



## Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

3516 North Broadway

Los Angeles, CA 90031

FACEBOOK: "www.facebook.com/LHNCLA31"

WEB: "www.LincolnHeightsNC.org"

GILBERT AREVALO, President; BEN WADSWORTH, Vice President;  
PETER TANG, Secretary; VACANT, Treasurer



### LINCOLN HEIGHTS NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL Board of Directors Meeting

Thursday, December 17, 2020

6:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Online Virtual Zoom Meeting – DIGITAL MEETING

Meeting ID: Please see [www.LincolnHeightsNC.org](http://www.LincolnHeightsNC.org)

1. Welcome, Call to Order - Meeting called to Order by Gil Arevalo at 6:18 pm
2. Roll Call at 6:11pm; 15 board members in attendance Gil A., Ben W., Peter T., William M.(Joined at 6:20pm), Benny M., Erika X., Richard L., Theresa V., Miko M. Armida M., Maribel H., Vince R., Tameka F., Jose V., Selena O.
3. Motion to Approve Minutes of the Special Board of Directors Meeting... **Tabled**
4. Comments
  - EmpowerLA Rep, Jackie Kim provided telephone information regarding how to mute or raise hand on phone call-ins for Zoom meetings.
  - Theresa V. and Peter T. thanked the community for joining the meeting and encouraged the public to voice concerns.
  - Community member Amanda voiced that information regarding updates on credentials/training. Amanda states that according to the EmployerLA site, it shows that some members have not completed the credentials and therefore said members cannot vote unless the website is not yet updated. Amanda also voiced concerns that there are others who have turned in application for the Treasurer's seat and they do not appear on the Agenda.
  - Community member Rebeca voiced concerns regarding the other submission for the Treasurer positions on the current agenda.
  - Community member Raedawn voiced concerns regarding lack of quorum for past meetings but also for Council Members to put ego or opinions aside and listen to the needs of the community.
  - Benny M. states that regarding the previous ExCom meeting, Armida M's. comments are not a reflection of all the members.
  - Area 3 Resident LHNC Council Member, Maribel Hernandez verbally resigns from seat at 8:38pm. Maribel states that resignation will be effective after meeting.
  - Area 6 At Large, LHNC Council Member, Jose Vanegas verbally resigns from seat at 8:40pm, member states that resignation will also be effective after the meeting.
5. Community and Board Announcements - Item 4.a: City Clerk's NC 2021 Election presentation by Rene, presenting for Lancee Basulto. Our election day will be April 13, 2021. Candidacy periods have been changed to allow more time to file. Opens December 12, 2020 to January 26, 2021. Candidates may file an online application or paper application. Jose asked about the election integrity of the election, Rene states that candidates are required to provide proof stakeholder eligibility and portal delete proof. Rene refers the public to the election handbook in section 8.3.
6. Item 4.c: Jackie Kim provides an update on Bylaw change and overview that took effect October 16, 2020. Community Interest Stakeholder Ordinance and Uniform Age Ordinance definitions under Neighborhood Council Reform Measures. Article IV (Stakeholder definitions), Article V (Officers), and Attachment B - Amended Bylaws to ensure all Neighborhood Council bylaws in line with the two ordinances that went into effect October 16, 2020; as it was necessary for the city's effective administration of the elections. LHNC will have only 1 Young Board Seat moving forward 2021 including changes to the age range of 16 to 18 years old. The Board seat of Council will be changed from 26 seats to 25 seats. Gil requests confirmation from Jackie, that said changes to Bylaws are passed by the City Council and not DONE or BONC, Jackie confirms. Council Member Miko requested for Jackie to reiterate the changes...Jackie offers to email changes as well. Therea V. poses the question that city

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YOUTH REPRESENTATIVES: Erika Xu, Hugo Hernandez;

AREA REPRESENTATIVES: Richard Larsen, Theresa Vasquez, Michael Merced, Vicente Gonzalez-Reyes Jr., Armida Marrufo, Maribel Hernandez, Vince Rosiles, Vacant, Tameka J. Flowers, Vacant, Jose Vanegas, Vacant, Selena Ortega, Vacant.

ordinances can trigger changes to LHNC Bylaws. Public request to see changes to Bylaws, Jackie provides states that changes can be viewed publicly on EmpowerLA site. Community member Steven asks about term limits on council members. Jackie states that it is dependent on each neighborhood's Bylaws but LHNC has no term limits. Community Member Michael asked if the Business Improvement District qualifies? Jackie states that it may if it meets community organization definition, as long as it is not a for profit entity and other criteria. Council member Armida expressed age range concerns for the Youth Seat.

