



**Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, March 8, 2012**  
**Westside Pavilion**  
**10800 West Pico Boulevard**  
**Meeting Room A**  
**7:00PM**

**1. Call to Order**

Call to order: 7:10PM by Terri Tippit, WNC Chair

**Attendance:**

Lisa Morocco (Seat 2), Michael McIntyre (Seat 3), Steve Spector (Seat 4), Phillip St. Pierre (Seat 5), Jerry Asher (Seat 6), Barbara Broide (Seat 7), Terri Tippit (Seat 8), Drew DeAscentis (Seat 9), Mike Eveloff (Seat 10b), Mary Kusnic (Seat 11), Bob Guerin (Seat 13), Shannon Burns (Seat 14), Craig Silvers (Seat 15b), Melissa Kenady (16b), Brandon Behrstock (Seat 17b)

Arrived at 7:52PM Arturo Martinez (Seat 12b)

**2. Approval of February 9, 2012 minutes**

Minutes Approved as Noted

Motion By: Lisa

Second By: Jerry

Passed: 8 - 0 - 5 (Seats 3, 5, 10, 13, 16 )

**3. Review of Agenda**

**4. Agenda Items:**

**New Business:**

**A) Selection of Seat 5 Representative  
Phillip St. Pierre**

Terri Tippit, Chair, announced that the WNC has received ONE applicant for Seat 5, Phillip St. Pierre. She stated Phillip is the General Manager of the Westfield Century City Shopping Center and that he has done an excellent job of sitting in for Letty during this past year. As the Seat 5 alternate, he has been proud to wear “orange” at WNC events. Terri said Phillip has submitted a letter from the Century City Chamber in support of his representing Century City Businesses, Seat 5.

**Motion By Jerry: That the WNC select Phillip St. Pierre as the Seat 5, Century City Business Representative.**

**Second By: Jerry**

**Motion Passed: Unanimous 15 – 0 – 0**

**B) Andy Shrader, CD5 Deputy of Environmental Affairs & Sustainability**

- **Paul Koretz motion: Single Use Carry Out Bags Ban**
- **Update on SB569-proposed statewide ban on Styrofoam food containers**

There was a detailed discussion of the options for double-bag ban and SB-568, the proposed statewide ban on Styrofoam food containers.

Reina Pereira from the Bureau of Sanitation spoke about the double-bag ban ordinance put forth by Councilmember Koretz back in October and recommended by Public Works to address the zero waste policy the City has officially adopted (<http://www.zerowaste.lacity.org/home/index.html>).

The other option on the table before the City Council is the LA County model of banning single-use plastic bags and mandating a 10 cent fee on paper bags made from 100% recycled paper (as opposed to the cost of bags being embedded in the cost of groceries. (LA County staff report averages this is \$30. Person/ year for paper bags and \$18. Person/ year for plastic bags.) Consumers can purchase a number of reusable bags which will last for years for the same cost.

Andy is encouraging neighborhood councils and civic groups to see which choice they find the best. To date 20 LA neighborhood councils have supported the LA County option.

Kirsten James, Heal the Bay, spoke in detail regarding the detrimental impact of plastic bag, various plastic items including soda rings and Styrofoam that is discarded and pollutes the oceans; and she noted, most importantly these items are killing marine life. She talked about items found in sperm whales organs during necropsies including plastic bags and products, cigarette butts, and Styrofoam. She urged support of the single use bag ordinance and SB568 Styrofoam ordinance. She stated the goal of ordinances is to move people to re-useable bags – sustainable options.

It was noted that from a competitive businesses between cities point of view: Santa Monica, Long Beach, Manhattan Beach, Calabasas, Malibu and LA County have already instituted plastic bag bans with various ways of lowering paper bag usage. All have reported negligible effect on business to date. The Albertson's grocery store in Carpentaria banned all single-use bags of its own accord and has reported no detrimental effect on their business. Carpinteria will be voting on the ban of all single-use bags; which appears to already have council support and grocers are in support in Calabasas.

Around the region, Pasadena and Glendale have already approved plastic bag bans with a fee on paper bags. Burbank and Culver City have similar ordinances in development. A statewide ban on plastic bags, depends greatly on the actions of Los Angeles.

