

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of Meeting – October 9, 2003

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:10 pm in Community Room C at Westside Pavilion by Chair Terri Tippit.

Board Members attending:

Steve Spector – Seat 3
Jean Shigematsu – Seat 4
Gretchen Lewotsky – Seat 6
David T. (Ty) Vahedi – Seat 7
Terri Tippit – Seat 8
Alan James Levine – Seat 9
J. François Nion – Seat 11
Stacy L. Antler – Seat 12
Robert Guerin – Seat 13
Karen Weiss – Seat 14
Sam Skootsky – Seat 15 (7:25)
Melissa Kenady – Seat 16
Jan C. Gabrielson – Seat 17
Beverly Kenworthy – City Council District 5
Nancy Catullo – Seat 1
James Lynch – Seat 5
Richard S. Harmetz – Seat 10
Senior Lead Officer Mario Gonzalez, LAPD
Captain Randy Judd, LAFD

Board Members absent:

Seat 2 – Vacant

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of September 11, 2003 were approved as corrected by a vote of 13 - 0.

Agenda Items (Taken out of order. Reported in the order in which they were taken up at the meeting)

a) John Miller, Head of the LAPD's Counter-Terrorism Unit spoke

Here are some points he made:

- ▶ New York City has twice the population of LA and 1000 people devoted to anti-terrorism; we have 160.
- ▶ New York City has 41,400 police officers; we have 9,000.
- ▶ LA is rich in potential terrorist targets
- ▶ LA's anti-terrorism effort and reaction in the event of an attack is complicated by the number of agencies involved (144).
- ▶ Knowing what does not fit in our neighborhood and reporting unusual activity can help. Call 1-877-ATHREAT.
- ▶ Terrorist do not look like we expect them to.
- ▶ Federal money promised to us after 9/11 has been slow to come.
- ▶ Jack Weiss was the lone voice to say we can't wait for the federal government.
- ▶ John Miller's email address is millerjo@lapd.lacity.org.

c) Negative impact of the day labor site at Sawtelle and Exposition

Renato Romano reported. He owns the marble yard near the Center and reports that day laborers seeking work are on the streets, many without ID. Equipment has been taken from his yard. LAPD Officer Phil Enbody, the SLO in that area attended and said they have a right to be on the street, and that the problem is that members of the community looking for laborers pick them up on the corner, rather than go to the Center. Susan Bursk, who attended for CD5, said that regular meetings had been held that addressed and alleviated the problem, but that the meetings had not occurred in the last year. Susan Strick, the City Attorney's Neighborhood Prosecutor, said that employers should call ahead and tell the Center who they need. Barbara Broide said that HOAs could educate people to use the Center. Kevin Singer suggested that the Center should post a sign telling employers to go to the Center and only hire people with ID. Terri suggested resuming the meetings. Renato is willing to attend.

d) LAPD laser speed gun request

SLO Mario Gonzalez reported. Stacy Antler, chair of the Public Safety

and Traffic Committee suggested that the Board consider allocating some of our money to the purchase of a laser speed gun for LAPD West Division. The laser gun is more accurate than a radar gun because it is able to single out one vehicle and measure its speed, and would be useful in identifying and citing motorists speeding in our area. West Division does not have its own motor officers and so the laser gun is all the more important because traffic enforcement is done by traffic cars known as E cars, not motorcycles. Dick Harmetz expressed concern that when our accounts are audited, this expenditure would be disapproved. Stacy said traffic is our number issue. West LA has two officers in training for the laser gun and if we bought it, it would stay within our area. Alan Levine said that knowledge by the public of the presence of the laser gun would be a deterrent to speeding. Sam Skootsky said we should consider the request as part of our whole budget. Terri said the matter was not before the Board for action today, just for information. So no action was taken.

b) Proposed amendment to by-laws

Steve Spector reported and moved to amend our by-laws delete Section 4 of Article III so that all Board members would have concurrent two-year terms, with all current Board members' terms expiring January 1, 2005. The change would affect only the six business seats. The change would save us the time, energy, and expense of holding elections this year for only six seats and would create continuity on the Board. We can revisit this issue as we continue to learn what we are doing and whether further changes would serve the needs of the WNC. We will have two weeks after voting for the amendment to submit it to DONE.

The motion was seconded by Dick Harmetz, discussed, and passed 15-0.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Chair's Report

Terri Tippit reported. DONE has told us we can use the City seal. Gretchen is doing business cards for us. We will continue to improvise our own letterhead as needed. Terri will send out a mock-up. Terri has identified a laptop computer that would be suitable for us: a Satellite A15, base price \$1,079.

