

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



GREATER CYPRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

1150 CYPRESS AVE
LOS ANGELES, CA 90065

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

GOVERNING BOARD

CARMEN MORALES
CHAIR

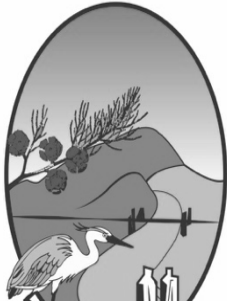
BRYAN KRAMER
VICE-CHAIR

ASH KRAMER
TREASURER

TERESA ROMAN
DOLORES BERNAL
MAYRA DUQUE
GLADYS ASCENCIO

GREATER CYPRESS PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, February 11, 2025 – 7:00 PM
In Person Meeting



DRAFT MINUTES

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

Call to Order

1.1 Roll Call. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM. by Carmen Morales. Five (5) board members were present at roll call: Ash Kramer, Bryan Kramer, Dolores Bernal, Carmen Morales, and Mayra Duque. Teresa Roman and Gladys Ascencio were absent. Quorum was met.

2. Comments from Public Officials

2.1 Public Safety

Not present.

- 2.2 Elena Chavez, Field Deputy for Councilmember Eunisses Hernandez. Ms. Chavez gave updates on the abandoned building on North San Fernando Rd.; mentioned that the building would be demolished in March. Ms. Chavez also mentioned a recent clean-up day with Friends of Aragon Elementary school; she mentioned that the school has less students and commented on how despite the area attracting younger residents, most do not have or are not having children. Carmen Morales asked for an Earth Day update.

Ms. Chavez said some of the fun events occurring on March 15th at Rio de Los Angeles would be seed and plant giveaways as well as a bird-watching event taking place at the Audubon Center at 8:30 a.m. Lastly, Ms. Chavez mentioned the Know Your Rights workshops for undocumented immigrants were continuing throughout the district.

2.3 Alfredo Rodriguez, Northeast Area Representative from Office of Mayor Karen Bass. Susan Cervantes of CD 1 introduced herself; mentioned that she is working in tandem with Alfredo Rodriguez.

2.4 Erica Gatica Doughty, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment. Mrs. Gatica Doughty discussed election season deadlines stating February 24th was the last day for candidates wishing to be part of Neighborhood City Council elections. Mrs. Gatica Doughty said that they have been working with Assemblymembers about restarting Zoom meetings again; she mentioned the Neighborhood Councils were being offered Zoom licenses at a discount; she also mentioned that the purchasing of a Zoom license can become an agenda item for future meetings. Ms. Gatica Doughty also mentioned that their department is still at limited capacity since many workers and staff were still assisting with disaster relief from the recent fires.

Mayra Duque asked how much the Zoom licenses would be.

Erica Gatica Doughty said \$197.

2.5 Field Representative CA 52nd State Assemblymember Jessica Caloza Update. Mr. Hector Rodriguez introduced himself. He mentioned that Assemblymember Caloza was in Sacramento Monday through Thursday. Mr. Rodriguez wanted to publicly thank first responders in light of the recent crisis due to the fires; mentioned the State is working diligently in light of the crisis by voting in two bills creating a 2.5 billion dollar aide package that the Assemblymember introduced in addition to direct cash payments and FEMA aide victims were receiving; also mentioned a \$100 million in funds for non-profits/businesses impacted by the fires; he also said that there were fire preparedness workshops being worked on for the local area; Mr. Rodriguez added that the property on San Fernando Rd. that had caught fire had the ownership transferred to the city of Los Angeles and lastly Mr. Rodriguez stated he was happy to be representing Cypress Park and that he was born and raised in the area.

Public Comment 1-

2.6 100 Acre Partnership – Miguel Paredes who represents the 100 Acre partnership gave a few updates first mentioning their participation in the Elysian Valley Arts Walk; he went on to mention the organization’s continued community engagement while the G-2 environmental review phase was ongoing; Mr. Paredes added that the G-2 project had maintenance done by the city lately with fences and a sign being repaired. Next, Maggie Jenkins of the Nature Conservancy spoke; she mentioned how her organization works with California State Parks to develop the ongoing Bow-tie Project; she discussed issues of community aftermath after the fires and stressed the importance of nature-based climate

solutions; she mentioned a clean up that occurred on September 23rd and that a Completion Report would be submitted at the end of this month (February); furthermore she added that the wetlands were currently being constructed and that they were continuing to work to reduce noise impact as well as dust issues; she reiterated that construction hours were from 7 am until 4 pm.

3.0 Public Comments

Public Comment 1-

Carmen Morales stressed that community issues will be brought up regarding homelessness, and violence against community members at meetings until solutions are found.

Public Comment 2-

Public Comment 3-

Public Comment 4-

4.0 Community Outreach Discussion

4.1-4.2 Carmen Morales reminded attendees to check out the Cypress Park website for upcoming events in the area as well as the Cypress Park Rec Center at laparks.org for upcoming sports and classes as well as the Council website to see the upcoming agenda.

