

**Westside Neighborhood Council Board of Directors
Minutes of the Meeting of April 20, 2006
Westside Pavilion, Community Room A**

The meeting was called to order at 7:12 p. m. President Steve Spector.

Voting Board Members Present: Renato Romano, 3; Steve Spector; 4; Mary Kusnic, 5; Gretchen Lewotsky, 6; Katherine Greenbaum/Barbara Broide, 7; Terri Tippit, 8; Alan Levine, 9; Richard S Harmetz, 10; Stacey Antler, 12; Bob Guerin, 13; Ron Stone, 14; Blaise Antin. 15; Ty Vahedi/Shannon Burns, 17

Voting Board Members Absent: Francois Nion, 11; Melissa Kenady,16

Non-Voting Board Members Present: Senior Lead Officer Munif Ali, LAPD

Non-Voting Board Members Absent: Representative of the Fire Department

Other Officials Present: Deanna Stevenson of DONE

Minutes: MSP unanimously by a vote of 12 to 0 to accept the minutes as submitted.

Agenda:

6.a Gillian Lange said that previously most animals who entered animal shelters had been put to death. Today, however, most small dogs are adopted; nevertheless, large dogs usually don't survive admission to a shelter. She said that a spay and neuter program is the only solution to keeping animals alive.

MSP by a vote of 8 in favor, 2 against, and 2 abstaining to donate \$2,000 for the spay and neutering program of the Lange Foundation subject to a determination from DONE that it will authorize the donation.

6.b Captain Carol J. Aborn Khoury, area commanding officer of the West Los Angeles Police Department, said that crime in the West Los Angeles area last year had been reduced by thirteen per-cent. This year the crime figures essentially are the same as last year although robbery and vehicle burglaries are up. Aborn Khoury said Los Angeles needs more police officers. It has less than 10,000 officers compared to New York's 40,000. Response time is around nine minutes for an emergency. Congested traffic is part of the problem. Complaints were made from the audience about lack of enforcement of speed rules during school hours on Overland, parking problems near Notre Dame and about slow officer response time.

6.c Lt Linda Brown from the Department of Transportation, Western Office—Henry Medina Center, said that the Residential Task Force Detail focuses on parking at school zones. Lt. Brown said that violators are often videotaped and cited after the tapes are viewed. She distributed a list of phone number to be called to report school violations and pointed out that a school must make a request in writing before videotapes can be made.

Public Forum:

Linda Kurtain asked that the board move to persuade Landmark to put hearing impaired apparatus into its theaters. She also complained that it is difficult to cross the street at National and Kelton and asked that a street light be placed at that intersection

Victoria Trimble, marketing director, at Westside Pavilion, reported that shoppers have complained about the ugly construction site at the mall. She said that the mall would respond by erecting temporary construction barriers to be used at Barnes & Noble and at the bridge in order to hide the construction. She passed around computer generated renderings of the temporary construction barriers to be used.

Letty Bugarin of Westfield ShoppingTown said that her company is working with the city and the community in regard to expansion of the shopping Center in Century City and other development issues.

Shannon Burns asked that the WN work with the city to provide handicap access to Olympic Boulevard to enable people in wheelchairs to cross the streets.

Agenda (continued):

6.d Rich Calahan said that a coalition of civic leaders and twenty-four homeowner groups believes that the EIR for the proposed FBI building adjacent to the Federal Building is flawed. The coalition opposes the project because the existing infrastructure could not support the additional traffic the building would create.

MSP by a vote of 7 in favor, 4 opposed and 3 abstentions to allocate \$4,000 to fund a traffic analysis of the FBI Building D. E. I. S. if DONE will allow such use of WNC funds

6.e Frances Park of Latham & Watkins and **Patrick Gibson** of Kaku Associates discussed JMB's proposal to build 483 condominium units in Century City. The final EIR for the project is in the process of being produced, and a public hearing on the EIR should take place sometime within the next few months. JMB will present the WNC Land Use Committee a report on the extent of the building rights being given to the project by the demolition of the bank teller window currently located on the land that is to be developed.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: In the absence of the treasurer, no treasurer's report was given.

Land Use Committee: **Gretchen Lewotsky** said that the LUC summary of the JMB project, will be distributed by e-mail to all board members. The next LUC meeting will revisit the Nextel on Pico issue.

Public Safety and Traffic Committee: Barbara Broide reported that the traffic engineer Tom Brohard will appear at the June WNC meeting with a report on the traffic questionnaires that the WNC distributed. Barbara said that the committee was not covering public safety and responsibility for public safety should either be given to a subcommittee or be separated from the Traffic Committee and turned over to a Public Safety standing committee. CERT training will take place starting in June on Tuesday evenings

MSP to send a letter to Alan Rosenthal and the State Trans and Housing Committee in support of SB 1300. (The bill would set up a study in Beverly Hills to determine the feasibility of motor photo enforcement program.)

Outreach: Terri Tippit reported that Jerry Kvasnicka will supervise the election of members to the Westside Neighborhood Council. She said that flyers will be distributed to businesses on Pico advising them of the upcoming Rancho Park (Pico) Village program. She also advised the council that banners are supposed to be up on some streets Mid May.

Officers: **Steve Spector** reported, at the suggestion of **Gretchen Lewotsky**, an ad hoc committee will be formed to create guidelines for WNC spending in relation to donations that it makes. Gretchen will chair the committee. Steve established that this committee's goal would be to propose guidelines to the WNC funds to a cause/group/business; and that its "Scope" would be that guidelines should address both: 1. Spending Purposes – what can the WNC pay money to/for under city regs; and 2. Procedures – what info the WNC will generally require solicitors of funds to provide.

The **Palms Neighborhood Council** has requested that a small part of the WNC area be split off from the WNC and be put under the representation of the PNC. The PNC has also suggested that it and the WNC share jurisdiction of a park. The PNC matters will be on the agenda next month. Steve Spector appointed Terri Tippit, who had volunteered to chair an adhoc committee to work with PNC on this issue.

Rancho Park Golf Course: **Ty Vahedi, Stacy Antler, and Paul Backstrom** met with a golf course official who agreed to take down some of the golf course loudspeakers and point the other speakers away from residences. As a result it might not be necessary to replace the speakers with beepers in order to reduce the noise that has so disturbed nearby residents. Under the plan, the bullhorn speakers will be replaced with smaller speakers. A suggestion was made to use cell phones to contact golf starters and thus reduce the need for loudspeakers.

Congress of Neighborhood Councils: **Ty Vahedi** reported that DONE had taken back the room that it had previously given the Congress, but that the mayor has given the room back to the Congress. The mayor has indicated that he wishes to curtail the use of MOUs. Vahedi noted that he had been given a finance committee position.

Notre Dame: A long discussion of the parking problems on residential streets adjacent to Notre Dame ensued. Certain stakeholders (The Baccas) expressed disappointment that the WNC wasn't getting much done. Ty Vahedi offered to get involved to see if he can work with the Bacca's and Notre Dame to address the Bacca's concerns regarding the issues on their street.

Deanna Stevenson said that the Council would hear two proposals from the 912 commission. The commission is surveying and assessing the NC system. The Mayor's Day of Service is scheduled for Sunday, May 14. About 250 service activities will take place on that date. DONE field people are moving from downtown to individual regional offices. Deanna will move tomorrow to Watts.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:09

Respectfully submitted,

Richard S Harmetz, Recording Secretary
Westside Neighborhood Council
May 1, 2006