

Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, March 8, 2007
Westside Pavilion 10800 W. Pico
Meeting Room A

Call to Order: 7:05 p.m. by Terri Tippit

Attendance: Lisa Morocco, Steve Spector, Terri Tippit, Dave Horwitz, Bob Guerin, Melissa Kenady, Stacy Antler, Charles Horwitz, Ron Stone, Jerry Asher, Shannon Burns (until Ty Vahedi arrived), Mary Kusnic, Gerry del Sol, Douglas Butler, Barbara Broide, Renato Romano, Richard Harnetz

Absent: Don Parker, Letty Bugarin,

Non Voting members present: Sergeant Podesta, Jay Greenstein, Deanna Stevenson

Approval of February 8, 2007 Minutes: Steve Spector motioned to approve the minutes after the Board reviewed and made corrections. Stacy Antler seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 17 – 0.

Public Forum

- **Paul Koretz** has been a member of the State Assembly. He has been contemplating running for City Council. Lived in CD5 previously. Was on the City Council in West Hollywood for 12 years. The residents of 5th Council District have never been satisfied with their council member. Paul would like feedback from the residents on how to improve the process to collaborate on, instead of always fighting projects. Wants solutions to transportation (perhaps one way streets). The traffic has noticeably slowed every few years. He is trying to get to know people. Does not have a website, but has an email address: PK@42.att.net
- **Barbara Broide** spoke about the Coalition for Veteran's Land. The coalition started when land was being sold for other purposes. The Federal Building area is currently a site being studied for new FBI headquarters. Environmental study results can be expected soon. Funds are being raised by the community for a lawyer to fight the use of land by the FBI. There is a yellow flyer with a fundraising envelope available, as well as an Action Alert (white flyer).
- **Laurel Crary** has been the Senior Property Manager of the Westside Pavilion for one and a half years. Is announcing her last day today. Introduced Liz Hewson, Associate Manager, and Victoria Trimble, Marketing Manager.
- **Sergeant Ronald Crump** spoke about Bike detail. Six working for West L.A. Now beginning to work nights because of crime. Bikes can cover lots of area. Now with recent burglaries, they are also working mornings. Trying to make themselves very visible, keeping close contact with the people. May see them less in the daytime. Ride 3-4 days a week. The City of L.A. has numerous bikes without much maintenance. They need repair, but the City doesn't provide much. Garages are not provided, unless with huge fees. Four of their bikes don't work.
Stacy Antler says the Funding Committee has allocated money to buy four bikes, and the shop will also throw in another one, totaling five new bikes. If anyone is getting rid of bikes, please donate them to community groups.
- **Sergeant Dave Podesta** spoke on "Tip-A-Cop" which takes place on April 19 at Gladstone's. Money raised goes to Special Olympics.

Reports:

- **Policies and Procedures Report, Steve Spector (in place of Jan Gabrielson), including vote to amend Standing Rule 11 regarding Alternates Status and to add a Standing Rule 18 regarding use of WNC assets.**
 - First propose to add certain words to Standing Rule 11 stating that an alternate may not vote unless the Board Member is absent. Jerry Asher motioned to approve Recommendation #4. Stacy Antler seconded the motion. Motion passed, 14 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions.
 - Propose to add Recommendation #5 regarding alternates being allowed two minutes to speak on an agenda item to Standing Rule 11. Barbara Broide motioned to approve the amendment. Jerry Asher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously, 17 – 0.

- Recommendation #6 is that Standing Rule 18 be enacted as follows: WNC assets should be used only for WNC purposes. Mary Kusnic motioned to accept the recommendation. Melisa Kenady seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously 17 – 0.
- If there are any comments on recommendations, please contact the Policies and Procedures Committee.
- **Funding Committee, Ron Stone**
The Funding Committee had a meeting last week. After approving allocations, the committee sent the application to all entities getting back to us. Applications go to the Funding Committee first, and then are presented to the Board (including funding for LAPD bikes). Still trying to resolve DONE's concerns about bringing our own contractor to do sidewalk repair. They want to go to the City to do the work. Issue was brought to the City. It will probably be another month before we get feedback.
- **Land Use Committee, Ty Vahedi**
The Shock Lounge permit was denied.
- **Traffic Committee, Barbara Broide**
CA Transportation Commission meeting on March 20, 5-8 p.m.
Update on bike path from Westside to Downtown.
There is a lot of work being done on the Marina Freeway.
Department of Transportation has new phone numbers. Shlomo will post to the website, and Terri will email them.
- **Public Safety Committee, Stacy Antler**
Nothing to report
- **Outreach Committee, Terri Tippit (including report on Home Show outreach)**
 - Business cards are being printed.
 - Lisa did a great job on the L.A. Home Show. Next one will take place April 21st, 22nd. Booths were donated by the President of the Home Show. This is a good first step; it was an opportunity to listen to others to see how they outreach.
 - Working on a newsletter
- **Chair Report, Terri Tippit (including appointment of a LANC Congress representative)**
Ty Vahedi recommends against having a representative. Terri says WNC will not appoint someone.
- **Treasurer Report, Melissa Kenady**
WNC currently has a balance of \$155,692.06. \$1000 is currently in the process for payment. By the end of March, the 2nd Quarter audit must be complete. Over \$55,000 will be returned if we don't spend it by June 2007.
- **CD5 Update, Jay Greenstein**
 - Jay has been with the HOA looking at paving streets. The struggle is that streets that need attention require more funds than there is available for CD5. These are tough choices: Street services say they cannot spend all the money on failing streets; must spend on better streets too. Ty Vahedi suggests that at least one #8 rating street receive attention every cycle. Stacy Antler mentioned that Laura Chick did an audit: Out of every councilmember's fund, CD 5 had the most money. Jay Greenstein will find out if WNC can use some to fix streets
 - Parking at Palms Park Recreational Center and Library: People are using that parking for other purposes. The parking needs to be used by the people at the Recreational Center and Library. There will be a meeting to go over the necessary steps to deal with the issue.
 - Overland Gateway Project: The Council office, with the Department of Transportation, is going to see if there are traffic issues on Overland. People from Westwood Gardens have ideas. Jay would like some dialog. Feel free to call the office.
- **DONE Report, Deanna Stevenson**
 - April 21st is the Congress of Neighborhoods, from morning until 1p.m. at the Biltmore Hotel.
 - Carol Baker Tharpe is the new General Manager. Starts this Monday.

