

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of Meeting May 12, 2005

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:01 PM in Community Room A at the Westside Pavilion by Chair Steve Spector.

Voting Board Members present:

Richard Cahalan– Seat 1
Steve Spector – Seat 3
Alice Campbell, Alternate for Renato Romano – Seat 4
Gretchen Lewotsky – Seat 6
Barbara Broide – Seat 7
Alan James Levine – Seat 9
Richard S. Harmetz – Seat 10
J. François Nion – Seat 11
Stacy L. Antler – Seat 12
Robert Guerin – Seat 13
Blaise Antin – Seat 15
Melissa Kenady – Seat 16
Shannon Burns, Alternate for David T. (Ty) Vahedi – Seat 17

Non-Voting Board Members present:

Paul Backstrom – City Council District 5
Representatives from LAFD: Lee Weber, Jim Holland & Christopher Sanz-Agero

Board Members absent:

Seat 2 – Vacant
Mary Kusnic – Seat 5
Terri Tippit – Seat 8
Seat 14 - Vacant
Senior Lead Officer Ali, LAPD

Other officials present:

Deanna Stevenson of DONE

Alice Campbell, Barbara Broide and Blaise Antin were not present at the beginning of the meeting.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of April 14, 2005 were approved as corrected by a vote of 10-0-0.

Public Forum

The representatives of the LAFD announced that Fire Service Recognition Day will be held on Saturday, May 14, 2005 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. They distributed a flyer regarding this event and then departed.

Alice Campbell and Barbara Broide joined the meeting at 7:05 PM.

Erica Boatman-Dixon of Macerich announced that the Westside Pavilion will be hosting Old Glory*ous Day with a flag raising at 10:00 AM PST on Tuesday, June 14, 2005 on the roof of the Westside Pavilion to commemorate Flag Day. This is the 6th year for this event.

Tracey Taylor of Macerich announced the May 1st launch of Teachers Supply Closet, a program for buying gift cards for teachers so that they can buy extra supplies for their classrooms. There will be more events for this later in the year.

Blaise Antin joined the meeting at 7:12 PM during Ms. Taylor's presentation.

Harold Bock, a member of the Board of the South Robertson Neighborhood Council (the "SoRoNC"), introduced himself to establish a liaison between the SoRoNC and the WNC. He also distributed a flyer for the SoRoNC's annual Community Festival, to be held on Sunday, June 5, 2005 from 12:00 noon to 5:00 PM on Robertson Boulevard between Pico and Airdrome. Mr. Bock stated that the SoRoNC meets on the second Wednesday of each month at 7:00 PM at Hamilton High School.

Officers' Report

Chair Steve Spector did not make a separate officers' report.

Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Melissa Kenady reported that the WNC is still adequately funded at this time. She expects that the current unspent budget amounts will roll over into the next fiscal year when the current fiscal year ends on June 30, 2005.

Finance Task Force Report

Rich Cahalan gave highlights from the task force's written report. He noted that, based on various emails and phone conversations he has had, CD5 and DONE expect that the current unspent neighborhood council budget amounts will roll over into the next fiscal year when the current fiscal year ends on June 30, 2005. Nevertheless, the WNC needs to define its larger projects, such as "Rancho Park Village", during this year so that the WNC can allocate budget funds for those projects and try to get those funds protected in case budget "roll overs" don't occur in future fiscal years. He also reported that the task force will be working with DONE to see how to protect those funds for the larger, multi-year projects.

Public Safety/Traffic Committee

Barbara Broide passed out her Committee's written report and gave highlights from that report, including the upcoming June 5th CERT training refresher course being organized by Stacy Antler, the upcoming hearing regarding sanctions against the Silver Reign strip club, the status of SB 466, the death of LAPD Captain Vance Proctor, the hiring of Captain Proctor's replacement, and issues regarding the Santa Monica Boulevard project. She also announced that an alert had been issued because a dead crow carrying West Nile Virus had been found in Mar Vista recently.

Stacy Antler warned that there is a new threat of identity theft as reports have been made of people who stand near you in the grocery check-out line and seem to be talking on their cell phones when, in fact, they are taking photos of your ID.

Steve Spector reported that he had received two letters from CD5 recently regarding the Century City Neighborhood Traffic Management Plan and that one letter invited two representatives of the WNC to attend a meeting on May 19th at CD5's office to look at landscaping plans for the bump-outs that were recently installed on Motor Drive in Cheviot Hills. Bob Guerin volunteered to attend and Barbara Broide stated that Nancy Samovar (who attends the Public Safety/Traffic Committee meetings and is joining the Committee) will also attend for the WNC. It was noted that CD5 is also inviting each local homeowners association to send two representatives to attend the meeting.

Land Use Committee

Gretchen Lewotsky gave highlights from her Committee's written report, including an update on the Service Station Spa project and the U.S. Government's proposal to build a regional headquarters for the FBI at 11000 Wilshire. A questionnaire was distributed to solicit people's views on what the qualifications should be for the new LA City Planning Director.

Outreach Committee

Alan Levine reported that the Outreach Committee has not met for a couple of months and only has three members -- himself, Melissa Kenady and François Nion. Alan said that we need additional people with energy to start over and get things going. It was suggested that the WNC break down the Rancho Park Village project into discrete phases, so that volunteers could work on a phase without being overwhelmed by the enormity of the project -- e.g., Phase 1 could be to define the Rancho Park Village project. The audience was informed that any stakeholder can get involved in any project and would be welcome.

