

Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 14, 2015
7:00 P.M.
Westside Pavilion
10800 W. Pico

1. Call to Order

Call to order: 7:10 PM

By Terri Tippit, WNC Chair

Attendance:

Jae Wu (Seat 1)

Lisa Morocco (Seat 2)

Brandon Behrstock (Seat 3)

Steve Spector (Seat 4)

David Burke (Seat 5)

Sarah Shaw (Seat 6)

Barbara Broide (Seat 7)

Terri Tippit (Seat 8)

Jeff Hronek (Seat 9 Alternate)

Stacy Antler (Seat 10)

Mary Kusnic (Seat 11)

Francesca Beale-Rosano (Seat 13)

Shannon Burns (Seat 14)

Eric Shabsis (Seat 15)

Lisa Tabor (Seat 16)

Aaron Rosenfield (Seat 17)

Absent:

Colleen Mason Heller (Seat 12)

2. Agenda Items:

New Business:

A) Approval of April 9, 2015 Minutes:

Minutes were reviewed and discussed, with no changes submitted.

Motion to approve: Ms. Morocco

Second: Ms. Kusnic

Passed, 13-0-3

Seats in favor - 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,11,13,14,15,16,17

Seats abstaining - 1, 9, 10

B) LAPD Report:

Rashad Sharif and associate police officer – Catalytic convertors are being stolen throughout the city. They are easy to saw off the bottom of the car and then are resold or melted down for metal components. If yours is stolen, your car will be very loud. The convertor converts Carbon Monoxide to Carbon Dioxide and reduces noise. Hondas and Toyotas have been the primary targets. You can get a safety lock, but whether they actually work is unknown. The lower the car, the better. Lock doors and park under the lights or in garages.

Burglaries:

- (1) 2700 Blk. Overland Ave. On 04/22/15 between 0800 and 1545 hrs, unknown suspect(s) gained entry into victim's residence by prying open a window and removed a shotgun and iPhones.**
- (2) 10300 Blk. W. Olympic Blvd On 04/23/15 between 0900 and 1430 hrs, unknown suspect(s) gained entry into a hotel room by using a keycard and removed t-shirts and a duffle bag.**
- (3) 2100 Blk. Overland Ave. On 04/30/15 between 0830 and 1600 hrs, unknown suspect(s) entered victim's residence by prying open window and removed jewelry.**
- (4) 10700 Blk. Richland Ave. On 05/03/15 1600 hrs to 05/05/15 0710 hrs, unknown suspect(s) pried open rear door to residence and removed tools.**

Ms. Broide – On the block of 2000 Malcolm there was a burglary where person gained entrance through the doggie door. Doggie doors should be locked when not in use.

Car break in's – 8 in total occurred, some of which were:

- (1) 10300 Blk. Almayo Ave. On 04/20/15 2000 hrs to 04/21/15 0830 hrs, unknown suspect(s) removed wheels and tires from victim's vehicle and left vehicle on plastic crates.**
- (2) 2000 Blk. Glendon Ave. On 05/05/15 2300 hrs to 05/03/15 0900 hrs, unknown suspect(s) used a remote to unlock victim's vehicle and removed the side mirrors.**
- (3) Pico Blvd/Sawtelle Blvd. On 05/05/15 between 1730 and 1740 hrs, unknown suspect(s) entered victim's unlocked vehicle and removed an iPhone, iPad, backpack and book which were located on the back seat.**
- (4) 1900 Blk. Beverly Glen Blvd. On 05/12/15 2200 hrs to 05/13/15 0730 hrs, unknown suspect(s) entered victim's unlocked vehicle and removed an airsoft gun, sunglasses, clothing and knife which were located on the front passenger seat.**

On Amazon, people can now buy a universal remote that is easily programmable to unlock car doors.

Mario Gonzales – 2 break in's occurred on McConnel Place. The suspects were taken into custody.

Suspects can be ID'ed through fingerprints and DNA so it is important not to contaminate crime scenes.

The first Tuesday in August will be National Night Out. The location is TBD, but has been at Stoner Park in the past.

Ms. Tippit – What are the LAPD doing for Pick Pico?

Officer. Sharif – We have put in a request for some things. We will be present at Pick Pico.

C) Public Comment:

Todd Berson, Metabolic Project – Longtime resident. Went to Union High School. Issues occurring on Pontius Ave. 5-7 RVs every night parked all night. Excrement being left on property. Graffiti along the street.

Ms. Tippit – Need to look into getting restricted parking for the area.

