

Meeting of Westside Neighborhood Council was called to order at 7:03pm by Terri Tippit.

All 15 members were in attendance.

(Renato Romano + Ron Stone arrived at 7:15pm, Deanna Stevenson arrived at 7:29 pm)

Minutes of February meeting were approved 12-0-0. Motion made by Jerry Asher and seconded by Lisa Morocco. March minutes will be sent via email for approval.

Public Forum

- A. Missy Ise from International Student Exchange spoke re the need for Host Families for Summer student exchange program. She can be reached @ (310) 266-5044 or missyise@yahoo.com
- B. Simone Taylor from DWP handed out fact sheets regarding mandatory water conservation. All information can be found on the DWP website. Program will start June 1, 2009. Daily hand watering is still allowed and usage of gray water encouraged.
- C. Vikki Zale from the City of Los Angeles Street and Stormwater Program spoke about the floodplain management plan. A fact sheet with FAQ was distributed and public outreach is encouraged with email to stakeholders.
- D. Jennifer Badger from the Mayor's Office addressed the changes in the Neighborhood Council funding system. Budgets will be reduced by 10% to \$45,000 annually. Rollover funds will not be affected. The city has instituted a hiring freeze and LAPD and LAFD will lose officers.
The annual day of service sponsored by the City will be on June 27th.

New Business

- A. New Area Commander of WLAPD, Captain Evangeline Nathan spoke regarding new policies and programs. Crime suppression as a collaborative effort between the community and LAPD is the focus. Crime in our area is down overall by 4% YTD.

New and continuing programs are youth outreach through the Deputy Auxiliary Police unit and the Explorer Program.

The 2nd annual Neighborhood Walk will take place June 14th, sponsored by SORO. WNC will participate in this walk again.

Stacy Antler moved that "On behalf of Public Safety for LAPD, the WNC support the gang prevention program by donating \$500 for said program. Dick Harnetz seconded and the motion passed 15-0-0.

Drug dealing on Sepulveda was brought up by Renato Romano and the Captain responded that specifics must be reported immediately. SLO Sharif will follow up with Renato Romano.

Medical marijuana dispensaries were discussed as a serious concern by the community. Regulation will be enforced.

- B. Al Watson from Bourbon Shrimp Restaurant requested that his restaurant hours be extended in order to reflect hours of other restaurants on Pico Blvd. There has been no neighborhood complaints regarding his business or customers. Al Watson stressed he is an on site, active owner/manager and would address any issues or concerns. Requested hours are as follows: Sunday – Wednesday open until 1 AM, Thursday – Saturday, open until 2 AM.

Stacy Antler moved to support the extension of hours as noted above as long as Bourbon Shrimp Restaurant maintain valet easement.

Gerry del Sol seconded. Motion passed 13 - 0 – 2.

- C. Hilary Norton from FAST (Fixing Angelinos Stuck in Traffic) presented short term solutions to move traffic. FAST is a public/private partnership based on a Rand Study . The comprehensive plan is on their website and comments can be registered on the site. Concern was registered by board members and stakeholders re the following:
1. The West Los Angeles mobility report is not completed and it is premature to discuss concrete solutions.
 2. Developer's involvement in FAST plans will not take into consideration neighborhood integrity. Of special concern was residential streets used as thoroughfares as well as peak hour parking decisions.
 3. No community leaders are on the board of FAST

Renato Romano suggested inviting Jim Thomas from FAST to address a group meeting of Neighborhood Councils who stakeholders would be impacted.

- D. Kyle Harris from Code Red spoke regarding an Emergency Mass Notification System. Kyle Harris noted that the county 911 system is not failsafe. First responders can be targeted on call list and other issues such as Amber Alerts can be incorporated into the program. This is a 3 year program and Kyle Harris will send a proposal. Barbara Broide volunteered to look into competitive bidding

- E. Monica Morant from the Department of Public Works presented alternative technologies for processing black bin waste.
Household compost can now be added to green bins and the City is exploring downsizing black bins. Suggestion for the city to explore recycling cooking oil was made by Barbara Broide.
Websites = zerowaste.lacity.org and www.alternativetechnology.lacity.org

Committee Reports

Funding

Stacy Antler moved that the WNC spend up to \$500 for permanent name tags for board members of the WNC. Shannon Burns seconded.

Motion passed 11-2-2

Stacy Antler moved that the WNC shall authorize an expenditure of up to \$12,000 for Palms Park Recreation Center for the following expenditures:

Culinary Island

Stove

Portable Dishwasher

Camp Supplies

Gymnastic Equipment

Front Lettering for building

There was discussion of competitive pricing on above items as well as \$900 cost of signage on building.

