

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of Meeting December 9, 2004

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM in Community Room A at Westside Pavilion by Chair Terri Tippit.

Board Members attending:

Richard Cahalan – Seat 2
Steve Spector – Seat 3
Jean Shigematsu – Seat 4
Gretchen Lewotsky – Seat 6
David T. (Ty) Vahedi – Seat 7 (7:18)
Terri Tippit – Seat 8
Alan James Levine – Seat 9
Richard S. Harmetz – Seat 10 (7:19)
J. François Nion – Seat 11
Stacy L. Antler – Seat 12 (7:19)
Robert Guerin – Seat 13
Melissa Kenady – Seat 16
Jan C. Gabrielson – Seat 17
Captain Randy Judd – LAFD

Board Members absent:

Seat 1 – Vacant
James Lynch – Seat 5
Seat 14 – Vacant
Sam Skootsky – Seat 15
Paul Backstrom – City Council District 5
Senior Lead Officer Mario Gonzalez, LAPD

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of November 11, 2004 were approved without correction by a vote of 9-0-1.

Agenda Items

4.d) Proposed Sewer Rate Increase

Reina Parrera and Robin Jackson of the LA City Dept. of Sanitation spoke. On August 6, 2004, the City Council approved the settlement of a lawsuit by Santa Monica Baykeeper. To fund the settlement and to maintain and upgrade the aging sewer infrastructure, the City proposes a rate increase, on which a hearing will be held on February 2, 2005 at 10 am in the City Council Chambers. The presentation was for information only; the settlement must be funded. Details are in materials handed out by Reina and Robin that will be in the record of this meeting. The issue will be on our next agenda.

4.c) WNC Election Results. Ellen Ruben reported. 141 people voted—fewer than half the number of stakeholders who voted last time. There were no uncontested seats and no challenges to the election. Seat 2 and 14 remain unfilled.

4.b) Rancho Park Golf Course. Gerald Pirkl reported. He is a golf-course architect, representing Steve Oh, the concessionaire who plans to modify the driving range. The Land-Use Committee studied the project and issued its report, which was distributed to the Board before the meeting. The driving-range fence will be raised but changed to a less conspicuous material. As a result of extending the range, some trees will be removed. It was moved by Rich Cahalan and seconded that we write a letter to Jack Weiss expressing support for the proposed project and urging that an effort be made to save the trees that are proposed to be removed and plant the same or comparable trees along Patricia. After extensive discussion, Jan Gabrielson moved to close debate. The motion to close debate passed 8–4. A vote was then taken on the main motion. The main motion passed 7–5.

4.a) Trimming and Removing of Parkway Trees. Stacy Antler reported. People are getting permits to trim trees and doing such a bad job that they kill the tree, then they remove the tree. It was moved, seconded, and passed 13-0-0 that we ask the City to notify us before issuing any permits to prune or remove trees by the following letter:

In an effort to assure that City-owned trees are protected from needless removal, it is respectfully requested that the City of Los Angeles delay the issuance of any permit for the pruning or removal of any City-owned tree within the boundaries of the WNC, except in cases of emergency, for 30 days. In addition, it is requested that the City notify the Chairperson of the WNC in writing or by telephone of any such application within five days of the City's receipt of any such application. The Chair may consult with the WNC representatives representing the area where the tree is located.

Gretchen will call the City and ask them to send an arborist to our January meeting.

Public Forum

Jane Anne Jeffries, an eco-psychologist has lived 60 years in LA. She is concerned about sustainability and will send an email to Terri describing what she

would like to do with us.

6.a) **Executive Board Report**

Terri Tippit reported.

There will be two mayoral-candidate debates for NCs to send reps: 2/17/04 8–9:30 and 2/28 6:30–8, both at CBS Television City. Each NC may send seven board members. Anyone who wants to go should tell Terri by 1/15.

The Greater Valley Glen NC wants us to consider their plan for how to be a good neighbor. It will be on our January agenda.

The Citywide Issues Group contacted us. Their website is www.lancissues.org.

Jack Weiss and Ty Vahedi are running for City Council District 5. Terri reminded everybody to comply with our rules that require any endorsement mentioning WNC to make clear that the endorsement is personal and not on behalf of the WNC. The Recording Secretary read Standing Rule 16 aloud.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Bob Guerin reported. He handed out an operating budget for 2004–2005 and a financial statement for June 2004. Rich suggested adding a column for money allocated. We have cash on hand of \$206.70.

Policies and Procedures Committee Report

Lame-duck Chair Jan Gabrielson reported that our Bylaws need some review and revision and volunteered to chair an ad hoc bylaws committee. Regrettably, there were no objections.

Public Safety Committee

Stacy Antler reported. Jack Weiss will form a regional traffic task force. Stacy will have to give up the chair of the Committee. Barbara Broide will probably take over. The Committee did not meet since the last Board meeting. Stacy attended the DOT meeting on 12/2. It was very unpleasant. There was a discussion about a rumored potential conflict of interest that our traffic consultant Tom Brohard might have. Someone will check it out. Bob Guerin said Brohard has incurred \$1,200. He will be told to hold off on more work for now. Dick Harmetz said that Brohard's work for Tract 7260 was to study Century City traffic for the Trammell Crowe project and that he never addressed Motor Avenue. Possible meeting dates for traffic input from stakeholders are 1/19 7–9 and 1/22 9–11 for residents and 1/20 8–10 and 1/20 at noon for Century

City.

Land-Use Committee

Gretchen Lewotsky reported. There was no meeting last month and will be none next month unless something comes up. They have not heard again from the Service Station.

Outreach Committee

Alan Levine reported. The Committee worked closely with the Election Committee. Alan said the Board needs to decide if it will be proactive or merely reactive.

D.O.N.E Report

None was done.

Council District 5 Report

No representative was present so no report was given.

Next meeting

January 13, 2004, 7:00 pm, same place.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 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