



Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 14, 2011
Westside Pavilion
10800 West Pico Boulevard
Meeting Room A

Call to order: 7:15 pm by Terri Tippit

Attendance:

Barbara Broide (Seat 7), Steve Spector (Seat 4), Dick Harmetz (Seat 10), Lisa Morocco (Seat 2), Terri Tippit (Seat 8), Mike McIntrye (Seat 3), Charles Horowitz (Seat 15), David T. Vahedi, (Seat 17), Melissa Kenady (Seat 16), Mary Kusnic (Seat 11), Drew D'Ascentis (Seat 9), Phillip St Pierre (Seat 5), Shannon Burns (Seat 14), Colleen Mason (Seat 12)

Approval of Minutes:

Steve Spector moved that in order to add additional comments to minutes, approval of June 9, 2011 held over to August 11 WNC meeting.

The motion passed 12 – 0 – 2 (Charles Horowitz and Barbara Broide abstaining)

Public Forum:

LAPD:

Captain Nathan of West Los Angeles PD station reported on rolling closures on the north bound and south bound 405 due to construction project. Closures from the I 10 to the 101 will begin July 15 and are planned to last 53 hours.

Outreach to the community has been ongoing and the Sherriff's Department, LAPD and LAFD have staging locations for emergency services.

Mario Gonzalez reported on car break ins at Century City shopping center and car vandalism in the Palisades Temescal Canyon Park.

Neighborhood Watch group helped close down an escort service in a residential area.

Office of Senator Curran Price:

Rebecca Bernal reported on Redistricting Commission meeting being held July 22nd. Draft maps are not being released (June mapping can be referenced).
Website = wedrawthelines.ca.gov

Barbara Broide inquired about SB 1818 regarding affordable housing.
For clarification, Barbara will send clean up language and information to Rebecca.

Jonathan Weiss representing Los Angeles Bicycle Advisory Committee
(jonlaweiss@hotmail.com) raised the following points:

Re Expo Line:

At grade crossings there are no bridges for bike paths.

Jonathan requests a proposal for elevated bike paths at Sepulveda, Sawtelle and Pico Gateway. be an agenda item for August meeting.

Other bicycle issues raised and need to be supported:

- ~ Anti harass ordinance
- ~ Three foot safety zone for bicyclists
- ~ Bicycle parking to be made available for commercial and residential facilities
- ~ Safe routes for to schools through 1969 BMX trials with historic plaques

Steve Ipsen is a candidate for Los Angeles District Attorney in 2012 and spoke re his qualifications and platform:

- ~ Co wrote Victims Bill of Rights
- ~ Supports change of employment policies re barring employment of anyone with first felony conviction
- ~ Believes criminal cycle is based on depression and addiction which needs community mental health intervention not law enforcement
- ~ Mental illness and/or lower I.Q. of developmentally disabled not addressed in our current law enforcement policies

Website = www.reformfirst.com

Eric Cuomo-Jones from Centinela Feed and Pet Supply

Came to the WNC meeting to introduce himself and services Centinela Feed offers:

- ~ Low cost shot clinics
- ~ Micro chipping
- ~ Weekend adoption events for local rescue groups

Committee Updates:

CD 5 Update

Sheila Kouhkan reported on CD 5 support for Constellation station subway stop at Century City and Take Me Home adoption event.
Psychic operating on Pico Blvd being investigated.

Pico Blvd time line regarding repaving of street is delayed due to utilities work. Repaving is hoped to be done during this fiscal year.

Contract on speed humps on Veteran Avenue has been extended.

Jay Greenstein noted cohesive support amidst city departments re 405 shutdown.

Barbara Broide noted apron parking in Westwood Village affecting many pedestrians and is a violation of ADA but feels it should not be enforced if the car is parked and not blocking the street or sidewalk.

CD 5 will follow up.

Terri Tippit reported on:

Formation of Ad Hoc Committee to report problems to the Bureau of Street Services

WRAC will host Audits and Governmental Efficiency Committee on the Westside (Dennis Zine is the chair), at the WLA Municipal Building August 3rd, 6:00pm

New Business:

Drew D'Ascentis reported on cul-de-sac on 2700 block of Dunleer Place. This short alley allows access to Overland Avenue and has no street lighting. Neighbors are concerned that this allows an escape route for criminal activity such as car theft and vandalism.
Closure of this opening could be made with a hedge or gate.

Resident Marilyn Culbertson spoke in support of closing this cul-de-sac due to lack of safety with loitering at night in the area.

Drew moves for the Westside NC to support the Dunleer Place resident's request to close the only opening of the 2700 block of Dunleer to Overland Avenue.

Second: Colleen Mason

Motion passed 14 – 0 – 0

Drew D'Ascentis will carry over discussion of Westwood Gardens Greenway to August meeting.
An ad hoc committee will be formed.

Stakeholder Jill Levin spoke regarding transient population on Expo Right Of Way. There is concern about a growing homeless population that is very well hidden and may have mental health issues.

CD 5 and LAPD will follow up toward providing resources and security for area.

Elizabeth Barris representing the American Association for Cellular Safety spoke regarding health concerns regarding Smart Meters being installed on homes and businesses without an opt out option. Health concerns based on wireless radiation operating in mesh networks emitting an unsafe level of non ionizing radiation.

More information as well as petition to sign is at www.thepeoplesinitiative.org

Shannon Burns presented request from stakeholder Dimitri Kondrasuov to raise his fence height to 6 feet. This would be a variance in the R1 neighborhood.

Stakeholder Margaret Healy spoke that this variance should be a single exception and not a change in code.

All of the neighbors are in agreement and Maria's Restaurant is also in accord.

Local HOA, WSSM, recognizes the agreement.

Steve Spector and Charles Horowitz spoke in support of the agreement reached by local residents and businesses.

Shannon Burns moves that the Westside NC support this one time variance.

Lisa Morocco seconds

Motion passes 13 – 0 – 1(seat 7)

Following motion was made by Melissa Kenady;

The Westside Neighborhood Council endorses the following resolution that was unanimously approved by the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition on July 2, 2011.

“The Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition strongly urges that the Board of Water and Power Commissioners and the City Council not consider or act upon the proposed water and power rate increases until the Ratepayers Advocate is established and has thoroughly reviewed and analyzed the proposed rate increases and presented such review and analysis to the Ratepayers and the public for their careful consideration.

LANCC can not support any rate increases until the Ratepayer Advocate has reviewed and analyzed these rate increases and discussed the review and analysis with the Ratepayers and the public.”

Second: Mary Kusnic

Motion passed 14 -0 – 0

A final comment was made by Barbara Broide regarding the new parking ordinance that was passed. Attention should be paid to spill over traffic in the community and it is important to keep track of trade offs made.

Motion to adjourn @ 8:59 pm was made by Charles Horowitz.

Shannon Burns seconded

Motion carried unanimously.