

**Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 8, 2015**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**Westside Pavilion**  
**10800 W. Pico**

**AGENDA (Items Appear As Called)**

**1. Call to Order**

**Call to order: 7:11 PM**

**By Terri Tippit, WNC Chair**

**Attendance:**

**Kate Kennedy (Seat 1)**

**Lisa Morocco (Seat 2)**

**Vito Bello (Seat 3)**

**Steve Spector (Seat 4)**

**David Burke (Seat 5)**

**Sarah Shaw (Seat 6)**

**Barbara Broide (Seat 7)**

**Terri Tippit (Seat 8)**

**Sean McMillian (Seat 9)**

**Stacy Antler (Seat 10)**

**Mary Kusnic (Seat 11)**

**Colleen Mason Heller (Seat 12)**

**Francesca Beale-Rosano (Seat 13)**

**Shannon Burns (Seat 14)**

**Eric Shabsis (Seat 15)**

**Wendie Dox (Seat 16)**

**Aaron Rosenfield (Seat 17)**

**2. Agenda Items:**

**New Business:**

**A) Approval of November 13, 2014 minutes:**

**Minutes were reviewed and discussed, with no changes submitted.**

**Motion to approve: Ms. Burns**

**Second: Ms. Kusnic**

**Passed, 11-0-4 (Seats 2, 6, 12, 16)**

**B) Selection for 2015 Governing Board Officers:**

**Colleen Mason Heller, the Chair Nominating Committee presented the following motion: I make a motion to elect the following slate of officer for 2015: Terri Tippit Chair, Steve Spector Vice-Chair, Aaron Rosenfield and Shannon Burns Co-Recording Secretary, Brandon Behrstock and Lisa Morocco Co-Treasurer, Mary Kusnic Corresponding Secretary.**

**Second: Ms. Antler**

**17-0-0 unanimous**

**C) Public Comment:**

**Nancy Stone of WSSM gave comment on the Smart Meter rollout by SoCal Gas. She said SoCal Gas intends to install Advanced Smart Meters on the Westside of LA and will charge to opt out \$75 along with a \$10/month fee per meter. She has issue with being charged to opt out because the meters potentially have harmful health effects, are an invasion of privacy and will be ineffectual with respect to altering power usage. The meters are a wireless RF radiation emitting device that emits pulsed, microwave (non-ionizing) radiation. Non-ionizing radiation has been labeled a class 2 carcinogen by the WHO and proven to exacerbate pre-existing conditions. Electromagnetic radiation can cause medical problems ranging from headaches to cancer. People who have compromised immune systems are particularly vulnerable. Nancy lives in a condo with 20 gas meters outside her bedroom and believes herself sensitive to the radiation. She requested that the WNC exercise authority to prevent the exposure from the Smart Meters without her having to pay to prevent the installation.**

**Mr. Shabsis mentioned SoCal Gas is a private entity regulated by PUC and the best course of action was to write PUC.**

**Ms. Tippit noted action could not be taken because the item was not on the agenda.**

**Ms. Broide said WSSM was hoping Karen Bass's rep would be present and the purpose was to reach out to state representatives.**

**Ms. Mason Heller said as a first step there is an option to file a complaint with PUC and they have to look at the complaint.**

**Ms. Stone seems to think complaints have been filed and been dismissed by PUC.**

#### **D) LAPD Report:**

**Rashad Sharif reported on recent crime in the WNC area. Burglaries: business at 2300 Westwood, residence at 2700 Kelton, residence at 10300 Louisiana, residence at 2000 Overland. Car Break-Ins: 2100 Greenfield, 1900 Overland, 1800 Greenfield and at Tennessee/Overland**

**Mr. Shabsis mentioned a break-in on Kerwood at Tennessee. The nanny left residence and someone broke in and took the wall safe.**

**New Gang Sergeant Arenas introduced himself. Resume includes working in 2005 as a patrol officer then doing bike detail, in 2009 working in West Bureau Operations providing detective support, then he worked as a senior officer and now is a sergeant. 8 officers working under him currently in gang unit including Officer Leon (the senior officer), JD, Detinger and Fernando. They deal with quality of life issues, vandalism, narcotics sales, drinking in public. Each officer monitors one gang. Gets to know families and friends for when they eventually commit a crime. Lots of "transient gangs" in WLA area that don't live in the area but commit crimes in the area.**

**Ms. Antler – What does gang graffiti look like?**

**Sergeant Arenas – arrows pointing down marking territory or different colored graffiti with the crossing out of rival gang's graffiti. If gang graffiti is found, take a picture and send it to Rashad.**