Mr. Berson – We are shooting for parking meters. That can bring revenue to the City as well.

Ms. Broide – We are playing a game where we post signs and the problem moves. It would be great if there was an effort to organize the businesses in the area.

Mr. Berson – Regarding an RV parked for several days, I called everyday: 1 (800) ABANDON. On the twenty first day, they told me that they did not have the RV recorded in the system.

Ms. Tippit – That is not a City number you called.

Mr. Berson – I just wanted to make the WNC aware of what has been going on the street. That specific person was ultimately ticketed.

Mr. Shabsis – These problems are occurring as a result of people coming to our neighborhood because it is nice and safe. There was an LA Times article that covered how people are more and more moving into RVs. The people are not going away. We should look at using City land parcels for people to stay.

Ms. Antler – The City has a 311 App that creates a record and logs specific problems with the City that are in need of fixing. Problems are often fixed the next day.

Mr. Berson –I know the City has a spot being looked at for RV parking by LAX.

Ms. Morocco – We have been dealing with this problem on Pontius for over a year.

Ms. Broide – We should look at addressing it through WRAC.

Patrick MacFarlane, Staff for Sebastian Ridley Thomas – Assemblyman has submitted 26 bills. 15 of those are in committee and 2 on the floor. AB 446 would allow the Baldwin Hills Conservancy to keep getting state funding. The Assemblyman is really focused on mental health. He has been hosting college readiness forums at UCLA. We are active on twitter and Facebook. More info at: <http://asmdc.org/members/a54/>.

Ms. Tippit – We are looking forward to seeing the Assemblyman at Pick Pico. Please also extend an invitation to Supervisor Ridley-Thomas.

Norm Bernier, West LA Chamber of Commerce, normanbernier@hotmail.com, 310-441-2900 - 2 Events coming up: (1) After Hours Mixer with Chamber Member Bahar Soomekh at Delphi Greek, 1383 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025, Thursday, May 21, 5:30-7:30 PM. \$20 with free parking at Ross. (2) First Wednesday Breakfast, June 3, 2015, 7:15 AM - 9:00 AM featuring Councilman Paul Koretz. 11301 Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064. \$45 with free parking. More info at: <http://www.westlachamber.org>.

Laura Campfield, Facilities Director at Palms Recreation Center. Happy to be showing the Summer 2015 Series: (1) Rio on June 24, (2) The Lego Movie on July 8, (3) Mulan on July 22 and (4) Ice Age on August 5. It is a free event at Palms Park. The events begin at dusk. The snack booth will have popcorn, hot cocoa and candy for \$1. More info: (310) 838-3838. Thank you to the WNC for sponsorship and to FOX.

Ms. Morocco – The WNC trailer is still being showed before the movies.

D) Liz Zaninovich, BevMo!, Director of Corporate Real Estate, 1401 Willow Pass Rd #900, Concord CA, (925) 609-6153, zaninovich@BevMo!.com – Request to extend business hours and to apply for a new ABC Type 86 license.

The current hours of business are: Sunday: 10 AM – 7 PM and Monday – Saturday: 9 AM – 9 PM.

BevMo! requests business hours be extended to: 7 AM – 11 PM daily.

BevMo! is looking for consistency amongst its stores. There is a need for longer hours during the holiday season (Oct 1 – Jan 2). Otherwise, basic need is to be open 9 AM daily and to close at 9 PM M-Th, 10 PM F-Sat, and 8 PM on Sun. Having longer business hours gives flexibility.

Currently, BevMo! has a Type 42 license for beer and wine sales. BevMo! is applying for a Type 86 permit that allows Vendors to promote spirits. The Vendor must serve the spirits. Only one Vendor with one type of alcohol can be sold each day. 15 other BevMo! stores currently have the Type 86 permit. Under the permit, the Vendor is required to educate the customer on the product, which covers things like history, how it's served, production, etc.

Ms. Broide – I would like to invite you to our HOA to discuss this in greater depth.

Ms. Tippit – This is on the agenda, we are going to take a vote tonight.

Ms. Broide – When is it coming before the ABC?

Ms. Zaninovich – We have not submitted an application as of yet.

Ms. Broide – I would ask the board to wait until neighbors can hear about this matter.

Ms. Tippit – Have there been any complaints about BevMo! in the neighborhood?

Ms. Broide – The church I know has been impacted.

