

WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

GOVERNING BOARD

Minutes of Meeting September 14, 2006

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 PM in Community Room A at Westside Pavilion by Chair Steve Spector.

Board Members attending

Renato Romano - Seat 3 (7:14)
Steve Spector – Seat 4
Mary Kusnic – Seat 5
Gretchen Lewotsky – Seat 6
Barbara Broide – Seat 7
Joanne Dorfman, alternate for Terri Tippit – Seat 8
Alan James Levine – Seat 9
Stacy L. Antler – Seat 12
Robert Guerin – Seat 13
Ron Stone - Seat 14
Sarah Fitzsommons, alternate for Blaise Antin – Seat 15
Melissa Kenady – Seat 16
David T. (Ty) Vahedi – Seat 17 (7:55)

Board Members absent:

Seat 1 - Vacant
Seat 2 – Vacant
Richard S. Harmetz – Seat 10
J. Fran_ois Nion – Seat 11
Paul Backstrom – City Council District 5
Representative from LAPD
Representative from LAFD

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting of August 10, 2006 were approved as presented by a vote of 6–0–2.

Treasurer's Report Melissa Kenady reported. We are complete on our activity. Our current balance is \$169,076.44.

Land-Use Committee. Gretchen Lewotsky reported. The meeting scheduled for September 6, 2006 was cancelled. A meeting is scheduled for September 26, 2006. The speaker will be Gail Goldberg. Gretchen announced that she will not run again for the Board and that LUC will need a new chair.

Public Forum

Joanne Dorfman announced an open house at Overland Avenue School on September 22, 2006 from 9:45 to 11:00 for the new library.

Public Safety and Traffic Committee Barbara Broide reported. The committee met on Tuesday. The Olympic-Pico off ramp from the southbound 405 is now open, three months ahead of schedule. New red-light cameras will take four photos plus a video. Open house for the Overland bridge September 21, 2006 at 6 pm at the Palms Library. Annette Mercer is organizing more Gold Line tours. A new CERT class is starting October 18, 2006 6:30 to 9:30 at the Cheviot Hills Recreation Center and will continue for six classes. Stacy Antler said it is possible to go to kabc.com, click on Get Your Kit Together and buy emergency kits. Proceeds will benefit Marines at Camp Pendleton. A new Vehicle Code section prohibits parking vehicles longer than 22 feet from 2–6 am. Medians painted near Overland Ave. schools may cause a problem. Vons in Cheviot Hills suffered an armed robbery. A crook pretending to do a medical survey to be allowed into houses struck on Westwood Blvd. We will give watering cans to merchants who don't water their new trees. We got a response to our letter about use of traffic mitigation funds and signal preemption. The response was ambiguous. The VA: the County is still suing the feds. The Army has agreed to do an Environmental Impact Statement. The heirs withdrew their lawsuit because the community did not chip in enough money to pay for it. Barbara has form letters to Zev Yaroslovsky and Bill Lockyer. Stacy attended a Mobility 21 meeting. (Breathe)

Outreach Committee Jan Gabrielson reported. The Board approved the first version of our Election Procedures on July 13. DONE asked for more changes. We made them. DONE then approved our revised Election Procedures by letter of August 4, subject to our Board's approval of the new version and contingent on our including a notice of where in Westside Pavilion the election would be held. Jan enumerated the changes that were made from the version that the Board approved on July 13. They are:

- Providing a procedure for approving a candidate for a selected seat
- Make the EP definition of stakeholder conform to our Bylaws
- Delete the minimum voting age of 18 because it is not in our Bylaws
- Change the timeline attached to the EP to conform with the body of the EP

The Board approved the revised Election Procedures by a vote of 12–0–0.

Chair's Report Steve Spector reported. Jay Greenstein will replace Paul Bakstrom. Moreton Bay Fig Tree on National: Neither the DWP nor St. John's Church will provide funds to do what needs to be done. Bob Guerin went to a meeting with Laura Chick. She is doing financial and performance audits of DONE. Bob distributed a survey from Laura.

Agenda Items

6. e) Support for Program to provide housing for Vets and Active Duty service people while undergoing long-term care at VA Hospital on WLA Campus.

Tim Byk, Director of Brentwood Fisher House Foundation reported. They propose to build a 21-suite facility for veterans and their families to live in while veterans are undergoing treatment at the VA hospital. The proposed site is off the Sawtelle Ohio entrance, across from the hospital. There are 34 Fisher Houses around the world, eight on VA campuses. Tim asked us to write a letter supporting the project. Gretchen volunteered to draft a letter, which we will consider at a future meeting. Ralph Tillman (phon.) from the VA also spoke, but did not submit a speaker card. Tim can be reached at timbyk@yahoo.com or at 310-864-5516, anytime, day or night.

More Public Forum

Linda Kerstein spoke of: graffiti on the freeways, putting countdown timers at intersections so drivers know how much time they have to cross before the light changes, and her desire for a traffic light at National and Kelton.

Lee Wallach of the Motor Ave. Improvement Assn. asked to weigh in on development on Motor Ave. Gretchen reported that we invited a developer to a LUC meeting and they declined to attend. Gretchen will write a letter about it.

More Agenda Items

6. d) Establish standing WNC Funding Committee. Gretchen Lewotsky reported.

Motion to establish the committee passed 12-0-0.

Steve Spector appointed Ron Stone to chair the Committee. The Board voted 13-0-0 without a formal motion to approve the appointment. Ron asked for volunteers to serve on the Committee.

6. b) Concerns about Building and Safety's little-known Case Management Unit resulting in special treatment to developers and political insiders.

Barbara Broide reported. An article in the LA Times on August 4 wrote about this unit. It was moved, seconded, and passed 9-1-2 to send a letter about it.

Suggestion WNC host informational presentation at October Meeting on city election ballot initiatives (Proposal to change rules to allow City Council members to serve 12 years instead of 8; infrastructure bond proposals).
Barbara Broide suggested that we do this. No action was taken.

6. a) Support for Santa Monica Boulevard parking meter proposal

Don Shoup did not show up. Those who had communicated with him were left with the understanding that he would attend. No action was taken.

Council District 5 Report

No rep, no report.

D.O.N.E Report

No rep, no report.

Next meeting

October 12, 2006, 7:00 pm, same place.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:58 pm (possibly an all-time record).

Respectfully submitted,

Jan C. Gabrielson, Acting 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
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