Steve noted the credibility of the work of Heal the Bay. Brandon, Mike and members discussed the motion options noting: Single use bags are not only plastic bags - Paper bags are the same. The County position: ban on plastic, charge on paper – City is working out details. This applies to grocers and convenience stores, but NOT for retailers, dry cleaners.

**Motion By: Jerry**

**That the WNC support LA County banning single-use plastic bags and a fee on paper bags made from 100 % recycled paper.**

**Second by Melissa.**

**Motion Passed: 12 - Against 3 (Seats 10, 13, 14 ) – 1 (Seat 12)**

**C) Adee Drory, Celebrate Israel Festival Director**

- **Update on April 29th Event at Cheviot Hills Park**

Adee presented an update for the Israel Independence Day festival, which historically was held at Woodley Park. She stated that she has been in a series of meetings with various neighborhood groups and the City agencies including LADOT, LAPD, and LAFD and the planning of an event this scale is a fluid process. She noted at present the plan is to close Motor on one side and traffic flow toward Pico with right turn only. She added that DOT will be at the intersection and only allow shuttles and dignitaries to come into the park.

The event and issue was discussed extensively at last month's WNC meeting. Again, the members of the WNC Board and members of the community also expressed their concerns.

Adee and her associates reviewed expected numbers. Mr. Eveloff spoke to serious concerns with the overall planning, safety and community impact issues. He noted that we have been talking about this a couple of months and there is a lack of information. He also commented on the various numbers circulating regarding expected attendance and asked for accurate estimates. There was detailed conversation of board members and Adee and the planners. Adee provided a break down the event logistics, set up, parking, shuttle services, walk, and event activities, etc. She spoke and explained that she will have the required sign off from each department with numbers of personal and plan outlines. This included LAPD, LAFD, DOT, Rec and Parks, OPS, and Building/Safety. She said these details will continue to be updated thru the coming weeks, noting that to date there would be 80 security including LAPD, to include the number of personal needed, the cost associated, and safety plans. She updated LAPD's Sgt. Roberts has provided with 51 officers AT MINIMUM for Festival events within the Park and Cheviot area. The Walk, which was discouraged in dialog with board members, will increase the officers. The LAFD requested time to respond regarding their plan and the requirements.

Community requests include provisions to address the neighborhood's concerns including safety, traffic mitigation, residential parking, park usage damage, median damage, shuttles, parking spaces in Century City and area.

Dimitri said CD5 is satisfied with the meeting they have had, but are waiting for LAPD and for WNC.

The consensus, summarized by Terri, WNC Chair, is that hosting a safe well-planned and Israel event here, where many Jewish families live, in one of the most congested traffic areas in the country will requires all requisite entities working in partnership with the event promoters, the Council Office and the many different government agencies. She stressed the conditional WNC approval includes that the event promoters are to provide the council office and the WNC with the all the information requested and required by the council office.

**Motion:**

"That the Westside Neighborhood Council support the Celebrate Israel Festival Event, which is scheduled to take place on April 29, 2012, conditioned upon and subject to the individuals responsible for the Celebrate Israel Event meeting with all the requisite City of Los Angeles Agencies to formalize and finalize their plans in full compliance with each Agency's requirements, including but not limited to LAPD, LAFD, BSS, Rec/Parks, and LADOT; and, additionally subject to meeting the requirements and obtaining the approval of CD5."

**Motion By: Bob Guerin**

**Second by: Jerry Asher**

**Motion Passed: 10 - 1 (Seat 5) - 3 (Seats 2, 12, 14)**

## **5. Committee Updates and Reports**

**Terri Tippit, Chair**

### **Redistricting**

Terri updated on the Council Map Area Redistricting Terri said the potential boundary changes do not look to impact and affect our WNC area. She stated the importance of the WNC staying intact within one council district. She said unless anything unforeseen occurs, City Council District 5 will be relatively unchanged compared to some other city council districts.