Agenda Items

New Business

a) **Melissa Kenady:**

- **Motion to reconsider boundary change that was discussed August 2006.** Distributed a handout. Discussion followed amongst members regarding gains and losses that will come with the

boundary change. It is uncertain if the public is aware – the number of people responding is very small. Barbara Broide suggested having presentations by both Neighborhood Councils at the Palms Library. Melissa Kenady motioned to reconsider the boundary change. Bob seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 17 -0.

b) **Steve Spector:**

• **Motion to have WNC board members and alternates sign Code of Civility**

Steve Patel motioned to have WNC board members and alternates sign the Code of Civility. Bob Guerin seconded the motion. The motion passed with 14 in favor, 2 abstained, 1 opposed.

c) **Terri Tippit:**

• **Appointment of Aqua Line Ad Hoc Committee**

The Aqua Line will impact Traffic, Safety, and Land Use Committees. The purpose of the Ad Hoc Committee will be to gather data on traffic, noise, and economics. The Ad Hoc Committee will consolidate the data and report to the Board the impacts on the community. But it will not make recommendations. Terri will send the mission statement to everyone. Mike Eveloff is appointed chair.

• **Appointment of Overland Gateway Project Ad Hoc Committee**

The Overland Gateway Project will gather data traffic and pedestrian patterns that influence Overland Blvd. from the I-10 freeway at National to Pico Blvd, to improve the traffic flow and pedestrian safety. Karina Wiesenthal is appointed to chair.

d) **Lisa Trifiletti with Councilmember Weiss' office.**

• **Proposed Code Amendments affecting single family homes. Handouts distributed.**

General Background: "Mansionization" is defined as new additions out of scale with the surrounding neighborhood, but are not restricted by zoning guidelines. There are five standards when determining to build a house.

1. Zoning
2. Height District
3. Set back
4. Buildable Area
5. Floor Area Ratio

Map is shown to show affected areas.

Problem 1: Floor to Area Ratio (FAR) of 3:1 allows for even larger structures

Problem 2. How the space is used can be a problem

Five focus groups were held. Public workshops will also be held.

Proposed amendments:

1. New single family home (SFH) floor definitions
2. Proposed base floor definitions
3. Proposed reduction in Floor Area Ratio
4. Proposed proportional stories for FAR Bonus
5. Proposed single story height district

Discretionary Review Process:

Proposed Ordinance Criteria: not open to interpretation; no boards

Expected Results: No changes in single story. Look in handout for changes in 2-story homes.

There will be two Q&A sessions held. The first is on Wednesday, March 21 in Van Nuys. The second is on Thursday, March 29 in West L.A. (Look on the flyer for exact locations). Website is also on the handout.

Currently Jack Weiss is still taking opinions. The decisions may be citywide, but there can be differences to fit each community's needs.

Terri Tippit suggests that anyone who has questions go to the hearing or contact Eric Lopez, or email the council office before the hearing.

e) **Officer Lyle Knight, LAPD Online Internet Unit:**

• **Demonstration of LAPD Website**

Will speak at the next meeting.

f) Tristan Simon:

• **Westside Tavern proposed restaurant for Westside Pavilion Side Too**

Mr. Simon is seeking plan approval for alcohol sales. Wants an extra hour for extended hours for people getting out of the theatre. This will be an upscale restaurant 11K square feet. Contemporary American Mid Century Tavern atmosphere is in preliminary design stage. Brought similar photos to show from Dallas. It will have lots of booths, lower ceilings. Similar to Houston's/Gulf Coast.

Terri suggests that Mr. Simon file the application and come back. Send the application to Land Use Committee who will give info to the rest of the Board, and then the Board can decide if it is willing to support his project.

Other details: Private banquet facility available, 3K sq. ft kitchen, 2K sq. ft. private dining, 6K sq. ft. for private dining. 100-145 seats. Valet parking entry on Pico. Primary entrance inside the mall. Mixed flooring. Will sell alcohol until 11p.m. Sunday through Wednesday. Exploring the possibility of closing an hour later on Thursday through Saturday.

Stacy Antler motioned to adjourn the meeting. Ty Vahedi seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously, 17-0.

Meeting adjourned 9:55 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Anchulee Raongthum, AppleOne, March 15, 2007

Minutes prepared by Anchulee Raongthum, AppleOne. Reviewed, Edited and Approved by Recording Secretary Bob Guerin