

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



GOVERNING BOARD

CARMEN MORALES
CHAIR

BRYAN KRAMER
VICE-CHAIR

ASH KRAMER
TREASURER

TERESA ROMAN
DOLORES BERNAL
MYRA DUQUE

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 MEETING Tuesday, June 11, 2024 – 7:00 PM In Person Meeting

DRAFT MINUTES

Board Members	Roll Call
Ash Kramer	Present
Bryan Kramer	Present
Carmen Morales	Present
Dolores Bernal	Absent
Teresa Roman	Present
Mayra Duque	Present

Call to Order

1.1 Roll Call. The meeting was called to order at 7:10 P.M. by Carmen Morales. Five (5) board members were present at roll call: Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Mayra Duque, Teresa Roman and Carmen Morales. Dolores Bernal was absent. Quorum (5) was met.

2. Comments from Public Officials

2.1 Public Safety

Battalion 13 Battalion Chief mentioned encouraged people to sign up for NotifyLA; it allows Fired Dept. to contact residents from a particular area; gave out website emergency.lacity.gov/alerts. The chief mentioned that they had recently had 442 responses plus one structure fire; mentioned that structure fires occur on a daily basis; that there are 10 structure fires everyday.

Officer Reyes of the LAPD mentioned that local graffiti has been going down. Discussed the issue on Cypress of RV's leaving trash and of illegal dumping; mentioned that cars parked for more than 72 hrs will get towed and reminded residents to lock their cars and hide items out of

sight.

Carmen Morales asked about the problem of vagrants on Ave 27 what could be done. Officer Reyes mentioned to contact the council office; also mentioned there will be another clean up on Ave 27 soon due to illegal dumping.

- 2.2 Elena Chavez, Field Deputy for Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez discussed the two events held May 25; the Veteran's Day event and Día de los Niños. Also mentioned the Council office supported movie night at the LA River Center and Gardens; Ms. Chavez mentioned the councilmember was in support of a ceasefire resolution that was presented; lastly it was mentioned the Westlake District office will have a grand opening on June 15th from 12pm to 5pm.

Bryan Kramer asked about the illegal dumping issues in the area.
Elena Chavez said the Councilmember was looking into this issue.

- 2.3 Deion Barrientos, Northeast Area Representative from Office of Mayor Karen Bass. Deion Barrientos was presented and introduced himself as the Northeast Representative.

Public Comment 1-

- 2.4 Erica Gatica Doughty, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. Mentioned that was still making calls to find a homelessness liaison; also mentioned that the liaison does not need to be a board member and that the meetings for the homelessness liaison will be virtual; she encouraged anyone interest in contacting the board. Mrs. Doughty also informed the meeting that it was the 2nd week under the new general manager. She also congratulated Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer and Teresa Roman for serving 5 or more years; and that they would be receiving certificates afterwards recognizing their service. Mrs. Doughty also mentioned she has reached out two high schools to make them aware of the available youth seat on the board.

- 2.5 Carlos Arce, Field Representative CA 52nd State Assemblymember Wendy Carrillo
Not present.

- 2.6 100 Acre Partnership –There was an update given on the Taylor Yard; mentioned that in the last three years they have participated in 120 neighborhood council meetings in the area near the project site; and that they encourage positive and critical feedback from the community. Discussed other events like the tree adoption event held at the LA River Center. Presenters discussed the project currently being in the environmental review phase; mentioned that maintenance of the project area takes place on a weekly basis and that a progress report was being finalized and will be made available to the public later this month.

3.0 Public Comments

- 3.1 Public Comment 1-

4.0 Community Outreach Discussion

4.1 Carmen Morales reminded attendees to check out the Cypress Park Rec Center website for upcoming classes and sports. She mentioned that there will be a free meals program from June 13 to August 2nd; for more information text summer_meals 97779

4.2 Update on Community outreach promotional items. Mayra Duque said promotional items will be ordered this month including promotional bags and stickers.