5.0 Chair and Vice Chair Report

5.1 Fire Relief Funds. Ash Kramer motioned to approve \$1000 for Fire Relief funds for the American Red Cross to support the California Wildfires 2025 Fund. Carmen Morales seconded.

Roll Call; Ash Kramer- Yes, Bryan Kramer- Yes, Dolores Bernal- Yes, Mayra Duque- Yes and Carmen Morales- Yes. Motion Passes 5- Yes, 0- No.

5.2 CD 1 Earth Day Event. Carmen Morales reminded the meeting that the neighborhood council will have a table at the Earth day event on Saturday, March 15th at Rio de Los Angeles State Park.

6.0 Treasurer's Report

6.1 Ash Kramer said \$16,000 remained in the budget with \$1000 being returned from the City Clerk for translation services. Ash Kramer motioned to approve expense report; Seconded by Bryan Kramer.

No Public Comment.

Roll Call; Ash Kramer- Yes, Bryan Kramer- Yes, Dolores Bernal- Yes, Mayra Duque- Yes and Carmen Morales- Yes. Motion Passes 5- Yes, 0- No.

7.0 Consent Calendar

- 7.1 Approve the Minutes From Regular meeting in January 2025.
Ash Kramer motioned to approve; Seconded by Dolores Bernal.**

Roll Call; Ash Kramer- Yes, Bryan Kramer- Yes, Dolores Bernal- Yes, Mayra Duque- Yes and Carmen Morales- Yes. Motion Passes 5- Yes, 0- No.

8.0 Action Items

- 8.1 Discussion and Possible Action: Neighborhood Purpose Grant for up to \$1000 for Instituto de Educacion Popular del Sur de California. Ash Kramer said she had asked for an itemized budget and Jorge replied it was for winter work jackets but that he was currently on vacation. Ash Kramer tabled 8.1 to the next meeting.**

Bryan Kramer argued that if the agenda is for the jackets he would like to give him the money now rather than later. Motioned by Bryan Kramer; Seconded by Carmen Morales.

Public Comment 1-

Roll Call; Ash Kramer- Yes, Bryan Kramer- Yes, Dolores Bernal- Yes, Mayra Duque- Abstain and Carmen Morales- Yes. Motion to approve \$1000 passes 4- Yes, 1 – Abstain, 0- No.

- 8.2 Discussion and Possible Action: Discuss sending letter to CD 1 and METRO regarding homeless encampment and man with machete starting fires near corner of W. Avenue 37 and Marmion Way.**

Bryan Kramer mentioned he wanted to make sure that it was not implied that all unhoused people were doing this; said he did not want to conflate homeless people with the actions of a few people.

Carmen Morales said she was happy to write the letter but would be willing to table the item.

Bryan Kramer said he just wanted the letter to be specific to the individuals involved and that it was anti-homeless people.

Carmen Morales reiterated that these individuals are cleared out and then eventually move back to the same place.

Public Comment 1-

Dolores Bernal mentioned that she did not want to table the item; but did recall how Officer Reyes

of LAPD had mentioned recruitment/staff shortages in addition to the shortages due to the fires.

Carmen Morales said she would draft the letter; she motioned to prepare the letter and send it to Metro and CD 1 regarding a man with a machete. Moved by Carmen Morales; Seconded by Bryan Kramer.

Public Comment 1-

Ash Kramer mentioned the building on San Fernando Rd. and asked aloud if it is not transferred to the city of Los Angeles then who should we call if we see issues with the location?

Hector Rodriguez said to call his office.

Carmen Morales said she would write a separate letter explaining the issues with community concerns over lewd and violent behavior from certain unhoused individuals.

Roll Call; Ash Kramer- Yes, Bryan Kramer- Yes, Dolores Bernal- Yes, Mayra Duque- Yes and Carmen Morales- Yes. Motion Passes 5- Yes, 0- No.

8.3 Discussion and Possible Action: Susan Rocha on sending a letter to CD 1 regarding resident noise concerns. Ms. Rocha mentioned the coming and going of busses and trains all day and night in her community; she suggested the city of Los Angeles should provide residents with sound proof windows.

Bryan Kramer asked to see the letter. Susan Rocha distributed the letter to the board.

Public Comment 1-

Bryan Kramer suggested he would write a letter to CD 1 crediting Susan Rocha; looking into the feasibility of an investigation into the city purchasing windows for the homes in this community or even creating quiet zones.

Motioned by Bryan Kramer; Seconded by Ash Kramer.

Dolores Bernal said this was the first time she had heard of this issue and thanked Ms. Rocha for bringing this to the attention of the board.

Public Comment 2-

Mayra Duque mentioned that CD 14 was already working on creating quiet zones in their communities.

Roll Call; Ash Kramer- Yes, Bryan Kramer- Yes, Dolores Bernal- Yes, Mayra Duque- Yes and Carmen Morales- Yes. Motion Passes 5- Yes, 0- No.

12. Carmen Morales adjourned the meeting at 8:19 pm.