

Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday November 14, 2013
7:00 P.M.
Westside Pavilion 10800 W. Pico
Meeting Room A

1. **Call to order** at 7:05 p.m. by Terri Tippit, WNC Chair
Admonishments to board and audience on silencing/turning off cell phones

Present:

John Padden, seat 1
Lisa Morocco, seat 2
Brandon Behrstock, (alt) seat 3
Steve Spector, seat 4
Barbara Broide, seat 7
Terri Tippit, seat 8
Drew DeAscentis, seat 9
Richard Harmetz, seat 10 (Mr. Harmetz left the meeting at 8:00)
Mary Kusnic, seat 11
Colleen Mason-Heller, seat 12 (arrived at 7:12 p.m.)
Francesca Beale-Rosano, (alt) seat 13
Shannon Burns, seat 14
Eric Shabsis, seat 15
Melissa Kenady, seat 16
Aaron Rosenfield, seat 17

We have a quorum

2. **Approval of October 10, 2013 minutes**

No changes.

Minutes approved 10-0-4 (Seats 1, 3, 13, 17)

3. **Out of Order: Public Forum (Part 1):**

Steve Sann from the Westwood Community Council invited the WNC and community members to Arts Restore LA in Westwood: a month-long initiative that aims to re-energize Westwood Village with the creative force of local Angeleno artisans and craftspeople. It is a curated retail

pop-up village that started on November 1, 2013 and will continue through November 24, 2013 Thursday - Sunday.

4. **Los Angeles Police Department Report**

- A. Officer Rashad discussed
 - (1) Property crimes – past week on 7th break-in at 2300 Malcolm; also a break in at Bourbon Street Shrimp (soon to be called “Gulp”).
 - (2) 2 car break ins in his area
 - (3) There is now a flyer on copper wire thefts in connections with the copper wires thefts in the last 4 years
 - (4) Officer Rashad thanked the WNC members for bringing cans to the meeting. He noted that there will be a WLA food drive on 11/24/13 from 11 - 3 at their station. Drive up and officers will take.

- B. Officer Mario Gonzalez; east side Overland discussed
 - (1) Holiday season and thefts following UPS deliveries. Noted that one can use their cell phone to track package and be home when package arrives.
 - (2) Neighborhood Watch and recent meeting with Cheviot. Officer Rashad noted that if anyone in his area is interested, they’ll set up meeting.

- C. LAPD Vice – Officer Gaffney.
Were present to discuss what they do. Discussed prostitution and massage parlors. Concerns raised re: the proliferation of massage parlors in the area. Officer Gaffney noted it was Problem is third party and state. Licensing issues. Any concerns, contact Officer Gaffney at 310 444-1513.

- D. Officer Pete Ojeda (Vice). Discussed annual Baker to Vegas run. They run, around 20 officers. 120 miles. Second officer Espin on Baker to Vegas discussed. Asking for support. Asked to have logos on the back and they’re really small. Has paperwork and invoice from last year. Handed out request for 60 jackets. Cost is \$1,699.75 (inclusive of tax). WNC Chair noted cannot seek approval for costs until January because it has to be on the agenda. Sign up is now \$2,100 for entry fee. Biggest cost is medical. We can’t vote until January 8th. JM Printing has done this in the past and is ok to wait for check. Easy to work with. The owner is a retired police officer.

5. **Fire Department Report**

Guy Tomlinson of Battalion 18 fire department. Ray Keen and himself present. They were at the LAX shooting. Captain Harvey detailed to write a report. Talked about the community being prepared. Change batteries in smoke detector. Discussed the fire on Wilshire at Barrington Plaza, and the fact that the fire spread due to leaving doors open. Do NOT leave doors open when there’s a fire. Closing doors will buy time to get out and keep the fire from spreading. LAFD.ORG has tips on safety including videos. Hit news and information tab.

Reminded people about CERT.

6. **Out of Order: Public Forum (Part 2):**

- A. Barbara Broide (seat 7 did announcement on science programs this weekend at UCLA.
- B. Laura Campfield from Palms Park spoke. Invites to Mar Vista Recreation Center. Nov. 21st at 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. on budget discussions. Lost a lot of money. Laparks.org to see. Please fill out community input form.
- C. Sheila, CD5. Noted CD5 was in the final stages of hiring her replacement. Should know soon. Sheila will still be a liaison to our area. Heard that later this week we should know. Will come with new person next month.