7. Items 4.d: Motion to Resolve that the LHNC will refuse to vote on so-called Administratively Adjusted Bylaws manufactured by employerLA.... **Comments:** Council Member Benny M. seeks to know if Bylaws were done uniformly across all Neighborhood Council?...Council Member Richard, states that changes to Bylaw was done to all Neighborhoods? Jackie states that Richard's statement is correct and all Neighborhood Councils have been affected/modified. Richard states that it requires a supermajority vote to change Bylaws. Gil states that BONE is authorized to make Bylaw changes, there are the policy making body of the Neighborhood Council. Richard states that DONE consists mostly of political appointees and not elected officials and implores council members and the community to understand the Democracy process of allowing LHNC to make changes to Bylaws and not an outside entity. Council Member Theresa states that it is an overreach of the city to change LHNC Bylaws. Council member William, states that the City Council seems to be attempting to take control of LHNC with new Bylaws changes and thus muting the voice of the community. Community member Michael, ask if the city attorney or council represent the city's interest or the community, is there any language in the Bylaws that preclude LHNC from engaging its own council to get a better understanding around its governance process? Community member Amanda, previous age restriction and no set term limits in LHNC needs to be changed. Community member Fernanda, LHNC not reflecting community interest and voices. Council Member Benny urges members to vote against the item. Richard states that a "no" vote is a vote to allow the city to bypass LHNC and allows the city to make administratives changes that should require a supermajority vote. **Motion to Approve: Richard/Peter 2nd, (15 voting) 7-1-7, Motion Approved.**
- **Gil: Abstain, Ben: Abstain, Peter: Yes, William: Yes, Benny: No, Erika: Abstain, Richard: Yes, Theresa: Yes, Miko: Abstain, Armida: Yes, Maribel: Abstain, Vince: Yes, Tameka: Yes, Jose V: Abstain, Selena: Yes**

Item 4.e: Discussion and Motion on Listing all Board Members Present and Not Present, or Leave without Notice before Adjournment at all Agendized General, Special Committee Meetings... **Comments:** Community Member Amanda expressed concerns over lack of quorum and transparency. Council member Richard states that for meetings without quorum it does not count against. Amanda seeks accountability for members currently not updated on training. Gil states that those not updated with funding training, are not able to vote on funding items but can vote on non-funding items. Richard moved to amend the item to include: "...and current status of certification." **Motion to Amend: Richard/Theresa 2nd, (15 Voting) 14-0-1, Motion Approved.**

- **Gil: Yes, Ben: Yes, Peter: Yes, William: Yes, Benny: Yes, Erika: Yes, Richard: Yes, Theresa: Yes, Miko: Yes, Armida: Yes, Marble: Yes, Vince: Yes, Tameka: Yes, Jose: Abstain, Selena: Yes.**

**Motion to Approve with Amendment, Richard/Theresa 2nd, (15 Voting), 14-0-1, Motion Approved.**

- **Gil: Yes, Ben: Yes, Peter: Yes, William: Yes, Benny: Yes, Erika: Yes, Richard: Yes, Theresa: Yes, Miko: Yes, Armida: Yes, Maribel: Yes, Tameka: Yes, Vince: Yes (drops from call to attempt to rejoin via zoom call-in), Jose: Abstain. Selena: Yes.**

8. Election Committee: Item 5.a.i: Candidate Michael Navvaro has withdrawn application from Area 7 Resident Seat.

Item 5.a.ii: Candidate Lina Ruiz not present during meeting...voting for Area 6 Resident Seat will be postponed for next meeting.

