

Call to Order: Marilyn Krell, president, called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

Present: Marilyn Krell, Elyse Arbour, Lauren Cole, Sue Hirsch, Andy and Jackie Raymond, and Pam Taylor. Advisory Board members present were: Laurel Davidson, Dave Holtzman, Todd Nathanson, and David Nik.

Board Members Absent: Leonard Blum, Ray Keller.

Also present at the invitation of the president were neighbors Merri Huang, Eric Connaughton, and Cheri Ann Nolan.

Approval of Minutes: Marilyn asked for approval of the minutes (previously distributed) for the March 20, 2014, board meeting. A Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes as distributed. The vote was unanimously in favor with zero abstentions; therefore, the Motion passed. Approval of the minutes of the Annual General Meeting was postponed.

Reports:

Treasurer's Report – Per Treasurer Andy Raymond: as of May 15, 2014, there is \$3,893.31 in the bank account, taking into account the expenses of the Annual General Meeting and a \$25 gift to Brentwood Presbyterian Church in memory of Lee Babbitt, late husband of former SBRA Board member and Secretary Lynne Babbitt.

Marilyn reported that we received a generous donation from a new sponsor, Jerry Epstein, who is the owner of the apartment building at 12320 Montana. Six units in his building suffered losses during the fire on Gorham in 2011. Mr. Epstein is one of the original developers of Marina del Rey and is interested in all that occurs in our community.

Land Use – With respect to the **Kenter Creek** matter: Ellie Pelcyger has notified Marilyn that a survey of the affected residents has been completed and a compilation of the responses is undergoing. The results will be shared with the CD11 office.

Transportation – Lauren reported on the **Archer School Expansion Project**. There has been no agreement within the BCC whether it will support the project. The BCC Transportation Committee has some concerns. Regarding the **Bundy/Mayfield** stop sign matter, it appears at this time that by July 1st, a traffic circle will be installed in lieu of the current four-way stop. Finally, Lauren mentioned the new **Gretna Green/Gorham** three-way stop. There is currently no mechanism in place with the Dept. of Transportation that allows for public comment *before* such changes are made.

12303 Gorham Project – Civil Engineer Steve Nazemi and owner/developer Sassan Ohebsion presented preliminary plans for four detached townhomes on 2 lots at the site. Marilyn requested that they share their landscape plan with the SBRA Land Use Committee.

Annual General Meeting – Elyse gave a report on the recent AGM. We had approximately 100 attendees. The highly relevant speakers were a good draw. Suggestions for next year:

- 1.) Have one person read all pre-submitted questions, rather than take questions from the audience, in order to save time. It was further noted, however, that there needs to be an opportunity for attendees to engage one-on-one with speakers, perhaps after the meeting.

- 2.) Signage needs to be increased from 10 to possibly 20 signs. Stronger contrasting colors, perhaps reflective, should be used and less info included. The signs need to be taller and double-sided.
- 3.) Provide less or no food. Perhaps just serve water and Diddy Riece cookies.
- 4.) Use a sign/banner for a dues paying table, "Pay your dues here."
Have two people receive credit card payments.
- 5.) A suggestion was made by an attendee to rent a mike system because he could not hear well. Perhaps the speakers can be miked.

The Board considered a smaller mailing, mid-year, to maintain visibility in the community. The postcard could simply be a reminder about SBRA, with a reference to the web site, etc.

Cheri Ann raised some interesting quality-of-life issues and was encouraged to contact local businesses and condo residents to address some of her concerns relating to trash and animal waste.

Neighborhood Security and Emergency Preparation – There was a lengthy discussion of crime and safety in the neighborhood. Eric Connaughton is the Security Chair for his building and shared with us his efforts to improve tenant safety, which included creating stronger communication among residents, installing security cameras which are monitored online, fines levied on residents for trash dumping or vandalism, and reporting of *all* crimes to raise awareness at LAPD of such crimes.

We also talked about the new model for neighborhood watch, Nextdoor, which focuses more on information-sharing via e-mail among concerned residents, and getting to know the people around you.

A committee was formed comprised of Board member David Nik, Merri Huang, Eric Connaughton, and Cheri Ann Nolan. The next step will be for them to meet with the BCC's multifamily reps and later with Jerry Adomian, who is active in CERT, and Chuck McGinnis, Safety Chair of the Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council.

Old Business:

New Neighbor Welcome Baskets – Laurel and Elyse reached out to six new homeowners.

New Business:

Annual Dinner – we will meet at CPK on June 10 at 6:00 for a cocktail hour and dinner.

Our next meetings will be on July 17th and August 21st.

Adjournment:

There being no further business to bring before the Board, a Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting, and with a unanimous vote of those present, the Motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Taylor,
Secretary