

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of Meeting November 13, 2003

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:12 PM in Community Room A at Westside Pavilion by Chair Terri Tippit.

Board Members attending:

Steve Spector – Seat 3
Jean Shigematsu – Seat 4 (6:25)
Gretchen Lewotsky – Seat 6
Barbara Broide, alternate for David T. (Ty) Vahedi (Ty arrived at 6:30) – 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
Melissa Kenady – Seat 16
Jan C. Gabrielson – Seat 17
Beverly Kenworthy – City Council District 5
Nancy Catullo – Seat 1
Richard S. Harmetz – Seat 10 (7:00)

Board Members absent:

Seat 2 - vacant
James Lynch – Seat 5
Senior Lead Officer Mario Gonzalez, LAPD
Captain Randy Judd, LAFD

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of October 9, 2003 were approved as corrected by a vote of 10 - 0.

[Because this meeting was reserved primarily for the USC Visioning Study, other items were brief and mostly taken out of order. They are reported here more or less in order of occurrence.]

Public Comment

Mike Faraday, a stakeholder who lives at Manning and Little Santa Monica introduced himself.

Agenda Item

- b) Update on Trammel Crowe.

Dick Harnetz had not yet arrived, so Terri reported that his HOA had settled its lawsuit and that the terms of the settlement were confidential.

Executive Board Report

Terri Tippit reported. The Executive Board met on November 6, 2003.

Code of Civility. Terri had emailed the proposed Code to the Board and asked for comments. Jan Gabrielson suggested adding “and concisely” to #5 after “clearly” and deleting the quotations marks from #17. Steve Spector suggested deleting #14, because he did not feel the wording was clear as to what exactly it means and the concept seems to covered adequately by other portions of the Code, especially #3. With those changes, it was moved, seconded, and passed 14 - 0 to adopt the Code for the WNC.

Newsracks. CLEAN met with the LA Times and other papers. Tom La Bonge asked where neighborhood papers would be distributed without the racks they have now. The Times said 25% of their distribution is from newsracks. The proposed ordinance is in committee now, and will come up again in January. Sam Skootsky pointed out that even if a newspaper is free, it can still be a business for profit.

Adult-entertainment ordinance. Opponents of the ordinance collected enough signatures to put repeal of the ordinance on the ballot for public vote. The City has to decide when to put it on the ballot. If at the March election, it will cost the City \$2.8 million. Or it can wait until 2005. The City Council has to vote what to do on November 18.

Light rail. Zev said that light rail would be built only to La Cienega. An oversight committee is being set up. Terri contacted Zev and Yvonne and was told there is not even money to build to La Cienega. Stacy said that Dave Meagher said at the Cheviot Hills HOA meeting that a line might be built as far as Robertson in 2009, but that there is no money for that either. Alan said light rail in our area is a non-issue now. Board members should tell their groups.

Computer. It was discussed, moved, seconded, and passed 14 - 0 to authorize Terri to spend up to \$2,000 for a computer for the WNC.

Pruning on Expo. Terri's HOA will prune on the Exposition right-of-way between Veteran and Kelton on December 16, 2003. Check-in at 8:30 am; start work at 9:00.

By-laws. The amendment to our by-laws that we approved, which would create two-year terms for all seats, has been sent to DONE and we are waiting for approval.

Budget Committee Report

Treasurer Bob Guerin reported. We have \$5,685 on our card and \$500 in cash. We spent \$65 on our PO box. We should have \$6,200 more coming. Bob asked DONE about how our funding works. He got some answers and is waiting for others. We don't have to spend all our money each quarter, but if we don't spend it by March 31, the end of our fiscal year, we don't get another \$50,000, we just get enough to bring us up to \$50,000. When we spend over \$1,000, we have to get an expedited check from the City. Nancy said we can't charge more than \$1,000 at a time at Office Depot, but can do it in several different charges. We are not permitted to use our money for office space. Subject to hearing from DONE on these issues, Bob interprets the rules as prohibiting us from buying the laser gun for LAPD. Gretchen suggested using some of our money to stage an event to show people we exist. That suggestion was referred to the Outreach Committee.

Agenda Item

- a) Neighborhood Council Visioning Study

Alan Levine introduced Juliet Musso, Assistant Professor of Public Policy at the USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development, and her team. They have been documenting the neighborhood council system since before the enactment that created us. They work under a grant from the James Irvine Foundation; the City does not fund their work. Juliet and her team led us in an exercise in which we broke into two groups, gathered around a map of our district, and took turns identifying our assets, liabilities, and other features. A strong theme that emerged from both groups, working independently of each other, was the sorry state of Pico Boulevard from Westwood Boulevard to Sepulveda. The view was also expressed that the intersection of Pico and Westwood Boulevards could be a vibrant and attractive commercial center for the neighborhood, and that improving the appearance of that segment of Pico would further that goal. Juliet's group will prepare a report on the session and share it with us. Juliet's email: musso@usc.edu.

The study concluded and the Board resumed its regular business at 9:06 pm.

Land-Use Committee

Gretchen had to leave before the report, so Terri, after conferring with Gretchen, reported. The Committee has heard from the Westside Too project and will send information on the project to the Board. Landmark will make a presentation at our December 11, 2003 meeting.

Policies and Procedures Committee Report

Jim Lynch was not able to attend the Board meeting. Ty Vahedi reported that the Committee did not meet. Stacy Antler said the committee needs some more direction. Jan Gabrielson said he has some ideas of what the Committee should be doing and volunteered to join the Committee and chair it after its current term expires.

Public Safety Committee

Stacy Antler reported. The Committee did not meet this month. Stacy made a pitch at the Cheviot Hills HOA meeting for people to sign up for the CERT training and some did. Barbara Broide asked if there is a maximum number of people permitted per class. Stacy said she would find out.

Outreach Committee

The Committee did not need to report as the Visioning Study was part of the work it had been doing.

Council District 5

Beverly Kenworthy reported. The nuisance house on Parnell was cleaned again in a three-day project, which was monitored by LAPD, and required a skip loader and a large trash truck. Her office is putting together a meeting of various entities to keep the problem from recurring. LAFD can no longer do it because it would take money away from brush clearance. Building and Safety will be the go-to agency for this problem. The problem is aggravated by the neighbors giving things to the people who live there. Ty will go to the site once a month. On behalf of her association, Barbara Broide thanked Beverly for all her efforts.

Next meeting

December 11, 2003, 7:00 pm, same place.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:18 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
CD5	City Council District 5 (Jack Weiss)
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CERT	Community Emergency Response Team (Not just a breath mint)
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