Motion was made by Barbara Broide to approve funding but delete \$900 expenditure for signage.

Motion failed 6-7-2

New motion was made to approve funding as originally stated. Motion passed 13-2-0

Stacy Antler moved that the WNC shall authorize an expenditure of up to \$13,000 for repairs for the Marshall P. Riddick Youth Center. After discussion, the motion was revised to read: The WNC shall authorize an expenditure of up to \$13,000 for repairs for the Marshall P. Riddick Youth Center subject to the Riddick Center obtaining 3 bids. The Riddick Center will make the selection of the contractor.

Charles Horowitz seconded.

Motion passed 12-2-0

Outreach

Lisa Morocco reported –

Website project will resume when Shlomo returns.

The Pico Beautification project has results from first survey of proposed improvements to Pico Blvd. Surveys were distributed to local businesses, all HOAs in WNC boundaries and at several outreach meetings attended by residents and local business owners . These outreach meetings featured power point presentation by Kathy Cerra, landscape architect hired to manage the Pico Beautification project.

Lisa distributed survey results: showing most important improvements (additional street trees, street repair, side walk repair). Another survey/questionnaire was distributed at the WNC meeting to all board members for further distribution.

Future plans include a sidewalk cleaning project of Pico coordinated with Chrysalis and including outreach leafleting.

Other Outreach opportunities:

Overland Avenue International Day Festival with WNC booth

Landmark/WNC Take Me Out to the Movies scheduled for October 10th

Land Use

Motions Related to Medical Marijuana Dispensaries or Collectives

Motion #1 by Shannon Burns

WNC requests Building and Safety check each Medical Marijuana Dispensary or Collective to confirm their exterior signage is limited to site address only, as well as confirming that they meet all regulations (Sec. 45.19.6.3. Regulations numbered (1) through (18).

Motion seconded by Stacy Antler

Motion passed 12-0-2

Motion #2 by Shannon Burns

WNC supports the proposed ordinance that a Medical Marijuana Dispensary or Collective that is not in compliance with the ordinance be given maximum of 2 warnings for violations before a license is revoked indefinitely.

Stacy Antler seconds

Motion passes 12-0-2

Motion #3 by Shannon Burns

WNC supports the proposed ordinance that no Medical Marijuana Dispensary or Collective be located less than 1, 000 foot radius of schools, playgrounds, parks, libraries, places of religious worship, licensed child care facilities, licensed youth facilities, including youth hostels, and youth camps.

Barbara seconds

Motion passes 12-2-1

Chair's Report

1. Terri Tippit presented the 5 motions from the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils. (See motions on WNC website).

Jerry Asher moved to support, Lisa Morocco seconded.

Motions passed unanimously.

2. Terri Tippit discussed issue of financial disclosure in relation to NC Council file motions.

Steve Spector moved that the WNC support the motion of Council member Janice Hahn to revisit the issue of financial disclosure in relation to the NC council File motions and recommend that the currently approved Form 54 be replaced with a more suitable form that not require broad and onerous disclosure by NC board members as a condition to submitting a NC Council File to the City Council.

Jerry Asher seconded.

Motion passed 13 -0-0

3. Charles Horowitz moved that the WNC write a letter to the Los Angeles City Transportation Committee stating our opposition to the proposed exemption for Taxi Parking on Residential Streets.

Jerry Asher seconded.

Motion passed 13-0-0

4. Stacy Antler moved:

Whereas the City Council's Budget and Finance Committee will be recommending to the City Council that the Neighborhood Community Council funding program be reduced to a total of \$1M for next year – this roughly breaks down to \$11,200 instead of the \$50,000 per Council; and Whereas such a funding cut would effectively eviscerate the WNC mission and ability to function under the City Charter; Be It Resolved that the WNC actively lobby the City Council and Mayor to preserve NC funding at a level of no less than \$45,000 per year; Be It Further Resolved that the WNC encourage its stakeholders to write and/or call Councilman Weiss, the Mayor and other City Council member to demand the same; and Be It Further Resolved the the WNC work in cooperation with all other Neighborhood and Community Councils to oppose these proposed cuts.

Mary Kusnic seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.

5. Steve Spector moved that the WNC authorize any three officers to file the NC Election procedure stipulation language worksheet in substantially the form circulated with such changes as the officers deem appropriate.

Stacy Antler seconded
Motion passed 13-0-0

Lisa Morocco moved to adjourn, Bob Guerin seconds.
WNC meeting is adjourned at 11 PM.