

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of Meeting: October 14, 2004

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 7:09 PM in Community Room A at Westside Pavilion by Chair Terri Tippit.

Board Members attending:

Richard Cahalan – Seat 2  
Steve Spector – Seat 3  
Mary Kusnic, alternate for James Lynch – Seat 5  
Mona Strassburger, alternate for Gretchen Lewotsky – Seat 6  
David T. (Ty) Vahedi – Seat 7  
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  
Jan C. Gabrielson – Seat 17  
Paul Backstrom – City Council District 5

Board Members absent:

Nancy Catullo – Seat 1  
Jean Shigematsu – Seat 4  
Seat 14 - Vacant  
Melissa Kenady – Seat 16  
Representative from LAPD  
Representative from LAFD

**Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The minutes of the meeting of September 9, 2004 were approved as corrected by a vote of 9-0-0.

**Public Comment**

Patrice Williams spoke on behalf of the Century City Film Festival, to be held on

October 27–30. More information is at <http://www.centurycityfilmfestival.com>.

Mrs. E. Mindes [address not disclosed on speaker card] spoke in opposition to DWP's rate increase. She wants the City Council to repeal the 11% increase, stop the transfer of funds from DWP to the City, and return excess funds to the citizens. Stacy is going to attend a meeting of NCs that is dealing with the issue and will report back. The issue will be on the agenda at our next meeting.

Alice Romano reported on whether the League of Women Voters had analyzed the proposed half-cent sales tax increase on the November ballot. She said we should not take a position either way and we didn't.

### **Agenda Items**

4.d) Election Committee Update. Committee Chair Ellen Ruben reported. Walking Man distributed 21,000 newsletters containing information on the election and encouraging stakeholder participation. The information meeting for people interested in running for a Board seat was held today before the Board meeting. Three people showed up. Aside from their appearance and one letter nominating a person for the non-profit seat, Ellen has received no response from anybody as a result of all our outreach. The number and type of lawn signs was discussed. Flyers for businesses to post in their windows were suggested.

4.c) Public-amenity kiosks. Stacy Antler reported. The City has a contract with JCDecaux (the firm employing François Nion) to install kiosks on City sidewalks. François explained that the kiosks have three sides. Two are for advertising and the third is for the City's use. We could post WNC information on them. Paul Backstrom said CD5 has pulled support on additional kiosks and that he is working with HOAs on the issue. The Public Safety Committee will study the issue.

Approval of Paul Brohard, traffic engineer. Barbara Broide reported. She did extensive research into finding a traffic engineer to work with us. Tom Brohard worked with Tract 7260 on the Trammel Crowe project. Dick Harmetz spoke highly of him. He offered to work for us in three stages. His fee is a total of \$28,000, broken down into \$10,000, \$10,000, and \$8,000. Barbara went home, got the contract, and returned. Later in the meeting, Steve, Bob, and Rich all read it. The contract was dated June 14, 2004 and covered the first phase only. The fee is \$150 per hour, not to exceed \$10,000. It was moved, seconded, and passed 12-0-0 to adopt the contract as set out in the June 14, 2004 letter and to attach that letter to the minutes.

4.e) Jack in the Box. Terri Tippit reported. In spite of their appearance at our meeting of June 12, 2003, and their expressed intent to cooperate with us, they never replaced the speaker. Terri asked the Recording Secretary to locate the letter that we sent them.

6.a) **Executive Board Report**

Terri Tippit reported.

6.b) **Budget Committee Report**

Treasurer Bob Guerin reported. We were funded for the current quarter. We got the laser gun; Bob had it at the meeting in its unopened box. We have \$6,250 in our credit card account and \$6,250 that we can draw on.

6.b) **Public-Safety Committee**

Stacy Antler reported. She attended a meeting of the Congress of Neighborhoods. She also joined the Mayor's budget task force. She reported that a City official acknowledged problems with the budget survey. It wasn't clear that we should answer for our district, not for the entire city. There was a discussion of the Santa Monica Blvd. project and the construction in Century City.

6.e) **Land-Use Committee**

Rich Cahalan reported. They met on September 28 with the people who want to open the Service Station. The Committee asked them some questions that they could not answer. They asked to come to the next meeting with the answers. The next meeting will be October 26, 2004 at 7pm in Community Room C. The Planning Land Use Management committee of the City Council approved the entitlements for the Westside Too Landmark theater Project on October 13. Two changes were adopted as conditions: the theater's wine bar will be in the interior of the theater space and the developer will plant bougainvillea along the wall on Ayres east of Westwood Boulevard. City Council approval is expected the week of November 8. In addition, Landmark Theaters intends to seek entitlements to use movie poster banners facing Pico as described in previous presentations to the LUC and the WNC.

6.f) **Outreach Committee**

Alan Levine reported. The Committee has been working mostly on the newsletter and the election. The website is up and being improved, working with Shlomo Fattal and Nancy Larrew. There was a discussion of paying someone to input information for the website.

**Agenda item 4.a)** Haul route and environmental notices. Annette Mercer reported. She had asked that we be put on a list of haul routes. Since then, she attended a meeting at Jack Weiss's office and Paul and Renee put her on an email list to get notices.

**D.O.N.E Report**

None was done.

**Council District 5 Report**

Paul Backstrom reported.

**Next meeting**

November 11, 2004, 7:00 pm, same place. It will be preceded by the Candidates' Workshop from 5:00 to 6:30 pm. The Chair suggested that the meeting date be changed to take into account that we need to hear from the City on the DWP issue and that November 11 is a City holiday. Jan Gabrielson objected to changing the date of the Board meeting because the newsletter (which we delivered to 21,000 stakeholders) announced the Board meeting after the Candidates' Workshop.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:42 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
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