Ms. Shabsis – I have to recuse myself for this issue, as I represent BevMo! on certain matters. When BevMo! submitted their initial application there were some complaints from Alcoholics Anonymous that uses the church facility. Alcoholics Anonymous made the decision not to appeal the conditional use permit and there have been no issues for five years.

Ms. Zaninovich/Mr. Shabsis – A relationship has been developed with the General Manger and the adjacent condominium complex. There was an issue in December as a maintenance contractor performed maintenance at an unscheduled time outside business hours. The resident was happy the General Manager handled the incident once it occurred. The CEO also made a call to the resident. BevMo! has been involved with the community, providing auction items to Westwood Charter and Overland. Six months after BevMo! opened, as a courtesy, they came to give an update on how things were going.

Ms. Tippit – Has the HOA received any complaints in five years?

Ms. Broide – I believe Marilyn has, but I would need to check. I believe there may be questions on single sale beverages.

Ms. Tippit – No complaints on anyone falling down drunk?

Ms. Broide – I don't know. I have not done outreach on this.

Ms. Zaninovich – I would be happy to meet with the HOA. We want to be a good member of the community.

Mr. Shabsis – I looked up the code provisions. The existing conditions already exclude the sale of singles and problematic beverages that tend to lead to loitering.

Ms. Antler – I want to ask a clarifying question. Is it true when a spirit Vendor is at BevMo! that beer/wine are not served that day?

Ms. Zaninovich – That is correct.

Ms. Antler – Currently beer/wine are served on the same day?

Ms. Zaninovich – Yes, currently...We charge for the beer and wine, but do not charge for the spirits.

Ms. Morocco – Is it advertised?

Ms. Zaninovich – Email advertising occurs. No radio or tv. In store signs may be posted.

Ms. Morocco – Inquiry on the duration.

Ms. Zaninovich – It is usually a 3 hour window. It is difficult to schedule and to have to tell ABC, so it is not an everyday thing.

Ms. Morocco – Is there a tasting area where customers must reside with the spirits?

Ms. Zaninovich – The beer and wine Type 42 Section is a separate section separated from the rest of the store. The Type 86 Section would be separate from the beer and wine in a separate spirits area linked to the retail area.

Ms. Morocco – Questions raised on quantity and how the pour is regulated.

Ms. Zaninovich – Samples are approximately 1/4 oz in size. I don't know how the pouring amounts are regulated precisely.

Mr. Spector – I appreciate you coming and presenting tonight. BevMo! has been a stand up business in the area. We want your kind of businesses here. We appreciate the way you have kept us informed and operated.

Ms. Tippit – 11 pm is not going to happen. Would 9 AM – 9 PM Sun and 9 AM – 10 PM the rest of the week work?

Ms. Antler and Ms. Morocco – Yes.

Mr. Berson – I think BevMo! is good for the community and 9-10 is fair.

Mr. Behrstock – What are the industry standards?

Ms. Broide – Different standards for different locations.

Mr. Behrstock – What about places like the Wellbourne?

Ms. Broide – That is a bar, 2 AM.

Mr. Shabsis – A Ralphs or Sprouts might be more comparable.

Mr. Rosenfield – Ralphs is 24 hours.

Ms. Wu – It is not going to be a parking lot at the opening and closing. Also, there are a lot of festivals in October; it is the start of the holiday season.

Member of the public – I love BevMo!. How though does the board balance the needs of close residences with the needs of the community?

Mr. Spector – We try to do our best.

Ms. Tippit – The residences also need to be ambassadors on issue for themselves. Many residences have had positive experiences, there have not been any police complaints.

Ms. Antler – No ABC violations?

Ms. Zaninovich – No.

Ms. Morocco made a motion to extend the hours of operation as follows:

January 3 – September 30:

Sun: 9 AM – 8 PM

M-Th: 9 AM – 9 PM

F, Sat: 10 AM – 10 PM

Oct 1 – Jan 2:

Sun: 9 AM – 9 PM

M-Sat: 9 AM – 10 PM

Second: Ms. Wu

Board Vote: 14-1-0

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,13,14,16,17

Seats against - 7

Seats recused - 15

Ms. Burns made a motion to approve a Type 86 ABC license for activities occurring on the BevMo! premises including sprints tastings and education.

Second: Ms. Kusnic

Board Vote: 14-0-1

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,8,9,10,11,13,14,16,17

Seats abstaining - 7

Seats recused - 15

E) Tom Martin, a concerned stakeholders on the impacts the McMansion ICO will have on the community, did not show for the second time.