She noted that every decade, following the completion of the census, governmental jurisdictions on the federal, state, county, city and school district levels have to go through a redistricting process reflecting various legal requirements related to demographic shifts, which often leads to changes in the boundaries that individual elected officials represent. The City of Los Angeles has completed much of its redistricting process (though formal and final approval is still required, and must be accomplished by July 1).

Additional information is available at the website  
<http://redistricting2011.lacity.org/LACITY/default.html>.

### **DWP Memorandum**

**NC-DWP Memorandum of Understanding Oversight motion to extend current MOU**

The NC-DWP Memorandum of Understanding Oversight motion was reviewed.

**Motion By: Melissa**

WNC moves support an extension of the current Memorandum of Understanding with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power for a minimum term of two years and a maximum term of five years, which term shall be determined by a resolution of the Board of Water and Power Commissioners that concurs with the extension of this agreement.

**Second By: Shannon**

**Motion Passed: 12 - 0 - 4 (Seats 3, 6, 12, 15)**

## **Election Task Force**

Terri stated: The WNC is large with over 80,000 stakeholders and it is costly and expensive to cover for this. With elections uncertain – once a date were to be set – we would have to work backward 120 days. There are also funding constraints.

The election task force motions were reviewed.

### **Election Task Force Motions**

1. Election Task Force recommends that Neighborhood Councils will run their own elections or selections at such time, place, and manner of their choice with assistance of the Department Of Neighborhood Empowerment (Department) as it is capable
2. Election Task Force encourages Neighborhood Councils to run elections cooperatively and, if desired, to conduct regional elections with the assistance of the Department.
3. Regions are to be established by Neighborhood Councils and their regional alliances.
4. Neighborhood Council elections or selections should be monitored or overseen by a trained, independent third party.
5. Election Task Force requests the City Council to allocate in the FY 2012-13 budget, the amount of \$650,000 to the Department for additional staffing and resources for the Neighborhood Council election process.
6. Election Task Force requests that the City Council expedite the process for contracting Independent Election Administrators and staffing associated with Neighborhood Council elections which should not exceed 60 days.
7. Election Task Force recommends to Neighborhood Councils the inclusion of independent poll watchers as part of their elections.
8. Election challenges must be heard and decided by arbiters hired and paid for by the Department.

**Motion By: Lisa**

The WNC moves to support Election Task Force Motions when an election date is certain and DONE receives the funding needed for the election process.

**Second By: Drew**

**Motion Passed: 13 - 0 - 3 (Seats 6, 12, 15)**

**Lisa Morocco:**

- **Plant Pico Report & Pick Pico June 1 – 3, 2012**

Lisa presented an update and reviewed the details and schedule for Plant Pico on Saturday, February 11, 2012, with breakfast commencing at 7:30AM at LAFD Station 92.

Lisa reviewed the activities of Plant Pico Day and noted it was made possible through the Million trees LA Program with contributions from JMB Realty. She said it was a tremendous success and 65 Flowering Pear trees were planted in approved areas per the WNC Pico Beautification Plan.

She stated and that a Two Year Maintenance Contract was also a part of the grant received.

Lisa said: over 260 volunteered their time to plant trees. Religious groups, Community and HOA's from the area were well represented. CD5 staff and Councilman Koretz came to help.

LAFD Station 92 went through hundreds of pancakes and gallons of juice to serve over 200 people at the Pancake Breakfast.

The Pick Pico Bags were distributed to all volunteers as the first outreach effort for Pick Pico event planned for June 1 – 3, 2012.

Lisa thanked everyone for their work and support. She said the event was a huge success for the community and gave a broader database for the outreach committee and was a great outreach tool for the WNC. She added the Plant Pico cost was \$1005.72

- **Tennessee Speed Hump Update**

Lisa updated overall there was not much progress and said CD5 is trying but has not been able to make progress. Ms. Morocco asked Barbara Broide to discuss the current status and outreach.

