WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, August 11, 2009    7:00pm
Westside Pavilion  10800 W. Pico Blvd.
Meeting Room A  (3rd Floor behind Food Court)

1. Meeting is called to order at 7:00 PM.

In Attendance:

Lisa Morocco  (2), Renato Romano (3 alt.),
Steve Spector (4), Sander De Widt (5 alt.),
Jerry Asher (6), Barbara Broide (7),
Terri Tippit (8), Karina Wiesenthal (9alt.),
Mike Eveloff (10alt.), Mary Kusnic (11),
Colleen Mason Heller (12alt.), Robert E. Guerin (13),
Charles Horwitz (15), Melissa Kenady (16),
David Ty Vahedi (17)*

Also attending:

Shannon Burns (17alt.)
*David left at 9PM

Annette Mercer, Jay Greestein, CD 5
Sergeant Podesta, WLAPD

Terri Tippit, Chair states there is a quorum - with
15 member seats represented.

Minutes of the July, 2009 WNC Meeting
were presented and approved unanimously.

Motion By: Melissa
Second By: Lisa

2. PUBLIC FORUM:

Residents of the 2200 Block of Veteran Avenue presented a letter request and asked for the WNC to support speed bumps for this block as was done for the 2300 block. They stated that 22 families live on this block including 10 children and 9 seniors.
The residents discussed and requested the same consideration as the 2200 Block for safety in their neighborhood and to allow for uniform traffic flow on Veteran.

Sergeant Dave Podesta, WLAPD, gave a brief update regarding area crime and the status of budget cuts.

3.) REVIEW OF AGENDA:

( ITEMS MAY NOT BE HEARD IN THE ORDER LISTED)

4.) AGENDA ITEMS

New Business

a.) Outreach, Lisa Morocco
   Update “Take Me Out To The Movies” event

Lisa announced the event will take place on October 10th, 2009 at 10AM at the Landmark Theaters in the Westside Pavilion.

She and Charles discussed the details stating that 6 schools are participating.

Each school will be presenting their own exhibit and will sell their own tickets with 100% of proceeds going to benefit the school. Two movies will be shown on as many screens as possible. There will be media coverage.

Everyone is encouraged to attend and support our schools. They also asked for WNC Board Members assistance in volunteering and their presence at the event.

Motion

That the WNC allocate up to $1000.00 of Outreach funds to the Landmark/WNC “Take Me Out To The Movies” event for printing expense.

Motion By: Charles
Second By: Jerry

Motion Passed 13 – 0 - 1
b.) Land Use, Shannon Burns

Century City Plaza Hotel
1862-64 Kelton

Shannon gave an update regarding the above projects. The detailed information is in the attached LUC July 29th Report. She presented the following motions for consideration.

Motions for 8/11/09 Agenda from Land Use Committee:

1. The Westside Neighborhood Council approves the scoping comments letter addressed to Jimmy Liao in connection with the Century Plaza Development project, City Planning Dept. File # ENV-2008-4950-EIR attached hereto and directs the Chair to sign and send the scoping comments to the Environmental Review Section prior to the August 13, 2009 deadline.

Motion By: Shannon
Second By: Mike
Motion Passed: 11 – 3 – 1

2. The Westside Neighborhood Council approves the public comments letter addressed to Jae Kim in connection with the 1862-1864 Kelton Avenue Project (Case No. TTM 71122-CN) attached hereto and directs the Chair to sign and send the public comments letter to Mr. Kim.

Motion By: Shannon
Second By: Barbara
Motion Passed: 11 – 0 – 4

c.) Michael Buhler and Flora Chou, LA Conservancy

Michael and Flora gave presentation and overview of the organization and the historical designation process.
Detailed information can be found on the website www.laconservancy.org
d.) Laura Meyers, West Adams Heritage Association

Laura presented background on the Association and discussed the Proposed Ordinance. She asked that the WNC support the Cultural Heritage Ordinance.

