Riverside Neighborhood Council – Wednesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>
- Atwater Village Neighborhood Council, Thursday, November 10<sup>th</sup>
- Glassell Park Neighborhood Council, Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>

**Events**

100 Acre Partnership Presentation  
 Highland Park Ebell Club  
 131. South Avenue 57  
 Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 PM

Community Workshop Two  
 Sotomayor High School  
 2050 North San Fernando Road  
 Thursday, November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM  
 Saturday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM