

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of Meeting September 9, 2004

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 PM in Community Room A at Westside Pavilion by Vice-Chair Steve Spector in the absence of Chair Terri Tippit.

Board Members attending:

Richard Cahalan – Seat 2
Steve Spector – Seat 3
Jean Shigematsu – Seat 4
Mary Kusnic, alternate for James Lynch – Seat 5
Gretchen Lewotsky – Seat 6
David T. (Ty) Vahedi – Seat 7
Joan Dorfman, alternate for Terri Tippit – Seat 8
Alan James Levine – Seat 9
Richard S. Harmetz – Seat 10
J. François Nion – Seat 11
Stacy L. Antler – Seat 12
Robert Guerin – Seat 13
Sarah Fitzsimmons, alternate for Sam Skootsky – Seat 15
Melissa Kenady – Seat 16
Jan C. Gabrielson – Seat 17
Paul Backstrom – City Council District 5
Battalion Chief Al Gonzalez, LAFD

Board Members absent:

Nancy Catullo – Seat 1
Seat 14 - Vacant
Senior Lead Officer Mario Gonzalez, LAPD

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of August 12, 2004 were approved without correction by a vote of 13-0-1.

Public Comment

Annette Mercer said she got a haul notice, which was sent to properties within

300' of a grading site.

Vickie Casas and Jean Nishjima spoke in opposition to the proposed opening of a gentlemen's spa in the 2000 block of Cotner. Gretchen said she spoke to Scott Holmes, the person who proposes to do it and says he said it is to be a hair, nail, and such parlor catering to men. Scott appeared later during the meeting under public comment and described the business he proposes to open: A gentlemen's spa with an automotive theme, offering haircuts, shaves, manicures, and pedicures, a cigar room, an alcoholic beverage license. There will be no jacuzzi, no sauna. He wants a use change from warehouse to retail. He will attend the Land-Use Committee meeting on 9/21.

Agenda Items

4.a) Election Committee Report.

Ellen Ruben reported. DONE has approved our revised procedures except that we don't yet have an arbitrator. It probably will not be the Human Relations Commission. It was moved, seconded, and passed 15-0-0 to approve the procedures as presented and give discretion to the Election Committee to approve the arbitrator. Everyone acknowledged the superb job Ellen has done. Alan reminded everyone that from 5 to 6:30 pm, just before our next Board meeting on October 14, we will hold an information meeting for people who want to run for the Board.

4.b) Seat 7 size concerns.

Ty Vahedi asked that the issue be deferred to the next meeting, and so it was.

4.c) League of Women Voters Analysis of City's proposed half-cent sales tax increase

Alice Romano said there was no independent evaluation of the increase (Los Angeles County Measure A on November 2). Information is at www.votela.org. The issue will be on the agenda at our next meeting.

4.d) Playa Vista phase two

(Heard at the end of the meeting because that is when the people showed up)
Sabrina Venskus reported. She is Chair of land use and planning of Venice NC, and spoke also on behalf of the Ballona Wetlands Land Trust. Phase 2 is going to the City Council on 9/22. VCC is opposed to additional development and is sponsoring a town-hall meeting on 9/20. They asked us to co-sponsor it. It was moved, seconded, and passed 13-0-0 that they may use our name as co-sponsor as long as it will not cost us anything and that they not represent us as taking a position on any issue. Gretchen and Ty will attend the meeting.

6. Board Communications:

Executive Board Report

Steve Spector reported.

Budget Committee Report

Treasurer Bob Guerin reported. Custom Signals has not received the check from DONE for the laser gun. We also need a check for Sketch Farm. Deanna will follow up on both. Bob presented two documents, which will be in the record of this meeting: Statement of Financial Condition 9/9/04 and our Operating Budget for 2004–2005. It was moved, seconded, and passed 15-0-0 to accept the revised budget for 2004–2005.

Policies and Procedures Committee Report

Jan Gabrielson reported that this committee is working with the Election Committee and has not had a separate meeting.

Public Safety Committee

Stacy Antler reported. Barbara Broide attended a meeting on the Lycée at the Planning Commission. A stakeholder complained of standing water. Stacy's fantastic job on setting up and running the CERT training was raucously applauded.

Battalion Chief Al Gonzalez, LAFD introduced himself and answered questions.

Land-Use Committee

Gretchen Lewotsky reported. The Committee will meet on 9/28 at 7 pm at Gretchen's house.

Outreach Committee

Alan Levine reported. His committee has been working with the Election Committee on the newsletter. The website will be launched in a few weeks. They may hire a student to input data into the site. He also discussed the Pico Village project. At Alan's suggestion, we joined people at other locations at 8 pm in a 60-second vigil in remembrance of the 1,000 Americans and countless Iraqis who have died in Iraq.

D.O.N.E Report

Deanna Stevenson reported. The Mayor's Budget Survey marks the second

time that NCs are weighing in on budget priorities. To participate, we must have 200 stakeholders fill out the survey, compile it, and submit it in a limited time. It was moved, seconded, and passed 13-0-0 to appoint a committee to make its best efforts to respond to the Mayor's Budget Survey. The committee consists of Bob Guerin, Stacy Antler, and Annette Mercer. They will collect filled-out surveys, and, at a noticed meeting, will tally the surveys. They will then submit them to the Mayor's Budget Survey.

Council District 5 Report

Paul Bakstrom reported. He attended the Lycée hearing and worked on conditions. Palms NC also had input. He mentioned the Adopt-a-Can program in which the City will put out a trash can if the property owner agrees to dump it.

Next meeting

October 14, 2004, 7:00 pm, same place.

Adjournment

Thanks to Steve's superb leadership, the meeting adjourned at 9:13 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**

BID	Business Improvement District
Brown Act	The Ralph M. Brown Act
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
LUC	WNC Land-Use Committee
MND	Mitigated Negative Declaration
NOD	Neighborhood Oriented District
NTM	Neighborhood Traffic Mitigation
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