Alan also noted that Overland Avenue School is holding its annual festival soon and that we did not have enough volunteers to have a WNC table at the festival. He also said that, based on our experience the previous year, it was not really an appropriate event to have a WNC table, since it is a day for food and fun and not many people were interested in talking to WNC representatives about the WNC and its activities. Rich Cahalan said that it would still be good outreach advertising to sponsor the event and have them put up a sign for the WNC as a sponsor at the event, so he made a motion, which was duly seconded, for the WNC to pay \$150.00 to the Overland Avenue School as a sponsorship fee for sign recognition at the School's annual festival. The motion was passed by a vote of 13-0-0.

Shannon Burns departed the meeting at 8:15 PM.

Agenda Items

6.a) Proposed Bylaw and Standing Rule Amendments. The Chair recognized Jan Gabrielson, who chairs the WNC Policies and Procedures Committee.

Proposed Bylaw Amendments. Jan Gabrielson distributed to all Board members the text of the three proposed Bylaw amendments (a copy has been placed in the WNC's official records). Proposed Bylaw Amendment #1 covers the establishment, operation and termination of WNC committees (proposed replacement Article VII of the WNC Bylaws), Proposed Bylaw Amendment #2 covers the filling of vacant seats on the WNC Governing Board (proposed replacement Section 7 of Article III of the WNC Bylaws), and Proposed Bylaw Amendment #3 covers the process for nominating and electing WNC officers annually (proposed amended Sections 2 and 3 of Article VI of the WNC Bylaws). After discussion, upon motion duly made and seconded, the WNC Governing Board voted 11-0-1 to approve these WNC Bylaw changes.

Proposed Standing Rule Amendments. Jan Gabrielson distributed to all Board members the text of the proposed 15 WNC Standing Rules (a copy has been placed in the WNC's official records). He explained that, to make the revised Standing Rules easier to find and read, he reordered and renumbered the existing Standing Rules and added the changes and additions to the Rules

and added an explanatory title for each Rule. After discussion, upon motion duly made and seconded, the WNC Governing Board voted 12-0-0 to approve these revised Standing Rules.

The Chair announced that there would be a five minute break at 8:20 PM.

The meeting reconvened at 8:25 PM. Shannon Burns rejoined the meeting at that time.

6.b) Attending Neighborhoods USA Conference in Sacramento. This item was taken off the agenda.

6.c) LADWP-Neighborhood Council Memorandum of Understanding. George Chung, a member of the governing board of the Mar Vista Neighborhood Council, presented the LADWP-Neighborhood Council Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU") for increased communication and cooperation between LADWP and neighborhood councils. He briefly recounted the history of the LADWP's attempt to increase water rates by 18% and how the neighborhood councils banded together to fight that increase. He explained that there have been negotiations for a year to work out the final MOU document and that there will be a signing ceremony on May 13, 2005. Mr. Chung gave a summary of the key provisions of the MOU. He proposed that the WNC adopt the MOU and agree to participate on the Oversight Committee (to which the agreeing neighborhood councils will delegate their authority to negotiate any further changes to the MOU, based on a majority vote of the committee's members, with each neighborhood council to have one voting representative on the committee). Mr. Chung stated that about 60-65 neighborhood councils are expected to adopt the MOU and about 40-45 are expected to agree to participate on the Oversight Committee. He added that there is a group starting to look at working out a similar memorandum of understanding with the LA Planning Department. When asked, Paul Backstrom said that CD5 is neutral on the issue of the MOU. After discussion, upon motion duly made and seconded, the WNC Governing Board voted 12-0-1 to sign onto the MOU, voted 9-3-1 to agree to participate on the Oversight Committee and voted 12-0-1 to designate Annette Mercer (with power to substitute an alternate) as the WNC's representative under the MOU and as the WNC's designated member of the Oversight Committee. The Chair thanked Mr. Chung for coming to our meeting and presenting this issue to us.

D.O.N.E Report

There was none.

Council District 5 Report

Paul Backstrom handed out background information on the issue of possible changes to the City's policy on fees and fee waivers for special events, such as farmers' markets and the LA Marathon as well as all others. This led to a long discussion of the issue. Dick Harnetz departed the meeting at 9:25 PM. After discussion, upon motion

duly made and seconded, the WNC Governing Board considered a motion for the WNC to write a letter to CD5 asking Councilmember Jack Weiss to request that the City Council give neighborhood councils an opportunity to review and comment on any proposed policy regarding fee waivers for city-assisted events (including special and periodic events, File No. 02-0088) before adopting any such policy. By a vote of 5-6-1, that motion did not pass.

Regarding the CD5 letter that the Chair mentioned earlier in the meeting (i.e., about a meeting to review landscaping plans for the bump-outs that were recently installed on Motor Drive in Cheviot Hills), a Board member asked what fund is paying for the landscaping. Mr. Backstrom said that Susan Bursk would know and he undertook to talk to Ms. Bursk and get the answer and report back to the WNC.

Next meeting

June 9, 2005, 7:00 PM, same place.

Adjournment

The Board adjourned the meeting at 9:56 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Rich Cahalan, 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