

Minutes for Westside Neighborhood Council July 9, 2009

The meeting was called to order by Terri Tippit at 7:04 pm.

In attendance:

Douglas Butler (1), Don Parker (2B), Paul Reznik (3B), Steve Spector (4), Sander De Wildt (5 B), Jerry Asher (6), Barbara Broide (7) *, Terri Tippit (8), Gerry del Sol (9), Dick Harnetz (10), Mary Kusnic (11), Stacy Antler (12), Bob Guerin (13), Ron Stone (14), Charles Horwitz (15), Melissa Kenady (16), David T. Vahedi (17)

* Arrived late

Also present:

Senior Lead Officers from LAPD, Rashad Sharif and Mario Gonzalez, Tom Griego from City Attorney's office and Deanna Stevenson from DONE.

The first item of discussion was Dick Harnetz's suggestions how to shorten WNC meetings.

During discussion, the following was amended or clarified:

Item 11 ~ suggestion made that member time allowance be reduced from four minutes to two minutes.

Item 12 ~ clarification of terms was made.

Motion to postpone = to table

Dick Harnetz moved to adopt the suggestions. Jerry Asher seconded.

Motion passed, 16 – 0 – 0

Public Forum

Louis Laxineta from Alpha Construction was introduced and passed out contact information. Alpha Construction is the contractor for Menorah House who is developing senior housing at the site of the old DSS building on Pico Blvd.

The following was confirmed during Q and A:

1. Quiet control will be maintained pre work hours
2. There will be some work on Saturdays, none on Sundays
3. Parking for crew will be at Norm's Restaurant and on site
4. Truck traffic will be supervised by a flag man
5. There will be no blocking of traffic and no work will begin before 7 AM
6. Any concrete pour will be done via permit
7. A hot line will be set up and communicated to stakeholders by Barbara Broide

Stacy Antler announced Lange Foundation charity sale on July 18 + 19. Donations will be accepted.

Barbara Broide reported the following:

Metro Board (MTA) continues on long term planning of Westside extension of subway.

Planning Commission meetings resulted in cultural heritage ordinances weakened with no protection for interiors of historic or cultural sites.

A proposal for billboard(s) on the Convention Center was approved and will go to PLUM without opportunity for Neighborhood Council input.

Jenny Wood from Speaker Karen Bass's office gave following updates:

The state budget remains stalemated due to Governor's veto. There are petitions to sign and postcards to send regarding this issue.

Green Jobs Fair and Conference flyers were passed out. Event is on July 23rd and is in conjunction with LACC as part of district outreach.

Rebecca Bernal from Senator Curran Price's office passed out informational pamphlet.

LAPD Report:

Senior Lead Officers Rashad Sharif and Mario Gonzalez reported on proliferation of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries.

Patrol cars are sent when there are disturbances (ie 2346 Westwood Blvd.)

This is a long term enforcement issue since policy needs to be in place.

The City Attorney will address this issue when he visits WNC.

Sarah Shaw representing JMB Realty was introduced and Jay Greenstein from CD 5 reported that he has had transportation issues added to his duties with CD 5. Paul Koretz moved at last City Council meeting for Century City Plaza hotel be placed on historic properties list. A field deputy will be assigned to examine Bossa Nova closing time issues.

Jordan Turner from LA Citywide Planning handed out and discussed 2009 Bicycle Plan Update. Website = www.labikeplan.org

The final draft policy is due month end and comments will be taken continuously.

Speaking against the bike path plans were:

Zachary Samuels stated the bike plan invades their property on Northvale that has been improved and maintained over the years by the residents.

Marc Roggencamp cited lack of communication and outreach to residents in bike path area and wants to know what specific procedures have been taken to communicate with the residents.

Colleen Mason Heller on behalf of CHHA opposed any use of eminent domain to take property for a bike path.

Jonathan Weiss from LA Bike Plan Advisory Committee spoke as an advocate for bicycles. His membership is protesting the lack of input in EIRs. There is an opportunity with the West Los Angeles Community Plan for better planning.

Public Comment

Subject: Lack of funding for speed humps on Veteran Avenue between Olympic and Pico.

Speaking in support of speed humps due to public safety, were following residents:

Margaret Healy, John Edmond, Lorna Edmond, Nicole Maestas (yielding time to Lorna Edmond), George Doss, Robert Silverman, Ellen Perlmutter, Mel Paul. Sharon Rehbinder left her statement on speaker card.

All residents urged the board to include speed humps for these blocks to curb heavy traffic disrupting the neighborhood, to deter speeding of vehicles towards intersection to beat red lights and to improve safety for families and young children.

Tom Griego spoke regarding the Brown Act and can act as our legal advisor. He offered to sit in with the board regarding any questions with issues. Conflict of interest discussions should be one on one. He suggested a review of the on line course offered by DONE at lacityneighborhoods.org prior to any meeting.

At 9:10 pm, Dick Harnetz moved to adjourn the meeting. Jerry Asher seconded. Motion did not pass with vote of 2 - 13 - 0.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Terri Tippit reported on following Land Use Committee issues:

Casden Sepulveda Project

After discussion, proposed language regarding signage was accepted as a friendly amendment and will be incorporated into the letter.

Charles Horwitz moved to support the denial of this project until the West Los Angeles Community Plan is adopted. Stacy Antler seconded.
Motion passed 13 – 0 – 3

Barbara Broide moved to add that the placement of a transit center be evaluated as one of the project alternatives. Jerry Asher seconded.
Motion passed 9 – 6 – 1

RE: Marijuana Dispensaries

Motion was made by Bob Guerin to support the moratorium enacted by the City of Los Angeles regarding Medical Marijuana Clinics.
Jerry Asher seconded.
Motion passed unanimously.

RE: Community Impact Statement

Gerry del Sol moved to support the Community Impact Statement to be attached to the City Wide Sign Ordinance. Stacy Antler seconded.
Motion passed 12 – 3 – 1

Challis Macpherson, Chair of Westside Regional Alliance of Councils presented an overview of the California Peripheral Canal. The Westside Regional Council support the funding, building and operation of this project. Motion to support the resolution of WRAC was made by Melissa Kenady. Paul Reznik seconded.
Motion did not pass at 9 – 4 – 4.

Approval of June Minutes was moved by Stacy Antler and seconded by Charles Horwitz.
Motion passed 13 – 3 -0

Approval of proposed 2009/2010 WNC budget passed unanimously.

Deanna Stevenson reported that the Congress of Neighborhood Councils will take place on October 10, 2009.

Terri Tippit reported that the WNC elections would take place on Sunday, April 11, 2010.

Charles Horwitz moved to adjourn meeting at 10:11 pm. Mary Kusnic seconded.
Motion passed, meeting adjourned.

