

**WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
MINUTES**

(Unapproved)

THURSDAY, JULY 12, 2007

7:00 PM

Westside Pavilion 10800 W. Pico
Meeting Room A (3rd Floor behind food court)

AGENDA

1. Call to Order 7:05pm

Terri Tippit/Chair Speaker cards are on the table. If you are not a board member please fill one out. You need to have a speaker card to speak at neighborhood council meetings.

Attendees: Douglas Butler (1), Gerry Del Sol (9), Charles Horwitz (15), Stacy Antler (12), Rich Baron (13 alternate), Melissa Kenady (16), Letty Bugarin (5), Terri Tippit (8), Steve Spector, (4) Lisa Morocco (alternate 2), Richard Harmetz (10), Ronato Romano (3), Jay Furman (14 alternate), Mary Kusnic (11), Barbara Broide (7), David Ty Vahedi (17)

Absent: Jerry Asher (6)

2. Approval of June 14, 2007 Minutes

Terri asked for any corrections on minutes to be emailed before the next meeting so they can be incorporated and printed for everyone. **Stacy Antler** moved to approve minutes as corrected, **Charles Horwitz** seconds **In Favor 12 Opposed 0 Abstaining 2**

Melissa Kenady/Treasurer agreed meeting in August will schedule a large section of time to the budget and budget issues **All Agreed 16 Opposed 0 Abstaining 0**

3. Review of Agenda (ITEMS MAY NOT BE HEARD IN THE ORDER LISTED)

4. Public Forum

Stephen Cheung/Mayor's Office announcing Community Meeting reporting on Mayor Villaraigosa's first two years. Invitation for the community to attend and provide Mayor with feedback on what you want to see in the next two years. Meeting: Thursday, July 26 at IMAN Center at 3376 Motor Ave

Karina Wiesenthal /Overland Gateway/DWP attended one meeting about water filtering and will bring more information next meeting. Reported on DWP's need for approval from NCs of a 3% increase in their base rate for next year. This and other DWP issues were emailed to all Board members, so we can vote tonight. We have a July 28 deadline to turn in our results. **Terri** Our first vote. Do you approve of the 3% and pass through components increase? Raise hands of who approves this raise? **Yes 0 No 13 Abstained 1**

Terri Should DWP fund City projects unrelated to water and power services? Projects include desalinization and finding other sources of water. Not enough information to vote.

Terri Next, Do you approve **phasing out transfer** to City General Fund over next 10 years? **Steve Spector** seconded. **Yes 13 No 0 Abstained 2**

Terri Do you approve of the establishment of an independent Rate Payers' Advocate who would review the operations of DWP and make recommendations to us? The RPA would be independent of DWP Board, City and Barrington Wellesley Group. The RPA would be funded by DWP **Yes 15 No 0 Abstained 0**

Jan Gabrielson gave notice that at the Board meeting of August 9, 2007, the Board will consider two Bylaw amendments:

- i) To clarify the definition of a stakeholder
- ii) To eliminate Seat 17

5. Reports

• Policies and Procedures Report, Jan Gabrielson

Jan By-laws Item 6 Definition of Business Stakeholder issue was raised by Susan Bursk, Century City Chamber of Commerce to define business operating with or without physical location. Should the Board determine the definition? If you pay business tax and/or have a business license, you are a business.

Deanna/DONE you don't have to define, but, a home-based business is okay. **Discussion** Should business seats be defined as specific types, and/or home based business? What is needed at this table? Do we define by location? Don't want to discourage any business reps. If any stakeholder has a concern can email to Jan with specific definitions. It will be addressed. Is there any group for seat 17 to represent? Possible youth rep, renters, or at large to provide a worker bee. If kept, seat 17 may be renamed.

• Treasurer Report, Melissa Kenady (funding requirements)

Melissa August meeting will be new fiscal year and have new paperwork. New warrant was emailed by Terri so you can get familiar so process of funding can go more smoothly. When asking for money, need to do more work.