Barbara stated that she is still working with city; and Westwood South HOA paid for an attorney to talk to Rich Llewellyn; and they have also hired a traffic engineer. She noted a meeting is planned to include her, Joan Pelico, Lisa Morocco, DOT and stakeholders within the area bounded by Beverly Glen, Pico, Prosser, and Olympic. Barbara said she understands that not everyone in the area will be able to attend; however, she believes there needs to be a plan for the whole area. She does not want to shift traffic from one street to another. Barbara said the no right turn sign during peak hours on Almayo at Beverly Glen is the reason for the traffic on Tennessee in her opinion. She stated that 8 individuals came to their last WSSM meeting.

Lisa asked Barbara if there was any set date for this community meeting and expressed her concern - that this process was, in November, at an end and now it appears that the process is back at the beginning. Lisa asked whether the thrust of what WSSM is trying to accomplish is based on WSSM's position that they are not in favor of speed humps on Tennessee. Barbara responded that she had concerns because she has now heard from several people on Tennessee that they are not in favor of speed humps; and, Barbara stated that WSSM is not against speed humps on Tennessee, WSSM does not want to pay for speed humps on Tennessee. However, she recognizes that so long as the City mandate does not require that everyone be in favor of humps on a street; and understanding now, in answer to a previous question Barbara raised as to whether there is an expiration date on the petitions, that there is no expiration date, "we" are not in a position to fight it. Barbara asserted that two years ago that WSSM's wish list included a request for a combination of speed humps and stop signs; and said that "we've" been talking to CD5 all along. Barbara also noted that one person on the WSSM board resigned and two more are threatening to resign because of liability concerns. Barbara assured that in the upcoming 4 weeks there would be a meeting held. Lisa says she/we are concerned as this has gone on too long. ( The was a question for Barbara to clarify whom she referred to by use of the words "we" and "area". She clarified - We – WSSM and Area - WSSM. )

Mike Eveloff stated that this went through a city mandated process and was ready to go; and, studying other things at this point is irrelevant because of lack of money. Barbara responded that if the issue is safety related, DOT will do it; and, a case for stop signs can be made if safety related.

Mike also noted responding to Barbara's statement that WSSM is now concerned about liability; and, he stated there are a number of organizations that will take and shield liability.

Ken Wengrod, who lives on Tennessee, took the floor. Mr. Wengrod felt the comments made were the most disingenuous comments he has heard since the beginning of this situation. He asserted that Ms. Broide doesn't live on his street. The humps were ready to be installed and now WSSM wants to do studies which he believes is a stonewalling tactic. He asked what right do you have to alter that? Barbara Broide responded that she does not; that this is not a recall. Mr. Wengrod stated that he what troubles him is the failure to respond and assist. How much money did his community get for speed humps? Mr. Wengrod stated that there were community people who wrote to WSSM. He named several people who wrote letters to WSSM from Tennessee and said they received no response. Mr. Wengrod expressed frustration that WSSM is ignoring what the City already approved. Barbara Broide insisted that she was not ignoring what the city has approved.

Jerry Asher expressed concerns over the Mr. Wengrod's attitude to the WNC Board. Mr. Wengrod responded that he is a stakeholder and he did everything procedurally right. He

said WSSM agreed to use funds they had received on behalf of the community, and he needed to voice this to the WNC.

Barbara Broide asserted again that they (WSSM) have now discovered a huge insurance liability. She said she has gone out to raise money to get this done.

Ms. Morocco noted that the WNC can't compel WSSM to pay. A WNC board member asked if WSSM is objecting to the speed humps. Barbara Broide responded that she is not objecting to the speed humps; that she is in no position to say no to a city process.

Mr. Guerin stated that the WNC is an advisory board and WNC should write a letter to WSSM. Mr. Guerin inquired if the WNC can take action regarding WSSM and Terri also stated the WNC could not compel WSSM.

Mr. Wengrod then questioned how much WSSM received for the Tennessee speed humps and asked to confirm if it was approximately \$8,000. Barbara Broide stated that no funds were specifically earmarked.

Lisa Morocco said the good news is there will be an outreach meeting for Tennessee residents and any stakeholders and interested parties.

Stakeholder Jerry Tsai briefly discussed the Veteran speed humps and questioning why it could be done for Veteran and not Tennessee. Lisa and others explained there was much more history for that – those people came in person to make the request when we had many things on the wish list; and that when those on Veteran came, there was a very short window and a contractor to do that work - that avenue closed back in August.