**Officer Brian talked about the Baker to Vegas run. 120 miles through the desert. 250 teams of which 23 teams are from LA. Cost to run the WLA team is \$15,700 for 60 people (25 runners, 25 support people, 10 officer heads). Donations are appreciated to help defray costs. Costs: Entry fee \$2100, uniforms \$7500, rental vehicles \$3000, fuel \$1000, other (lights, vests, snacks, radios, etc) \$2100.**

#### **E) Martin Expo Town Center – Proposed Development at the corner of Olympic and Bundy**

**Ms. Morocco excused herself from this item of business because of its potential to come before the APC where she is a board member.**

**Dan Martin of the Martin Family gave a brief history of his family and an introduction to the project. His family goes back to the 1920's in LA at prominent stores and being active in the community. With the coming of the Expo Line, his family feels it is the right time to**

**develop the property. Mr. Martin stated there is a shortage of housing and a lack of quality restaurants. 2 years they have been reaching out to the City for guidance on developing a TOD. A TOD reduces the need to drive a car and increases walking/biking plus public transit use. The dialogue with the community has been happening and is far from over. The comments for the record include Mr. Martin's support for the Martin Expo Town Center. Contact info: [danmartin@martinexpotowncenter.com](mailto:danmartin@martinexpotowncenter.com).**

**Phil Simmons spoke in support of the project and gave more detail on the facility. He said a TOD should be between 4-6 FAR. Original plan was just under 6 FAR with no residential; all office. Over time a lot of feedback has been given on the housing shortage. There will be an early leasing program for people who walk/bike to work in area of project. Current proposal is 3.9 FAR, which includes 516 apartments, 67,000 sq ft of retail and 200,000 sq ft of office space. Mr. Simmons stated there would be traffic impacts but feels they are offset by the project's benefits. Thousands of pages of traffic studies were done using conservative estimates. The facility is three buildings. The front side will be retail, there is a podium level with outside space, and the bulk of the residential components are in the rear. The Cadillac show room will be maintained.**

**Mr. Rosenfield asked why the DEIR stated a freeway analysis didn't need to be done and how it was determined less than 150 cars per day would travel the freeways?**

**Mr. Simmons stated that everything comes down to the formulas and they went with what the formulas said.**

**Ms. Broide said that in the DEIR four options for billboards are contemplated and spoke against including billboards on the site.**

**Mr. Simmons stated the billboards had to be put in for an analysis of what it means, but they had no intention to put in more billboards. Currently there are four billboards (two, 2-sided billboards). The design studio consultant is of the opinion that if billboards are integrated into the site and smaller, they are more pleasing to people generally. The plan is to take the current four billboards and to integrate them into the design and make them 20% smaller.**

**Ms. Broide and Mr. Shabsis also asked/remarked about land use equivalency issues. Mr. Simmons said that something with limits will be approved and any changes they make to the development plan cannot exceed those limits.**

**Mr. Shabsis said he thought it was a nice project and thoughtful. He commended the project for its openness as a public space. He also asked about traffic mitigations and community benefits.**

**Mr. Simmons said the community benefits packages have not been worked out and does not know what a package would include at this time. He said that they proposed 8 significant traffic mitigation measures, but only 2 were accepted by DOT. He believes the significant mitigations will not be as significant as informal offsets due to things like bike share. On parking, Mr. Simmons said the project went down the middle for allotted space. There are different theories on providing less or more parking; he thinks going down the middle works. At the beginning, they hope to have a lot of unused parking. Regarding walkability, there are 15 ft level sidewalks. There is one ingress/egress each on Bundy and Olympic. The car entrance/exit goes underground through one entrance and then there is separate parking for businesses, residences, etc.**

**Ms. Mason Heller spoke kindly of some of the projects benefits, but felt a back door was being left open with land equivalency.**

**Ms. Tippit asked each board member to provide feedback. In aggregate, the board was generally supportive of the project idea. Praise included additional housing units, open public space, and some elements of the design. Concerns given as feedback included project size, traffic, land use, ingress/egress and general accessibility, having another grocery market in an area with already great markets and concerns of billboards.**

**Mr. Simmons said he appreciated all the comments. His contact info: [philsimmons252@gmail.com](mailto:philsimmons252@gmail.com).**

#### **F) Stephanie Inyama, Regional Homeless Count Coordinator on SPA 5 Homeless Count 2015:**

**Stephanie gave a presentation on the process of counting the homeless population and discussed how the count determines what resources are needed to assist the homeless. The homeless count project is mandated by the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority.**