• Funding Committee, Ron Stone

No report

• Mobility Committee, Letty Bugarin (including motion to approve Traffic Study goal)

Letty reported no meeting just working on traffic studies. Call Traffic sub-committee with any questions. Bring up motion on study sent out in June. The overall study has taken this long because the consultant was not approved until January 2005 and compiling with DONE was lengthy. Traffic study information valid through traffic consultant. List of goals identified by committee. Request approval of goals so can move on to next phase of the report. Goals are on attachment 2. Survey goals will help prioritize the issues and any recommendations made. **Letty** makes motion to approve goals. **Ty** seconds **In Favor 17 Opposed 0** Presentation of the remainder of the report will be at the October meeting (August will have a limited agenda because of the budget and no meeting in September).

Letty Motion to move VA land use to Land Use Committee **Stacy** seconds

In Favor 13 Opposed 0 Abstained 1

Letty: Annette will draft a letter for August meeting re dedicated transit lanes on the 405 incorporating public transportation through the Sepulveda Pass if the proposed HOV project is approved. Need to create space for future. Letter will also have comments on DEIR/S.

Chair Report, Terri Tippit (including Support for AB700, no meeting in September, and respond to DWP rate increase)

Martin Rubin/Concerned Residents Against Airport Pollution

Marty reported on concern re health impacts on residents along flight path of Santa Monica Airport from expansion of Jet flights from 1,000 to 20,000. AB 700 enjoys support from Sierra Club, Councilman Rosendahl, Councilwoman Harmon, City of Santa Monica, and other residents. Look at JetAirPollution.com which shows black smoke and smelly kerosene fumes up to a mile over the residents. California Air Resources Board is in turmoil since their top two people have quit or been fired. **Steve Spector** Motion for a letter to be written to Assemblyman Ted Lieu supporting AB 700. **Stacy** seconded **In Favor 17 unanimous.**

Terri No meeting in September to observe the Jewish Holidays.

• **CD 5 Update -:** **Jay Greenstein** announced Council Office hosting a community meeting regarding the **Century City Urban Draft Design Plan** on Wednesday, July 18. Opened up to greater community through presidents of all Home Owner Associations and asked WNC to also spread word. **Huge banner** advertising new Glenn Close TV drama on FX, hanging on the Citibank building corner of Pico and Overland generated many phone calls from residents questioning its legality. Building & Safety found it not in compliance, issuing an order to take down effective July 17. Hopefully will be an example. Distributed **Weiss Monthly Flyer** via email but also can mail.

6. Agenda Items

New Business

a) Lynne Serpe, Deputy Director of Policy Reform Program at New America

• Presentation on Instant Runoff Voting

Lynne. making rounds educating NCs about Instant Runoff Voting system. Not asking for any action at this time. IRV system allows voters to rank candidates as first, second, and third, and the rankings are used to elect a majority winner in a single election. Saves time and cost of second election. Changes the dynamic. Your one vote may not be your first choice. Preferential voting or rank voting is now in Cleveland, San Francisco, Boston, Burlington, VT, Minneapolis, South Carolina, and Arkansas for the military. Negatives are missing out on information without a runoff. City's Rules and Elections Committee is looking at it. Could be on ballot next year or in 2009.

b) Lisa Morocco

• One-Way Pico/Olympic Proposal

Terri was interviewed by Channel 5 and had said how the Outreach Committee created a survey, reached out to the business community, and walked door to door to 62 businesses. Only 2 said **One Way** would not bother their business. And WOW HOA and WSSM HOA have taken polls at their meetings. The audience opposed the proposed One-Way plan. **Lisa** got emails and faxes. People are more aware. Job not done, but feeling on street is there are very serious concerns on this proposal. WNC has not as yet voted. Business has spoken by our surveys. Report on Zev Yarazovsky's website is not being well received. Need to see what the City Council Transportation Committee Reports. Recommendation will see need to incorporate left turns at three intersections. Analyze what they report. If left turns work, will determine what happens with one-way. Weiss asked for a report in 3 months and will get that due date to the task force. Council office tallying what WNC has found, and what Lisa has found. All will be incorporated into report. Request made for Jay to send email to every business. WNC has entered the emails of survey takers. Jay added, we have heard a lot of input from you already and will pass that on to the DOT.