7. **Regular Agenda**

- A. **Presentation on Feed-In Tariff Program and Bay Delta Conservation Plan.**
Laura Mack. LA Business Council and Andy Shrader, Deputy of Environmental Affairs & Sustainability for CD5 discussed.

Laura stated that the program allows commercial and multi-family to create energy from roof tops and sell back to customers. 17 tariff projects in area have been submitted. State mandated. Senate Bill 29 that requires the pricing to be fixed. Some are auction based, but outside the basin. In the basin are fixed prices.

Andy Shrader talked about rate payer advocate and Mr. Pickle. Mar Visa community council brought it up. He comes at it from strictly financial point of view. Asked Mr. Pickle to come up with externalities. Difference is that it changes what appears on the balance sheet to what in reality.

Saritta Peruri: Solar provider group. Toronto based organization on solar energy. Olympic/Bundy is where the projects are going up. 5 small rooftops in that area. Hiring 30 professional.

Motion: Ratepayer Advocate Account for Externalities. (Motion attached to Minutes) Lisa moves. Eric seconds. PASSED: 14-0-0

Motion: Bay Delta Conservation Plan. Andy Shrader asked the WNC to oppose the plan, so hard to get head around it. Cost benefit analysis needed. They're coming out with EIR next month. 10,000 pages. Not transparent. Motion (Motion attached to Minutes) asks ratepayer advocate for independent peer reviewed CBA of impact to our area. Shannon moves.

Barbara seconds. PASSED 14-0-0.

B. **Presentation by Martin Rubin of Airport2Parks (CRAAP and A2P)** Re: Santa Monica Airport and request to support an “Airport to Park” effort to replace SMO with a park including lots of open space. Discussed proximity of airport to residential and coalition of individuals fighting impacts over the year. If airport closes, what will happen? Wants it to be a park if closed. Lots of traffic. Don’t want development. Wants access to airports in other areas that are safer. No jet curfew on landings, but only on take offs. Member of audience disputed this. Asking for support. Got support of Sierra Club. Neighborhoods around area are supporting it. MVCC. On agenda for WLANC and Venice CC.

Issue is in 2015 it may close. A 1984 settlement agreement said the City of SM will not close before that date. Question is whether it will or will not close.

Frank Gruber also from Airport2Park.org added to Marty Rubin’s comments. This is a 2 billion dollar piece of property and we want positive politics with City Council of SM. Waxman paying more attention to it. City of LA and State of California also involved to make the decision. SM City Council sued federal government about airport.

Community discussion:

Eric Shabsis talked about substantial bond issuance. He was concern as to how to fund, since there will be significant remediation. Financial aspect is a big bit. For example, \$30 million for Grant Park.

Presenters stated there would be a meeting on January 30th at SM Main Library MLK. 6:30 p.m. registration. Program 7:00 p.m. The park won’t be as detailed as Grant Park. Will be open fields.

Motion to make policy. Drew makes motion. Colleen makes friendly amendment to include a change: **In the event that the SM Airport closes**, WNC supports the efforts of Airport to Park in lieu of private development and urges the City of Santa Monica, City of Los Angeles, the County of Los Angeles, California State, and Federal legislatures as well as all appropriate Federal agencies and administrations to work toward this end. Drew accepts the friendly amendment to his motion. Colleen seconds.

Discussion: Eric Shabsis doesn’t understand all of the information to consider the motion and feels premature to support. Mary comments. Feels need to hear from Airport. Lisa agrees. So does Eric. Terri wants to know who the officials are that we need to hear from.

PASSED 9-3 (seats 1,2, 15)-2 (seats 11, 14).

C. (D on the agenda). **Presentations by Colleen Mason Heller**

(1) **Update on Housing Element Ordinance and Motion.**

Colleen Mason Heller introduced Carlyle Hall – a resident of Cheviot HOA. He is also an attorney and involved in land use issues for a long period of time. Carlyle was here to discuss so-called “granny flats” (ADUs), and the legislative attempts to go forward with ordinances.

Carlyle discussed the 2009 efforts made by the City of LA regarding ADUs and the community meetings. He noted that since the ‘80’s, legislature required cities to have ordinances for standards vs. default state standards. State standards are generous to developers. In 2009 the City of LA conducted a study, to either tighten up or loosen standards. State said ministerial. Can put in 2nd unit by right. Was always done by discretion, but now it’s by right. Gail Goldberg pulled the study after many HOA and communities said don’t do anything. Michael LoGrande issued a memo behind closed doors as chief zoning administrator. Because no changes, we will now follow state standards, allowing generous. That was 2010.