**LA County has eight Service Planning Areas (SPAs) and the WNC is in SPA 5. Many communities have opted into the count including West LA and Palms. Communities that opt in take ownership over the counting. Communities that have not opted in still have to be counted and Stephanie has to find a way to get it done. Because the WNC has**

not opted in, five census tracts were mandatorily determined that needed to be counted. The mandatory tracts are 267100, 267200, 267800, 269300, 271100. Tract 267900 was not deemed to be a mandatory tract, although it was pointed out that the area is believed to have homeless and it can still be counted by volunteers. At least ten volunteers were requested to count the mandatory tracts. No less than two people can count a tract and usually four is best (a driver, two counters and a recorder). Volunteers must be at least 18.

The count will take place on January 28 at 6 pm. There are preparatory trainings on Tues 1/13 at Councilman Bonin's Office in Westchester from 10-12, Wed 1/14 in Westwood at the Methodist Church from 6-8 pm, and Tues 1/20 at Culver City Hall for coordinators.

Contact: [spa5homelesscount@lahsa.org](mailto:spa5homelesscount@lahsa.org), 323-533-4932, <http://www.lahsa.org/homelesscount.asp>.

**G) Shannon Burns on the proposed placement of a Verizon antenna on a telephone pole and several cabinets on the parkway at 2209 Overland.**

**Ms. Burns presented on a proposed above ground Verizon installation located on Overland near the third house south of Olympic on the west side of the street.**

**Overland is narrow where the installation is proposed. It is a busy street with a number of children who frequent the area. The proposed installation, which includes approximately five 72-inch cabinets, has the potential to impact car visibility and make ingress/egress difficult. Ms. Burns presented photographs of accidents that have already occurred at the location, leaving the cars smashed.**

**Concern was mentioned over accessibility for emergency vehicles who could be impeded from parking on the parkway. Right now there is one traffic lane in each direction with parking only on one-side of the street. The installation could potentially impact emergency vehicle access.**

**Ms. Broide made the following motion: The WNC opposes the installation of cellular equipment on the parkway at 2209 Overland and urges Verizon to work with the WNC to find an alternate location.  
Second: Ms. Shaw  
16-0-0 unanimous**

## **H) LA City Council District Representative—Chuy Orozco**

**Chuy presented about the Interim Control Ordinance for Mansionization. Everyone below Sunset is included excluding Beverlywood. Ms. Beale-Rosano spoke against the Mansionization ordinance and Chuy remarked that she should speak with Mr. Shaw in the Councilman's Office.**

**An archery range is planned for Rancho Park to open in the fall. There have been some hiccups, including a high voltage line being discovered.**

**Century City is working to replace transformers that have been out. This is taking some time. Ms. Shaw mentioned Metro is starting road work on Avenue of the Starts and Constellation for the Purple Line, which is expected to go through March/April.**

**On February 22, the CHP will be holding education trainings on how to put a child seat in cars at 8866 Pico Ave.**

**Ms. Broide mentioned the 1/9-1/19 closure of Pico west of Sawtelle. She asked if there was a plan for traffic control officers?**

## **I) WNC Treasurer Report - Lisa Morocco, Treasurer:**

**Ms. Morocco presented the WNC Treasurer Report with a balance of \$36,284. \$720 in expenditures so far, but it's not reflected until it's paid.**

**Ms. Morocco made a motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER):**

**Second: Ms. Kusnic  
14-0-0 unanimous**

**Ms. Morocco made a motion for up to \$100 for WNC name badges for board members (cost is \$9 each).**

**Second: Ms. Antler  
14-0-0**

**Ms. Morocco raised discussion to fund up to \$3000 for LAFD equipment to improve ability to fight fires. Station 92's treadmill broke. Mr. McMillian offered to see if he could arrange a donation of a treadmill instead through someone who has surplus exercise equipment. Ms. Shaw also suggested that FOWLA could alternatively make the donation if that doesn't work. If the treadmill is given to the**

**LAFD by alternative sources, Ms. Morocco said she would ask if the station is in need of other things.**

**J) Lisa Morocco on Pick Pico**

**Pick Pico is coming up June 7 and planning is set to begin. A planning meeting is being contemplated for 1/22 or 1/27 with the prior date emphasized.**

**Motion to Adjourn At 10:08 PM.**

**Motion By: Ms. Burns**

**Second By: Ms. Kusnic**

**Motion Passed: Unanimous**

**Submitted: By Aaron Rosenfield**