Motion

That the WNC support the Los Angeles Cultural Heritage Ordinance, conditioned upon; and, if and to the extent, that existing protections for the interiors are retained, if included originally.

Motion By: Barbara
Second By: Ty
Motion Passed 15 – 0 – 1 Abstain

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a.) Mobility, Lisa Morocco

Annette and Barbara presented and discussed updates on the following areas:

I-405 HOV lane staging area
National/Sepulveda/Sawtelle Construction
Subway to the Sea
LADOT Budget Cuts
Mobility Related City Council Motions

The full report is attached with complete details as to the status of each area above.

Billboard Ordinance

Annette and Barbara gave a summary of the new proposed Billboard Ordinance pending in PLUM, details are also included in the attached report.
b.) Overland Gateway, Karina Wisenthal

Karina reported on the status of Overland Bridge widening, noting construction on the project will be running thru 2010.

She announced that DOT, CD-5, LADOT Bureau of Engineering reps., and community stakeholders will be invited to attend the meeting to participate in Overland Bridge Widening and “Overland Future” discussion.

With respect to the WNC Overland Committee Vision, at the September meeting each committee’s member / stakeholder will present three major visions of what Overland Avenue should look like.

The next Overland Gateway Meeting is September 29, 10 am at Palms Rec. Center

b.) Chair’s Report, Terri Tippit

Terri announced the cancellation of the September, 2009 WNC Meeting.

She stated that City Attorney Carmen Trutanich will be a guest speaker at the October, 2009 WNC Meeting.

Also, she appointed Annette Mercer and Barbara Broide to serve on the Ad Hoc Billboard Committee.

Terri discussed holding the April, 2010 elections at the Westside Pavilion.

Motion

It is moved that the WNC hold the April, 2010 elections at the Westside Pavilion.

Motion By: Lisa

Second By: Shannon

Motion Passed: Unanimously

Deanna Stevenson, DONE Report
No Report.
Jay Greenstein, CD5 Update

Jay gave a detailed report on and announced that on Tuesday, August 4, 2009, the PLUM Committee unanimously voted to support Councilmember Paul Koretz’s motion to initiate the nomination of the Century Plaza Hotel as a historic or cultural monument.

He stated that the Century Plaza Hotel located at 2025 Avenue of the Stars in Century City, opened in 1966 as the centerpiece of Century City. The 19-story curved hotel has been a prominent Los Angeles landmark for more than four decades. From its prime perch fronting the spectacular fountains on the Avenue of the Stars, the Century Plaza's sweeping modern design was designed by renowned architect Minoru Yamasaki, who would later design New York's World Trade Center twin towers. The Century Plaza Hotel stimulated the development of Century City and led to its reputation as a world-class destination, having been a gathering place for celebrities, politicians and world dignitaries since its opening day.

Noting, once nicknamed the "West Coast White House," the Century Plaza was a favorite of both Presidents Richard Nixon and Ronald Reagan. For these reasons, among many others, Councilmember Koretz urged PLUM to nominate the Century Plaza hotel as historically significant and it should be included in the City's list of historic or cultural monuments.

Councilmember Koretz and PLUM Committee directed the Office of the Historic Resources to prepare the historic nomination application, and to prepare an inventory list of all defining structures and features on the site. Councilmember Koretz also requested the City of Los Angeles and the developer treat the hotel structure as a significant historic resources for purposes of environmental analysis in any future environmental impact report.

He stated that Councilmember Koretz has required the developer to work with the City’s Office of Historic Resources, Los Angeles Conservancy, Westside Neighborhood Council, area homeowners associations, and other community stakeholders to engage in a dialogue and design process in an effort to generate viable preservation alternatives. Participation in this process is encouraged. If you have any questions, or for additional information call CD5 Office.

Motion to Adjourn: Melissa
Second By: Mary
Unanimous
Meeting Adjourned 10:30 PM
Reviewed and Approved By Recording Secretary