

**WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES**

Thursday, November 8, 2007 7:00pm

Westside Pavilion 10800 W. Pico Blvd.
Meeting Room A (3rd Floor behind Food Court)

1. Meeting is called to order 7:03pm

Attendance Jerry Asher (6), Gerry Del Sol (9), Ron Stone (14), Sara Fitzsimmons (Alternate 16), Bob Guerin (13), Letty Bugarin (5), Terri Tippit (8), Steve Spector (4), Jan Gabrielson (Alternate 12), David Ty Vahedi (17), Mary Kusnic (11), Barbara Broide (7), Charles Horwitz (15), Mike Eveloff (Alternate 10) - voted on Minutes and Bylaw amendment, before Richard Harmetz (10) arrived

Absent Renato Romano (3), Douglas Butler (1)

Terri Tippit, Chair states there is a quorum

2. Approval of Oct 11, 2007 Minutes (as corrected)

Bob Guerin motions to approve, **Letty Bugarin** seconds

All in Favor: 10 In Favor 0 Opposed 1 Abstaining

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

4. Public Forum

Adrienne DeVore, Marketing Manager Westside Pavilion announced a benefit event for Step Up Women's Network to assemble Wellness Bags for local cancer patients at City of Hope at Duarte.

Barbara Broide noted that the large building at Pico and Overland has a new wrap sign. Building was already cited for large banners. She urged stakeholders to call the building leasing office to ask them to comply with the law. The Korean Cultural Council Building applied to Building & Safety to have a 20x30 Digital Picture sign that exceeded the City's regulations by size, type, and safety due to being a distraction to vehicles driving by and passersby. Building & Safety denied their permit. They are now before the City Council for a vote. Stakeholders need to say they don't want it.

Terri suggested putting on Dec. agenda.

5. Reports:

- CD5 Update, Jay Greenstein

Announced the **Westside Transit/Subway Summit** hosted by all four Westside Council members on Monday, November 19 between 3:00pm and 5:00pm at the Petersen Automotive Museum. A discussion with elected officials and experts of goals, policy objectives, and next steps to connect the Westside with the Region's Light Rail and Subway Systems. RSVP with Jack Weiss' office.

Jay noted that the council office had received many messages from stakeholders complaining about the billboard at Pico and Overland. The building has already been cited by Building & Safety who has sent it on to the City Attorney. The challenge is how much the City Attorney's office will be fining offenders.

Another topic was the lane closures under National and the Palms overpass above the 405. The Council office pressed CalTrans at the last WLA CPAB meeting to explain possible closing of freeway on ramps. CalTrans writes their contracts very broadly and can move their workers and equipment to where they need it, keeping lane closures in place when they leave because they will be returning to continue construction. Thursday, December 6 is the tentative date for **CalTrans Community Open House** meeting to hear stakeholders' questions.

- DONE Report, Deanna Stevenson

No report

6. Agenda Items

New Business

- a) Jan Gabrielson: Approval of bylaw election procedure amendments

Policies and Procedures Committee Report

Agenda Item 6.a) Jan Gabrielson reported.

The issue having been placed on the Agenda by notice at Public Forum at the Board meeting of October 11, 2007, the Board considered the following Bylaw amendment:

Amend Section 2 of Article 3 of the Bylaws by deleting the second sentence, which now reads:

All elections will be by open vote at a meeting open to all Stakeholders pursuant to rule established by the initial Governing Board in compliance with the Ralph M. Brown Act.

and substituting in its place the following sentence:

All qualified WNC stakeholders are entitled to vote in all elections for WNC board seats.

The new sentence is verbatim the suggested language of DONE in its letter to us of August 4, 2006, approving our Election Procedures. This amendment is intended to comply precisely with DONE's demand in that letter we make this change and that if we do not make this change, future election procedures will not be approved.

It was **moved by Jan Gabrielson, seconded by Steve Spector, and passed 13-0-1 to approve the amendment.**

b) Peter Elias, Sky Hotel 2352 Westwood Blvd.

- Support for a zone variance to serve alcohol on the premises to hotel guest only

Peter requested support for Sky Hotel's Use Permit for purpose of selling alcohol. He said it is a very small boutique hotel with only 27 rooms and does not have a banquet room or a bar. Now has courtesy bar in rooms, but wants to provide splits of champagne, orange juice, and vodka for hotel guests. Owner created a list of conditions including nothing on patio later than 9:00pm, no amplified music, no audio beyond hotel grounds, and no restaurant. All amenities exclusive to registered guests. **Jerry Adler** motions to approve conditions as written for the board. **Letty Bugarin** seconds

All in Favor: Favor 12 Opposed 2 Abstained 0

c) Terri Tippit

- Appoint Lisa Morocco and Melissa Kenady co-chairs of Pico Beautification Ad Hoc Committee. Asked for participants to serve on this committee. **Steve Spector** motions to form committee **Letty** seconds

Vote in Favor: 14 in Favor 0 Opposed 0 Abstained

- Proposal to support 912 Committee recommendations
Terri was not here for last WNC meeting, but suggested Policy and Procedures Committee meets to review the recommendations. Email to committee members so they can discuss it at next meeting. Not take a position tonight but put on next meeting's agenda. Since it mentions funding for NC's, WNC should acknowledge the spirit of NC's because there are people who want to disband them. Suggest all Committee Chairs email Terri a list of their members. Do not have more than 8 Seated Board members on a committee.

- Nominating Committee for 2008 Officers

Terri made Melissa Kenady chair, Steve and Bob Guerin members. .

- Support for MMRA letter to Gail Goldberg re Infrastructure Reporting

Terri asked for input for a letter so WNC could weigh in on this subject. WNC has own unique situation creating a Community Plan. For purposes of the minutes Board decided not to vote on MMRA letter and decided to write own letter. Terri asked Board to email her what is important to be in letter, she will craft it and put it on agenda for next month. **No motion made.** Terri asked for straw vote of how many want WNC to weigh in on this issue, take a position, and write a letter to Gail Goldberg.

In favor 12 Opposed 0 Abstained 2

d) Letty Bugarin, Traffic Study

- Approval of proposal for traffic study completion

Letty reported we do not have the funds at this time to pay for a consultant to complete the Traffic Study that WNC started in 2005. Surveys distributed by Annette and Barbara's team solicited 400 responses from residents and businesses. No request for any moneys at this point. Letty, Annette, and Barbara will now finalize the data.

e) Ron Stone, Funding Approval

- Approve \$6,000 each for Overland & Westwood Charter schools, Palms Library, LAFD, LAPD

Motion to approve funding committee's request to spend 30k in the current fiscal year on community improvement projects in this order: Westwood Charter Elementary; Overland Avenue Elementary; Palms-Rancho Park Library; LAPD West LA Division; and, LAFD Station 92.

Ron Stone motions to approve, **Bob Guerin** seconds.

All in Favor: Favor 14 Opposed 0 Abstained 0

- WNC Chair appoint an Ad-Hoc Committee on Pico Blvd Beautification (see Terri Tippit's report above for approval vote)

Steve Spector moves to adjourn, **Jan Gabrielson** seconds

Meeting Adjourned at 8:50pm

Minutes prepared by Carolyn Ward, AppleOne, November 14, 2007
Reviewed and Approved by Recording Secretary Bob Guerin