

July 13, 2006
Minutes of the Westside Neighborhood Council
Westside Pavilion Community Room A, Los Angeles, CA

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. by Vice-President Bob Guerin.

Present: Alice Romano, 3; Laurel Cuary, 4; Mary Kusnic, 5; Gretchen Lewotsky, 6; Barbara Broide, 7; Terri Tippit, 8; Alan Levine, 9; Richard S Harmetz, 10; Bob Guerin, 13; Stacey Antler, 12; Ron Stone, 14; Blaise Antin, 15; Melissa Kenady, 16; Shannon Burns, 17; (Sarah Fitzsimons replaced Blaise Antin during the meeting.)

CD5: Paul Backstrom

DONE: Deanna Stevenson

Absent: Francois Nion, 11

Non-voting Board Members Absent: Representatives of the Fire and Police Departments

Public Comment

Barbara Broide announced that a new farmer's market is now open on Thursdays on the veteran land at Sepulveda west on Constitution.

Cliff Cheng, Neighborhood Preparedness Ambassador, said there would be emergency preparedness classes from 7 to 9 pm on Wednesdays, starting October 18 and ending November 29, 2006. He would also like to form a Ham Radio Emergency Response group.

Linda Kerstein said that deaf people crossing at intersections don't hear sirens. She would like to see a red flashing light atop signals so that the deaf could be alerted to sirens in order to prevent accidents. CD5 does not think there is money to fund her request but will look into it.

Committee Reports:

Treasurer's Report: **Melissa Kenady** said that all NC budgets are now available on-line at www.lacityneighborhoods.com.

She needs the following in order to cut checks:

- a. The original invoice
- b. a copy of the minutes that authorized the check
- c. a copy of the business tax registration number

She that the treasury contains a rollover of \$169,076.44 and that the WNC has an allocation of \$50,000.

The budget will be divided as follows::

Outreach: 25%

Operating Expenses: 10%

Community Improvement Projects: 65%

MSP by a unanimous vote of 14 in favor to approve the budget as submitted by the treasurer

Spending Committee: **Gretchen Lewotsky** outlined the proposals made by the Spending Committee she headed. Her committee in its report has suggested a series of procedures to be followed by those requesting money from the WNC for not for profit projects and by the WNC in allocating requested moneys.

Land Use Committee: Gretchen Lewotsky reported that Jane Blumenfield of the Planning Department spoke at the last meeting of the committee about the RAS ordinance.

Barbara Broide spoke about a Westfield proposal to add approximately 350,000 sq. feet to the shopping center in Century City as well as to build a new condominium and office building project. Information about the project is posted at www.tract7260.org.

Public Safety/Traffic Committee: Barbara Broide spoke about CERT classes that already have started. **Alan Levine** has been appointed to the EXPO Urban Design Committee. The route for Phase II has not been established. The end terminus is likely to be the SEARS auto facility, which has been purchased by the City of Santa Monica. According to Barbara, Supervisor Yaroslavsky has suggested that Phase II be build on Exposition Blvd. rather than on the Venice Blvd. route since Venice is likely to be a more time intensive route.

The WNC has offered to host a meeting with those behind the Overland Bridge and representatives of DOT. She also reported that Recreation and Parks will do a community needs assessment study on parks.

Officers Committee: Mr. Ward, the general manager of the golf course has requested that three of the speakers be taken down. He said he needs an extra thirty days to work on the pagers and on the fixing of the numbers signs.

CD5: Paul Backstrom held a meeting on the preferential parking issue; however, the Baca's say they did not get relief in the Selby and Overland area. Work is progressing the Bentley and Expo area.

He introduced **Lisa Trifiletti**, the new planning deputy for Councilmember Weiss. She will attend all land use committee meetings and hopes to put together for the WNC a meeting with the new head of the Planning Department.

DONE: Deanna Stevenson reported that the Public Records Act requests have been discussed with the NC and the city attorney offices. Deanna says she does not know about any future Brown ACT courses, but she will try to get information about future courses to the WNC.

Agenda:

New Business

a) Election: Terri Tippit reported that there were some minor corrections to the election procedures. Since our bylaws do not specify what age a stakeholder must be to vote the election procedures will say "none". After the procedures have been approved by DONE we will need to address some bylaw changes.

MSP by a vote of 13 in favor, 1 abstention and none opposed to post the election procedures as presented to the Board

b) Full Disclosure Ordinance: Ty Vahedi made a motion that we support placing the Clean Money Ordinance on the November ballot.
MSP by a unanimous vote of 14 in favor

c) Trammel Crow Project Money: Barbara Broide reported that the Transportation Committee had unanimously agreed to recommend to CD5 that the money derived from the Trammel Crow project in Century City be apportioned as follows:

- a. \$50,000 signal preemption device for Fire Station No. 92 at Pico and Prosser
- b. \$95,000 for four license plate recognition cameras
- c. \$125,000 for arterial improvements between SM and Pico and between Sepulveda and Beverly Glen
- d. \$30,000 towards the study and implementation of the Overland Gateway project.

Barbara expressed some reservations about the money for the cameras. **Kathleen Greenbaum** criticized the Trammel Crow project and said that the traffic studies for the project were a joke.

In response to a question as to where the money for Tom Borhard to study the arterial improvements was coming from, Barbara responded that it was coming from moneys allocated for the traffic study and not from the Trammel Crow moneys.

Motion to accept the motion to allocate the moneys as submitted by the committee was tabled to the August meeting by a vote of 7 in favor, 5 opposed, and 2 abstaining.

Old Business:

a)Annette Mercer spoke about saving the:Morton tree at St. John's Church. She said that the DWP construction at National and Bentley could put the wires under the street so that the trees could continue to grow. They would charge St. John's \$30,000 for its share of the work. It was recommended that she ask TreePeople if they had any ideas of how to raise the \$30,000.

It was announced that Los Angeles County filed an unsuccessful lawsuit to stop the sale by the army of the veteran's land on Wilshire. The heirs of the original donors of the land have filed a private suit to enforce the original grant.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard S Harnetz, Secretary
Westside Neighborhood Council
August 10, 2006