Budget Committee Report

Treasurer Bob Guerin reported. We have \$5,685 in our card account, \$6,250 held by the City Controller, and \$500 in cash. We are paying \$65 per month for our post-office box. We are funded in the amount of \$12,500 every quarter. Some items over \$1,000 must go through the Controller. Some confusion hung heavy in the air as to how much money we get and how often, and how much we can spend and how

often, and what happens when we don't spend all of our allocated funds. Bob will check further on the administrative details of our funding and spending. Barbara Broide said her team may need some money to reproduce flyers for the tree-trimming educational effort if the Chamber does not do it.

Policies and Procedures Committee Report

Chair Jim Lynch said there was no reason to meet so they didn't. He expressed interest in a "Word file to find motions." Jan Gabrielson said anyone who wants to know what we did and when can email him and it will take him 10 seconds to find it. Terri said it is very important that the Policies and Procedures Committee meet and address the issues of how we conduct our meetings and our business. She told the Committee that they had to meet and get something done this year on how we conduct our business.

Public Safety Committee Report

Stacy Antler reported. The Committee met on October 8. Stacy invited everyone to attend the CPAB Traffic Committee, which meets the second Tuesday of each month at 8:15 am at the West LA Police Station. She is setting up CERT training for after the first of the year and needs a firm commitment of 25 people. She announced that the Cheviot Hills HOA has donated workstations for all SLO's.

Land-Use Committee Report

Gretchen Lewotsky reported. There was no meeting this month. They will try to meet on October 30. The Westside Too project will be the test case for their new procedures.

Outreach Committee Report

Alan Levine reported. USC has chosen us to be one of five NC's to do a visioning study. They will do a 3-hour workshop, which Alan suggested be the single focus of our November meeting, unless there are other urgent issues. It will be November 13 at 6 pm. One thing the USC people have done is to start with a map of our district, put a clear sheet of plastic over it, and put dots to show our concerns and assets. Concern was expressed that because 40% of the people in our district are renters and none are on our Board, we do not represent all the people in our area.

D.O.N.E Report

No one having come, none was done.

Council District 5 Report

Susan Bursk reported.

The problem with the house that is full of junk is now the subject of a court order to clean up by October 20. Ty is working on the cleanup and took out three loads.

A new electrical distribution station will be built at Bentley and National, near Sepulveda. Demolition of the existing structures has begun. The facility, which will be unmanned, make no noise, and which is designed to be unobtrusive, will be completed by October 2005 and will carry the area until 2060. Contact at DWP: Hoddy Rupp 213-367-5006.

The newsrack ordinance is in Public Works.

Jack Weiss voted for the strip-club ordinance.

Welfare building on Pico: They are waiting to hear from General Services about a possible City use for the building. Terri said it was being considered for senior housing. Rich Cahalan expressed dismay Zev did not mention that possibility when he met with his group (2300 Residents). Maria in Zev's office called Rich in August and said it would go to auction. Gretchen said that Maria said they would keep them informed, then didn't.

The owner of property on Motor just north of the freeway was cited for operating a business in a residential area. He asked for six months to relocate. He has until October 18 to relocate all his cars.

Next meeting

November 13, 2003, 6:00 pm, probably the same place, but pay attention to the announcement when it comes out.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan C. Gabrielson, Recording Secretary

Approved at Meeting of: _____

Without correction _____

As corrected _____

**CUMULATIVE GLOSSARY OF
ESOTERIC ACRONYMS, ABBREVIATIONS, AND BUZZ WORDS**

Brown Act	The Ralph M. Brown Act
CA	Los Angeles City Attorney
CD5	City Council District 5 (Jack Weiss)
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team
CPAB	Community Policing Advisory Board
CRA	Community Redevelopment Agency
CUP	Conditional Use Permit
DONE	City of Los Angeles Department of Neighborhood Empowerment
DOT	Department of Transportation (LA, California, or federal)
EIR	Environmental Impact Report
Executive Board	The officers of the WNC: Chair, Vice-Chair, Corresponding Secretary, Recording Secretary, Treasurer
HOA	Homeowners Association
NOD	Neighborhood Overlay District
PACT	Police and Community Together
PLUM	Planning and Use Management Committee, LA City Council
SLO	Senior Lead Officer
SUD	Supplemental Use District
TIMP	Traffic Improvement Mitigation Plan
WNC	Westside Neighborhood Council