Item 5.a.iii: Possible motion and election of Vera Padilla to the Position of Treasurer of the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council, term ending in 2023. **Comments:** Candidate Vera Padilla states that candidate has history as Treasurer and prepared to listen to the community and its concerns if elected. Council Member Ben motions to elect. Council Member Peter motions to table election of Treasurer to allow candidates to appear on Agenda and vote for election at next General Board. Community Member Amanda voice concerns regarding ExCom response to applicants for the Treasurer Seat. Council Member William questions the time table of the applications and requests to move forward to vote. Gil encourages to move forward with the current agenda vote to allow effective administrative needs that are overdue and that candidate's application did not make it to the ExCom meeting that sets an agenda for public view which can be viewed as a Brown Act Violation. Gil argues that by delaying vote on the seat, will result in a continual non-functioning Council. Community member Melanie expressed concerns that the call to vote on the seat now with only Padilla on the agenda, would disenfranchise the community. Community Member Leiger Biedermann comments that Leiger is the candidate also running for the Seat and has been invested in the community for the past 10 years. Council Member Theresa requests for



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EmpowerLA Rep Jackie, to weigh in; Jackie states that it would convey more transparency if the vote is tabled. Council Member Armida encourages members to postpone voting. Council member William suggests voting for both candidates tonight or at a special meeting. Council member Ben states that voting cannot be done at a special meeting. **Council Member Peter Withdraw item 5.a.ii from current agenda to change item language to list candidates running for the Treasurer's Seat.**

Item 5.b.i: Discussion and possible motion to require all Committee Chairs to include Zoom information... **Comments:** Council Member Gil seeks comments from Committee Chairs regarding process of creating committee agenda. Council member Richard suggests that the council table 5.b items move to next Agenda items. **Motion to move agenda to PLUC items: Richard/Miko 2nd, (14 voting) 5-5-4, Motion to move Agenda to PLUC items Approved.**

- **Gil: No, Ben: No, Peter: Yes, William: No, Benny: No, Erika: Yes, Richard: Yes, Theresa: Abstain, Miko: Yes, Armida: Yes, Maribel: No Vote (Verbally Resign from LHNC), Vince: Abstain (rejoins zoom via call-in at 8:40pm), Tameka: Abstain, Jose V.: Abstains (Verbally Resign from LHNC), Selena: No**

Item 5.b.ii: Discussion and possible motion to require all members of the Board of Directors to download a copy of Agenda... **Tabled.**

Item 5.b.iii: Benny Madera's Letter Discussion and possible motion to reinstate... **Tabled.**

Item 5.b.iv: Lincoln Star Article Rebuttal... **Tabled**

9. Budget Committee items 5.c.i, 5.c.ii, 5.c.iii, 5.c.iv, 5.c.v: **Tabled**

10. Planning and Land Use Committee: Item 5.f.i: Discussion and possible motion to approve 2620 Manitou ZA-2019-6245-ZAA... **Comments:** Community member Theresa seeks clarification on "passageway." Council Member Richard provides details and encourages the public to seek further details on the LHNC site. **Motion to Approve: Richard/Gil 2nd, (15 voting), 12-0-2, Motion Approved.**

- **Gil: Yes, Ben: Yes, Peter: Yes, William: Yes, Benny: Abstain, Erika: Yes, Richard: Yes, Theresa: Yes, Miko: Yes, Armida: Yes, Maribel: Chose not to vote, Vince: Yes, Tameka: Yes, Jose V: Abstain, Selena: Yes.**

Item 5.f.ii: Discussion and Motion for mixed-use with 97 affordable units at 1829 Hancock also known as 3000 Main Street, AA-2019-7419-PMLA and CPC-2019-7418-CU-DB-SPR... **Comments:** Council Member Richard states the project addresses substance abuse recovery and its advocacy. There are public concerns in losing the local liquor store but there is a solution of relocation that can be put in place that has help from the local community. Council Member Gil states that planned project design does not match with the community, has attempted to get rid of the local liquor/convenience store and is overall a bad project. Council member Theresa states that there are anecdotal stories that the project owner used questionable tactics to buy out surrounding property to relocate. Council Member Benny states that the project will take up the whole block and request more transparency to the community, by using the term "The Brine." Richard states that projects are typically referred to by address. Benny states that public input was not sufficient. Council Member Armida states that there might be some confusion with another project. Council member Miko states that he may have to exit the meeting early. A Community member states that the project is owned by USC and there is displacement taking place and is disappointed if there is a lack of community input on the project. Richard states that this meeting is that opportunity for community input to vote for or against the project. Community expressed concerns of displacements for the other community members. **Motion to Approve: Miko/Richard 2nd, ---Quorum Lost---Board Member Jose V. left meeting at 9:28pm.**

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