Public Comment 1-

**5.0 Chair and Vice Chair Report
No report.**

5.1 Discussion and Possible Action: Community Outreach.

Carmen Morales mentioned there was a big turn out for Manos Que Sobreviven; mentioned Big Dog Walk for Life and Shelter Clean Up at North Central Shelter Saturday June 22 from 8am to Noon. She also mentioned the Cypress Park Library was closed; Lincoln Heights and Highland Park libraries being the closest.

6.0 Treasurer's Report

6.1 Ash Kramer reported that the purpose grant for the Veteran's was rejected; credit card receipts had not been review but there is \$11,000 in funds with the fiscal year ending at the end of June; up to \$10,000 can be rolled over to the next year; proposed fiscal budget for the following year is \$32,000.

7.0 Consent Calendar

7.1 Ash Kramer motioned to approve minutes; Carmen Morales seconded.

Carmen Morales; Roll Call:

Ash Kramer- Yes. Teresa Roman-Yes. Myra Duque- Yes. Bryan

Kramer- Yes, Carmen Morales-Yes.

5-Yes, 0- No. Motion passes.

8.0 Action Items

8.1 LA Bureau of Engineering and 100 Acres Partnership representatives presentation on the Taylor Yard. Presenter Sarah Bryson said there were several projects under the 100 Acres Partnership; that there are multiple entities for designing different projects like the cleaning up the contaminated soil; creating a wetland area; a water cleaning project; creating a small events space as well as a space for larger events. The concern over the Least Bell's Vireo nesting in this area was addressed; especially concerns over noise affecting nesting birds; the presenters said they were consulting with Fish and Wildlife and California Department of Fish and Wildlife; noise studies were currently underway and presenters also said a noise management plan will be done and this work could be

done during non-breeding season. Presenters addressed concerns over the operation of the park; they mentioned they were considering reducing public events away from the habitat. Lastly, they will be preparing a draft of a Supplemental Environmental Review. Sarah Bryson said she could be contacted with any questions and that there would be a public meeting opportunity to voice concerns.

Public Comment-1

Public Comment-2

Public Comment-3

Sarah Bryson mentioned they reached out to both Federal agencies and Recreation and Parks; that they have been working together to develop both a habitat and have a separate area for the community.

Public Comment-4

Sarah Bryson said she currently could not give out remediation details yet; but a plan will be developed; furthermore she added that they have reached out to the tribal community and that they have received letters to participate.

Public Comment-5

Public Comment-6

8.2 Discussion and Possible Action: Write letter to LA Burea of Engineering, Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority, CA Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Council District 1 regarding impacts to vireo, project design, and alternatives analysis. Bryan Kramer mentioned Sarah Bryson was recommended by Fish and Wildlife; he said it was embarrassing that some people were attacking her; he asked for the audience to be respect and civil to guests. Bryan Kramer motioned to table the letter; Carmen Morales seconded.

Carmen Morales; Roll Call:

Ash Kramer- Yes. Teresa Roman-Yes. Myra Duque- Yes. Bryan

Kramer- Yes, Carmen Morales-Yes.

5-Yes, 0- No. Motion passes.

8.3 Presentation: Jabz Alejandro P. to provide update on the Vireo bird and current situation on projects that will affect their existence. Jabz Alejandro P. stated that the degradation of the ancestral natural habitat is the main culprit of the bird; there is no area for the Vireo he stated, the whole area is polluted and has been since 2013; stressed that the entire area is their habitat not just the nesting areas; he added that in 3 years, 7 nests have been destroyed.

Public Comment-1

Public Comment-2

Public Comment-3

Public Comment-4

Jabz Alejandro P. mentioned the bird was listed endangered in 1980.

Teresa Roman stated that many of the people in the audience were not at the meetings when they needed our voices about what we thought of these projects; she said when they made a survey they gave away gift cards in order to favor this project and many in the audience took the gifts; she said it was too late to open our eyes; when it was time to speak up in those meetings you were not there, she stated to the audience.