A stakeholder from Tennessee, Ann, stated that she lives 3 blocks west of Beverly Glen, and has lived there for 20 years. She went to WSSM's last meeting for the first time and the WNC meeting and said she was not in favor of speed humps on Tennessee.

## **Westside Neighborhood Council Treasurer's Report**

Lisa Morocco presented the WNC Treasurer's report which is included herein as follows:

### **WNC Treasurer Report - March 8th, 2012**

**July 1st 2011- March 1st 2012**

**Starting Balance**

**\$40,500.00**

**100 Operations Starting Balance  
(\$2025.00)**

**Verizon 557.24**

**Earthlink 263.20**

**Badges/Name Plates 59.50**

**Sketch Farm Design 274.38**

**Total Spent**

**-\$1,154.32**

**Remaining Balance 100 Operations**

**\$870.68**

**200 Outreach Starting Balance  
(\$12,150.00)**

**TMH Poster at WSP 172.72**

**CC Emerg. Prepare Day 40.76**

**Bus Shelter Poster 361.46**

**CVS Photos of Events 13.35**

**Total Spent**

**\$500.00**

**Remaining Balance 200 Outreach**  
**\$11,561.71**

**300 Community Improvement Starting Balance**  
**(\$26,325.00)**

**Schools**

Westwood Charter 2,600.00

Overland Avenue

**Pico Beautification**

LAPD/LAFD 6,581.25

Library 3,948.75

LA Parks 5,265.00

**Total Spent**

**\$18,395.00**

**Remaining Balance 300 Community Improvement**

**\$7,929.99**

**Ending Balance**

**\$20,362.39**

Lisa stated that Overland School made an error in paying vendors for their requested items and the WNC is currently working with the school to determine what other items Overland School may need and will present this at the WNC April meeting.

She noted she will also be presenting in April ideas for items for Pico Beautification so Funds left in 100/ Operations is projected to be exhausted.

She added we have a significant amount in 200/ Outreach and it is not committed. She is open for ideas. Also, Lisa said she will hold an Outreach/Pick Pico meeting on 3/12/12 to discuss options for fund usage to present to board in April.

Lisa requested and asked everyone for ideas for spending remaining funds; noting, this must be fully explored and presented in April 2012 to ensure payment in this fiscal year and in order not to LOSE these funds.

Barbara asked if the board would consider sidewalk repair. Lisa responded requesting that Barbara research and gather the information and if it fits within the budget bring it to WNC to consider.

### **WNC Funding Approval for up to \$650 for WNC laptop**

Terri and Lisa stated the WNC laptop computer is 8 years old and we need a new one. Lisa asked for an allowance of \$650.

**Motion By: Lisa**

The WNC moves to fund up to \$650 for a WNC laptop.

**Second By: Shannon**

**Motion Passes Unanimous 16 - 0 - 0**

**Officer Rashad:**

- **LAPD Update**  
**Police Service Rep Amy Case 911 Operator, LAPD Communication presentation**

Officer Rashad and LAPD gave an update on crime and burglary in the area. It was noted that while reported incidents of crime are down, the break –ins in the area continue.

Officer Rashad discussed burglaries in area and said there were no suspects – areas were north and south of Pico. Yesterday he said that flyers were passed out flyers north of Pico. He noted most of these were entering through rear yard and smashing glass to gain access.

Officer Rashad reported issues on the Expo line: Starting construction behind Overland Elementary, the construction workers tell him that they are working from Sepulveda to Overland, and east of Overland; and, they are concerned that people are walking in there as locks have been cut and items stolen.

Terri said DWP is moving lines, relocating and putting in new lines. Pipelines are coming in for getting ready for Expo and she does not believe it is the Expo authority. Officer Rashad reported that some worker told him they're starting to bring in trucks and adults are walking dogs in the area. They want the word out that they are enforcing the no trespassing signs. The area is east of Overland.

Bob Guerin said there was an armed robbery on Cavendish a few weeks ago.