c) Jackie Freedman, Co-Chair/Veteran's Land Coalition

• Support for funding for Geology Survey for VA property

Jackie reported the Veteran's Land Coalition is dedicated to saving the three large properties, including the campus, Federal Building site and Armory on Federal and Wilshire for direct services for Veterans. Originally donated to Federal Government for sole purpose of maintenance for national serviceman's home. Thirty organizations support this mission and goal. They enlisted Congressman Waxman, Zev Yaroslavsky, City Council and Mayor Villaraigosa, to successfully have FBI building located elsewhere. We are a nonprofit in need of funds for direct mailing of 5,000 fliers updating community. Requesting \$1,000 for postage. Requested title report for those lands costing \$400. This request is now for \$1,400. **Deanna Stephenson/DONE** said a nonprofit cannot use money for mailing as a nonprofit but could provide WNC a mailing list to distribute for them. **Terri** suggested Jackie come back with amount for a traffic consultant since WNC concern is traffic impact on the area and can pay consultant's bill.

d) Roger Spencer, Royal Street Communications

• Proposed Wireless Telecommunications Facility at 2566 South Overland Avenue

Roger already presented at Land Use Committee and asked to compare costs of locating at Citibank vs. new location. Proposed site is \$2,100 a month, but another site wanted \$3,000 and the Good Guys wanted \$10,000. Asking for support for their Conditional Use Permit. **Judy Silverman, Resident** My neighbors and I who live at Park Overland Apartments across the street from the proposed wireless facility are against this application by Royal St. Communications because of 1) visual pollution, 2) possible health hazard, 3) possible interference in flight path of Santa Monica Airport, and 4) possible noise, pollution and disturbance to our residential neighborhood, which includes a school on our street.

Barbara Broide Motion WNC recommends Royal St. Communications cell tower be co-located at SE corner of Pico and Overland at 10680 Pico Blvd or another address on Pico that currently has cell towers, rather than the proposed location at 2566 Overland Avenue. **Ty** seconded

In Favor 15 Opposed 0 Abstained 2

Ty is going to help secure the lease at the lower rate..

f) Barbara Broide

• Illegal Tree Trimming

Terri sent letter to Gonzales at Urban Forestry for meeting at Council office with Ron Lorenzo. Jay said they would be there. **Steffeny Holtz, Resident/Attorney at Law** reported her shock at seeing all the

trees by Norm's Restaurant defoliated. Not keeping with permits or guidelines. Barbara's photos of trees show their terrible condition. Concerned in light of Mayor's push for trees. Need to take inventory of trees in our neighborhood to identify trees at risk and see what is needed. Another concern is that tree trimmers do not speak English. Because she speaks Spanish could tell them they were not to prune more than 15 % of the tree. Current laws are inadequate. Hope WNC can do something to support legislative change.

Terri put this in Outreach Committee and issue notification to businesses on Pico. Jay is arranging a meeting with City Management. WNC will create agenda re how city communicates with residents and business. WNC could identify contractors for discount price on how we want our trees trimmed. Barb and Joanne already on task force for our Homeowners Groups. That is the start. Business has to be involved because they have the money. Jay will let us know when meeting with Urban Forestry is and how much is the bill. Maybe we can do 50/50 on the costs.

• Outreach Committee, Lisa Morocco (including motion to use our logo at Kidsave event)

Lisa Stacy is walking with me July 29. Join the walk team for 5k. Starts at 8:00am at Cheviot Hills. Will put information on website. We thought we should have orange T-shirts with "where neighbors connect" in white writing and WNC with how to contact us. **Lisa** makes a motion to purchase 72 t-shirts for \$750 for Outreach Committee and branding. **Ty** (Charles??) Seconds

In Favor 14 Opposed 0

Rich Baron motions to adjourn **Stacy** seconded. **In Favor 14 Opposed 0**

Adjourned 10:10pm