Motion: Whereas the City of Los Angeles is in the process of updating the Housing Element of the City’s General Plan and while the WNC takes no position on the suitability of granny flats or Second Dwelling Units in our neighborhoods, or the design standards that should apply to such flats, I move that the Westside Neighborhood Council OPPOSING ANY City ordinance approving granny flats which uses the default standards of the State of California, but rather the City should not deviate from the local City standards affirmed in 2003 unless and until the City has conducted broad outreach and prepared an appropriate study to address this important issue.

Motion was made by Colleen, with friendly amendment made by Barbara (accepted by Colleen). Melissa seconds. PASSED 12-0-2 (seats 11, 14)

(2) **Motor Avenue Concerns and Motion.**

Colleen Mason Heller brought up concerns raised by the Cheviot Hills community over efforts in the last few years to alter the traffic control plan entered into by the City to relieve congestion caused by development in Century City. Colleen reported that Carlyle Hall helped craft the agreement. There was a settlement with the City of Los Angeles for traffic control mitigation in Cheviot Hills and Beverlywood. The developer put in traffic signals on live basis. These signals would be reasonably effective on moving traffic on arterials. The City of LA agreed to a traffic control plan. Motor Avenue was to be the indicator of a test to see if could get traffic down and a cap was put on it. One was on North side of Motor instead of 2 left, they put one. At national to the south to keep traffic out. A few businesses on Motor at National that got it. There was a regional review.

Cheviot Hills residents have learned that Councilmember Koretz is being hounded by developers and family who owns property on Motor and want their real estate to be more valuable. CM Koretz feels he has to give back, but Cheviot is concerned that what will happen will violate the terms of the Settlement Agreement entered into by the City of LA. Motion is when City makes a contract, it should be honored.

Motion: Whereas the public has every expectation that agreements sanctioned by the City of Los Angeles, I move that the Westside Neighborhood Council support the legally negotiated CCNTMP traffic control program, and that any necessary changes are made they be consistent with the intention of the agreement, including the commitment that no mitigation be changed unless replaced by alternate mitigation that is equal to or more effective than that being replaced.

Motion made by Colleen. Eric seconds. Brief discussion and colloquy.
PASSED: 10-1 (7) - 3 (4, 11, 13).

D. (C on agenda). **Treasurer's report.**

(1) Lisa informed the WNC that the starting balance as of last month's meeting was \$30,315.97 and the ending balance as of 11/14/13 is \$29,163.37. In short, \$763.57 was spent for the WNC outreach keychains and \$350 webmaster fee, for a total spent of \$1,113.57

Motion: Mary makes motion to approve Treasurer's Report. Melissa 2nds.
PASSES: 13-0-0

(2) Lisa requests approval of up to \$1,600 for Overland School for laminating machine. She explains the purpose and a letter from Overland Charter explaining the need.

Motion: Lisa makes motion to approve up to \$1,600 for Overland School for laminating machine; Shannon seconds. Brief discussion on expense and whether other schools have requested funding. PASSED: 13-0-0

(3) Rancho Park Library needs funding for collection materials.

Motion: Lisa moves for approval for up to \$1,000 to Friends of Palms/Rancho Park Library for collection materials that will include college preparation, language, and children's collections. Colleen seconds. PASSED: 13-0-0.

(4) Lisa updated the WNC and discussed the Walk Pico Grant and outreach. There will be an I Heart Pico Kick-Off on February 9, 2014. The Mayor has been invited. Trying to determine location. Lisa working on it. Explaining grant to the public and celebrating same. Zev will be there. It will be an afternoon event.

E. Terri Tippit (Chair) Report.

(1) Terri discussed the 2014 Officer Nominating Committee. They will include Melissa Kenady, Colleen Mason Heller, and Aaron Rosenfield.

(2) Since the WNC usually cancels its December meeting, Terri questioned whether it should be canceled this year. The consensus was yes, but concerns over whether it would cause a very long January meeting.

(3) Terri sought a volunteer to create a WNC Motion Log from the Minutes. If anyone wants to volunteer, please contact Terri.

Motion to adjourn:

Shannon

Mary seconded

Unanimous

Adjourned: 10:05 p.m.