8.4 Presentation: World Harvest Food Bank introduces itself to the community and discusses their work. Not Present.

8.5 Discussion and Possible Action: Logistics of having current and incoming future board members and members of the public appear remotely via Zoom as well as approve up to \$3,000 for necessary equipment.

Erica Gatica Doughty said if this board was interested in SB11 they could discuss the logistics and that the option was there to go back to full zoom meetings.

Carmen Morales said she was not anti-zoom and that others preferred hybrid meetings; she added that the equipment needed could be under \$3,000 but cameras could be expensive.

Erica Gatica Doughty said online meetings could be useful.

Ash Kramer said they had more people show up in person than online.

Myra Duque mentioned Lincoln Heights meetings used a laptop and a microphone.

Carmen Morales asked if they could have meetings of 4 in person plus 1 via Zoom.

Erica Gatica Doughty said yes in just in case scenarios or emergency situations but if you have quorum in person then you have to meet in person.

Carmen Morales motioned for the \$3,000 to be used for equipment for remote meetings; Ash Kramer seconded.

Public Comment-1

Teresa Roman mentioned some members of the public including two attendees may not be able to use Zoom or a computer for that matter.

Public Comment-2

Carmen Morales mentioned this was not a permanent move to Zoom but to make it accessible.

Public Comment-3

Carmen Morales said the \$3,000 would be used for Zoom meetings if not it can be used for something

else.

Carmen Morales; Roll Call:

Ash Kramer- Yes. Teresa Roman-Yes. Myra Duque- Yes. Bryan

Kramer- Yes, Carmen Morales-Yes.

5-Yes, 0- No. Motion passes.

8.6 Discussion and Possible Action: Next steps regarding Cypress Avenue holistic improvements and community outreach.

Ash Kramer discussed writing letters on improving or re-envisioning Cypress Avenue; she was interested in seeing if others wanted to get involved; invited Clair, a member of the audience, to discuss community engagement and helping facilitate conversation between her city contacts and the people of the community .

Public Comment 1-

Bryan Kramer mentioned a letter had been sent in September 2023 to the Councilmember; this would be piggybacking off this.

Teresa Roman mentioned areas where trees had been removed leaving holes or gaps where people have tripped or fallen; she wondered if these spaces will get filled.

Ash Kramer asked aloud what organizations might be interested in leading the conversation, perhaps La Más?

Teresa Roman mentioned Mujeres de la Tierra could be involved.

Mayra Duque said perhaps the Mayor's office could be involved.

Clare mentioned it can be done if money is found independently; the city has to prioritize where it is going to do an application.

Public Comment 2-

Ash Kramer mentioned this conversation would be ongoing.

8.7 Discussion and Possible Action: Request for action to address Community concerns regarding sidewalk repairs on Ave 28 caused vehicle collisions. Discuss and vote on a draft letter.

Ash Kramer motioned a request for action to CD 1 to fix damaged sidewalks and consider additional speed reduction options as previously discussed; Carmen Morales seconded.

Ash Kramer said after stop signs are placed and lighting adjusted changes will be reviewed before they can do anything else in addition.

Carmen Morales said it needs to be clarified as to which streets they will be discussing.

Carmen Morales; Roll Call:

Ash Kramer- Yes. Teresa Roman-Yes. Myra Duque- Yes. Bryan

Kramer- Yes, Carmen Morales-Yes.

5-Yes, 0- No. Motion passes.

9.0 New Business and Ideas for future meetings

Luis Rincon Community Coordinator for California State Parks introduced himself to the board and audience and mentioned a possible presentation at the next meeting. He gave out his contact information at luis.rincon@parks.ca.gov and phone number 323 547 7201

10.0 Carmen Morales reminded everyone that meetings are held the second Tuesday of every month at 7PM.

The meeting was adjourned by Carmen Morales at 9:31 PM.