F) Brandon Behrstock, Treasurer – The expenditures for April were \$7539. Cumulative monies spent is \$15,000.70. \$12,500 left to spend including encumbrances.

Ms. Tippit – Need to have complete report. We need to know our totals without encumbrances.

Ms. Broide – Are we under budget for Pick Pico?

Ms. Wu – Yes.

Ms. Burns made a motion to approve the expenditures for April of \$7,539.40.

Second: Ms. Kusnic

Board Vote: 11-0-2

Seats in favor - 1,2,4,5,6,7,8,11,13,14,16

Seats abstaining – 3,17

Seats that could not vote on finances – 9,10

Ms. Kusnic made a motion for funding to spend \$2.30 for printer ink subject to funding availability.

Second: Ms. Broide

Board Vote: 13-0-0.

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,11,13,14,16,17
Seats that could not vote on finances – 9,10

Mr. Spector made a motion for funding for \$226 to Amgraph for a permit for Pick Pico banners subject to funding availability.

Second: Ms. Morocco

Board Vote: 13-0-0.

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,11,13,14,16,17
Seats that could not vote on finances – 9,10

Ms. Morocco made a motion for funding for \$2,295.00 for Valley Crest to plant trees in front of John O'Groats replacing a dead tree and to trim trees on Pico subject to funding availability.

Second: Ms. Wu

Board Vote: 13-0-0

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,11,13,14,16,17
Seats that could not vote on finances – 9,10

G) Save the Drop program:

Ms. Tippit – Are there ideas on how to encourage stakeholders to save water?

Ms. Wu – We have reached out to Tree People. They are going to do a series with us on topics like lawn removal and getting rain barrels, perhaps in July, Sept and Oct. We can do it at Cheviot if we want to go bigger.

Ms. Antler – If we really want to make a difference, we need to stop eating meat.

MS. Broide – And we need to give up almonds.

H) Jae Wu, Pick Pico – We are going to have Tree People and a pavilion of city departments all with ways we can make a difference on the drought at Pick Pico. We have 105 sign ups - 68 Businesses, 19 Artists, 18 Others/Nonprofits. It is a cross section of the best of Pico and Westwood. We are estimating 4,000 people. 11 AM – 3 PM is a short time for our big lineup. We are compacting the list of performers. We will have 2 sets of raffles and a WNC Info Booth. The point of Pick Pico is so that neighbors can connect with the WNC. We need everyone's volunteerism to let the stakeholders know what we are providing; a forum for the community and a voice. This event is our opportunity to connect with the community. Each voice makes a difference. Everything we say can have a ripple effect.

Ms. Broide – A visualization of Pico upzoning needs to be depicted.

Ms. Wu – Selby will be closed. We will have the BofA parking lot. Color coding types of groups. There are posters in back which will be going to business storefronts.

I) LA City Council District 5 Representative Chuy Orozco – (1) We have been working on Pontius and Cotner regarding graffiti removal and other issues. (2) At Patricia/Olympic we are working on a pallet for drought tolerant plants. (3) Also working on Paul Chopp issues, garage issues, overgrown plants, etc. (4) National Night Out this year we are looking at Palms as a possible location. (5) The Councilman has four resolutions out regarding the drought dealing with an urban forestry plan to help trees, the Hyperian Treatment Plant, 2 day watering schedules, operations at City buildings and requirements for swimming pool covers. (6) Chuy announced his resignation. He will be moving to a new position for Councilman Bonin. May 31 is his last day for the councilman. Many of the board members thanked him for doing great work and said he would be missed.

(J) Board Member Comments/Announcements:

Ms. Antler – Join the Lange Foundation for our 2015 Annual Estate Sale. All proceeds go toward the caring for our rescued animals at our Halfway Home Kennel and St. Bonnie's Sanctuary as well as allowing us to save more animals in need.

When: Opening May 9th for 6 weeks, 11:00 AM – 5:30 PM, Wednesday – Sunday.

Where: 11318 Santa Monica Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90025.

What: Fine antiques, sculptures, designer clothes, and handbags, art, high-end furniture and much more as well as a silent auction!

Donations: We have already collected remarkable items for the sale but we need much more. We are still accepting donations for the sale and you can bring them to the store. More info at: <http://www.langefoundation.org/blog/25-events/30-estate-sale>.

Motion to Adjourn At 9:20 PM.

Motion By: Mr. Burke

Second By: Ms. Kusnic

Board Vote: 15-0-0

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,16,17

Submitted: By Aaron Rosenfield