Stakeholder Aaron Rosenfield discussed the theft of copper wiring and all the wiring on the street. Melissa Kenady noted Kelton lights have all been out and the city workers were repairing today. Mr. Rosenfield said his bike was stolen in Westwood yesterday and it was locked. Officer Rashad noted that even balconies bikes are no longer safe from theft.

A question was raised regarding bike licensing and Barbara Broide asked if it was a good idea to have information etched onto bikes. Officer Rashad explained that the City does no longer does bike licensing. Police now has forms (which he will get in 2 weeks) to fill out with description information of bikes in case of theft.

Ms. Tippit wanted to know about barking dog ordinance and how it works. Officer Rashad said Amy Case, 911 operator, who accompanied him to the meeting knows details. Amy said this falls under Animal Regulation and will follow up in response.

Officer Rashad added on Santa Monica & Beverly Glen he had two days ago there were distraction burglaries. The suspects claimed they were from the gas company and needed to gain access to repair a back line. He asked to get the word out – not to let anyone in – these generally target the elderly and naive.

As always, the Officer Rashad again urged everyone to be vigilant and to watch out for your neighbors.

Officer Rashad introduced PSR Amy Case.

Amy is the 911 operator. (PSR = Police Service Representative.) Amy said that they have two centers, one downtown, one in the valley. She explained the 911 calls get routed to the valley and most calls come in on cell phone. Their Box shows the name, address phone number of the caller.

Mike Eveloff asked how long to determine an emergency call. Amy Case stated “Right away”. It can be 5-6 seconds and for emergency calls the operators generally stay on the line until help arrives.

She said the Fire Department dispatches completely different than the police. Explaining, Police are out on patrol and the Fire Dept waits for things to happen. LAFD has its' own dispatch and you speak directly to them. They cut to the chase, but they are not civilians. Often dealing with health emergency; don't wait to find out.

Amy explained the 911 goes to LAPD. “ If you are telling them your husband is lying on the ground, it goes immediately to paramedics. They can tell immediately the location of a person if calling from a landline. But if a cell phone, they know the cell tower it's coming from, so general but not exact location.”

Barbara Broide stated that she has been down to one of the centers. Amy said that they like having people come down and see how they work. She added that even if your phone is cut off, if you dial 911 it will work.

Terri and the WNC thanked Amy for coming. Officer Rashad said if you want Amy to come out to groups to speak please give her a month notice to schedule

**Dimitri De Silva:  
CD5 Update**

Dimitri acknowledged that CD5 will follow up on the areas discussed regarding the Celebrate Israel Event planned for April 29<sup>th</sup> and said that he would update Terri with progress on all requirements and related details.

Dimitri briefly updated on current issues including the success of Plant Pico and the overall City coordination and efficiencies of the Pico paving. He stated that Danny Leon, Superintendent LA Street Services, and the crews did a great job, including expediting the lane striping.  
(For information or questions email to [danny.leon@lacity.org](mailto:danny.leon@lacity.org).)

**6. Public Forum**

Whitney, The Westside Pavilion, announced upcoming events including Foster kids. She said beginning on April 1st, they will be collecting plastic bags and for every 10 they will give you a reusable bag to help celebrate earth day. She invited everyone to come and shop, noted that Nordstrom has spend \$25 million renovating and they will no longer lease to retailers/traditional pet stores with live animals.

Naty Saidoff and Sham Evenhaim spoke in support of the Celebrate Israel Event. They commented on the planners capability to work with the WNC, CD5 and the community to make it a safe and successful event.

Arturo Martinez stated that the WNC needs to more closely monitor and enforce the time; limiting speakers to two minutes. The importance of civility was stressed, noting that everyone should treat people the way we ourselves like to be treated.

Bob Guerin agreed and commented that we need to be more cognizant of adhering to parliamentary procedure in the WNC meetings.

Brandon Behrstock added that these were positive and good points. He stated the meetings would be improved with a more formal structure.

**Motion to Adjourn At 10:15PM**

**Motion By: Shannon**

**Second By: Arturo**

**Motion Passed Unanimous 15 – 0 – 0**

**Submitted By Recording Secretary**

