

Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday April 10, 2014
7:00 P.M.
Westside Pavilion 10800 W. Pico
Meeting Room A

1. **Call to order** at 7:05 p.m. by Terri Tippit, WNC Chair
Admonishments to board and audience on silencing/turning off cell phones

Present:

John Padden, seat 1
Lisa Morocco, seat 2
Steve Spector, seat 4
David Burke, seat 5
Sarah Shaw, seat 6
Barbara Broide, seat 7
Terri Tippit, seat 8
Susane Gearin, seat 9
Fidel Quiralte, (alt) seat 10
Mary Kusnic, seat 11
Colleen Mason, seat 12
Bob Guerin, seat 13
Shannon Burns, seat 14
Stacy Antler, (alt,) seat 16
Aaron Rosenfield, seat 17

We have a quorum

2. **March 13, 2014 minutes**

Minutes of 3/13/2014 were reviewed and discussed, with typographical errors submitted to the Co-Secretary by Ms. Burns, and additional substantive changes from Ms. Tippit and Ms. Broide, which were discussed, and some of which were adopted. There was a short discussion by the co-secretaries reminding the Board that the Minutes must reflect what happened and what was stated at the WNC meeting, and not what happened after the meeting or at any other time.

Motion to approve as amended: Ms. Burns
Second: Ms. Morocco
Passed 12-0-3 (16, 9, 5)

3. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

- A. Arturo Pena, Area Representative, Community Outreach, Film L.A. Does permits; assists with challenges and concerns. It's a 24/7 operation. Wants to keep filming local. Contact Arturo at Aprina@filmLA.com
- B. Todd Person of the Metabolic Project, 2333 Pontius Avenue; 310-966-5099. Mr. Person has a personal training business on Pontius. He wanted to comment on parking and lack of street cleaning and parking on Pontius, north of Pico and South of Olympic. Mr. Person seeks help on cleaning and removing vehicles that park overnight, and are abandoned. Chuy Oroczo from CD5 is helping to work on this problem and enforcement, and Ms. Morocco as well.

4. **LAPD Report**

Rashad Sharif.

- A. First discussed Marijuana clinics . . . which clinics will remain open and which ones are moving forward with being shut down. Several operations on Westwood will be closed down. There is movement on this.
- B. Crime. Last month, there was one robbery on Ayres following a follow home from a bank. Ice pick to throat. There were 2 cars. April 1st, 2700 block of Kelton; gardener robbed by man with gun. Car break ins.
- C. Later discussed additional neighborhood problems, including in and around Palms Park.

Sargent Mariano, one of a number of gang detail at the meeting, discussed gang action in the community. Mostly Graffiti. Report generated and filtered through their unit. Ms. Morocco asked how to contact. The response was to take picture; call for someone to come out or go to police dept. If don't make a report, at least take a picture and send to SLO Rashad. Under umbrella of vandalism. Paint over as soon as possible. But take photo first. Diego Aguilar. South of Pico, West of La Cienega. Stoner (sotell13)13 is hispanic gang. 14 is north. Sotel 13 shot up Santa Monica 13 gang member, but otherwise quiet.

Mario Gonzales discussed a bank robbery in Century City the week before. Only \$200 was requested and received.

5. **Chuy Oroczo CD5 Report**

Provided additional information regarding the marijuana clinics and enforcement. SoRo festival is the same day as Pick Pico, so Council Member Koretz will have a conflict.

Discussed dead tree issue; contracts with the City. Sometimes they take it down; other times they do not. If they leave the stump, contact him, as they have a removal process for this.

Lisa remarked on how tree trimmers conflicted with Pico funding for our pear trees. It does not make sense having two teams out to trim the same tree.

Tree contractors have lack of communication with Urban Forestry and Gonzalez. BB wants services to be more efficiency. Will go out if a dead tree in danger of falling down. Lisa wants better way of communicating since we had a crew out and they sent their 25 year cycle. Need to communicate, and provide us with communications. Chuy agreed to talk with The Mayor's office about that. Colleen Mason-Heller had a few complaints about tree trimming in Cheviot and lack of notice and communication.

Geffen playhouse on seniors at end of month. With Hamilton and Uni high schools. Ms. Morocco thanks Chuy for assistance with the Pick Pico banners on Pico.

6. Celebrate Israel May 18, Cheviot Hills Recreation Park.

Adee Drory advised that she had a meeting and discussed plans with Cheviot Hills HOA and Tract 7260. Came to agreement and working with them. Has permits with LAPD. Will post on public works. Fire Dept. Done. So should have all completed. Distributed post cards all over the city. Stacy Antler says promised 3 officers. Last year people took signs down. Parked in driveways. More enforcement this year. Will have towing. Ms. Burns asked about St. Tim's. Will have security for St. Tim's. Promised to outreach to Father Paul. Bob asked if she was coming to their meeting. Adee said if it's on her calendar, yes. Thinks 15k will attend.

7. Laura Lynton, Stakeholder, seeks support on her request for a fence height adjustment.

Laura Lynton, who lives at 2201 Prosser (at Olympic), wants a fence height variance. She lives on a busy corner with very small twins. Wants wall to prevent kids from getting harmed. She lived on Overland growing up, and was injured as a child due to the proximity of traffic. Seeking variance. She initially went to the City to make the request, but was told don't worry about it. They said no inspectors on Saturday, so go do it. The wall was completed. It is 19" overheight in one place. 42" on one side and 16" on others. Paid \$5,500 for variance. Reported by renter next door. Seeks support of her request.

Ms. Broide noted that Ms. Lynton presented at Westwood South HOA and their Board approved of the request. Ms. Broide feels a very special circumstance here. Also, Ms. Lynton got fined. BB moved to support. Stacy 2nds.

Motion: Moved by Ms. Broide that WNC take action in support and send letter in support for overheight fence. Ms. Antler seconds.

Approved: Unanimous.

8. Additional Public Comment on Non-Agenda Item.

Representative for AT&T. Jerry Ambrose.
Filling in for John Pappas of the EukonGroup, an SFC Communications, Inc. company located at

65 Post, Suite 1000, Irvine, CA 92618. This group is working on a proposed AT&T wireless facility at 1936 Manning Avenue. Want to add antennas at 1936 Manning. Equipment and screening. All enclosed. About 53' about 8' over height.

The zoning application was submitted on 2-6-14. Mr. Pappas was going to come to the WNC to present, but there was no prior follow up with Westwood South, as requested, since this proposed installation is in the area that group represents. WNC members questioned Mr. Ambrose on the application and the hearing date, since we were informed that a hearing date would come up prior to the next WNC meeting.

Mr. Ambrose did not know process, or the status. He did not know the details regarding the wireless application. He did not know where the closest wireless facility was and whether this area was devoid of coverage. Mr. Ambrose doesn't know the hearing date. He thinks they will take it under advisement. WNC members asked him to check and get back to us. Members raised concerns regarding what AT&T might say at the hearing, since there is not sufficient due diligence.

Ms. Tippit stated that she would put this item on Agenda for May 8th for a presentation by AT&T, and Mr. Ambrose agreed to go back to the representative with that information.

9. Treasurer's Report.

The only expenditures this month were for the phone bill (\$39.14) and the purchase of an audio recorder (\$65.39) to assist with the Minutes. A total of \$104.53 was expended under 100 Operations. The starting balance was \$21,459.86. The ending balance is \$21,355.33. Remaining is: \$808.69 in operations; \$7,286.64 in 200 Outreach; \$13,260.00 remaining in 300 Community Improvement. Ms. Morocco noted that the LAST demand warrant must be submitted by May15th.

MOTION: to approve the treasurer's report and monthly expenditures.

Ms. Kusnic moves

Ms. Antler seconds.

Approved: 16-0-0

10. Funding requests; Motions & Resolutions.

A. Whether or not to sponsor a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for four Movies In The Park Summer 2014 Series for \$1164.00 with the agreement they show the WNC Public Address before each movie. Ms. Morocco noted the 4 movies would be: Monsters Inc; Cool Running; Willy Wonka; and Matilda.

MOTION to approve expenditure: Ms. Burns; Mr. Rosenthal seconds.

Short discussion as to which Willy Wonka would be shown, with a preference towards the original.

Motion Passes: 15-0-1 (Seat 10)

B. Whether or not to fund a Cordless Grinder and other tools for the LAFD, Station 92 for up to \$1,000.00. The City Attorney wants to know why a public benefit. It was explained that it is smaller to use, can grind. Can get into places where big one can't, and will save lives. From Home Depo.

MOTION to approve expenditure made by Ms. Kusnic; Mr. Guerin seconds.

Motion Passes: 16-0-0

C. Whether or not to fund a Neighborhood Purpose Grant for Fix the City for \$975 for insurance for Pick Pico venue. Ms. Morocco explained that because the WNC will be hosting it's Pick Pico event in the parking lot jointly owned by Chase Bank and Bank of America, insurance was required. Both banks insisted on insurance. There appeared to be an inconsistency in discussions as to whether the City would be able to cover the insurance with its policy. At first the WNC was told "no". Alternatives were considered, and Fix the City, as a favor, agreed to advance the funds necessary to obtain insurance, with the understanding the it would be reimbursed by the WNC, assuming the motion carried. DONE said since Fix the City was a 501(c)(3) corporation, it was fine to do it this way. Can use neighborhood purposes grant to pay back. Carmen said "why" and Jeff Brill back in November said do it that way. Not technically resolved. Bank of America ok with city policy. Chase wants it a certain way. We moved forward with it. Fix the City put up the money for it when we asked Fix the City to help as a favor.

MOTION to fund a Neighborhood Purposes Grant for Fix the City for \$975 for insurance made by Ms. Mason-Heller; Mr. Guerin seconds.

Motion Passes: 15-0-1 (seat 7)

D. Whether or not to fund up to \$11,000.00 for Pick Pico:

(1) Street Banners 30 sites Amagraph \$4,000.00

(2) Banners for Bus Benches \$100.00

(3) Posters CopyLand \$500.00

(4) Flyers CopyLand \$300.00

(5) Plastic tablecloths and table signs \$250.00

Ms. Morocco noted that 14 businesses and 15 artists have signed up. There will be interactive, fun things to do. Ms. Morocco discussed all of the events to take place, and what would be purchased, rented, etc. What areas; stage; music, etc.

MOTION to approve funding up to \$11,000 made by Mr. Spector; Ms. Kusnic seconds.

Motion Passes: 16-0-0

11. Board Member Comments; Announcements.

A. David Burke (Seat 5) commented that Letty back with Westfield. And will be helping with Land Use.

B. Ms. Antler announced that the Lange Foundation's annual estate sale would be

held at the old Ethan Allen building on Santa Monica Blvd. this year. The closest cross street is Butler. Friday, May 2nd would be “Preview night.” This year there is a charge of \$20 to come to preview but those get first crack at the items for sale. A person who wants to attend must be on the list. Please contact Ms. Antler. They are taking donations commencing April 16th, and donations can be brought to the site or pick up is available.

- C. Ms. Broide asked about the status of the 99 Cent Store. Ms. Tippit stated that it was being put out to bid. They are waiting to see what goes on with Pico rezoning.
- D. Ms. Tippit discussed hearing on upzoning – May 7th.

Motion to adjourn: Ms. Burns
Second: Ms. Kusnic
Motion passes unanimously

Adjourned: 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon Burns, Co-Secretary