

Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes
Thursday, July 9, 2015
7:00 P.M.
Westside Pavilion
10800 W. Pico

1. Call to Order

Call to order: 7:09 PM

By Terri Tippit, WNC Chair

Attendance:

Jae Wu (Seat 1)

Lisa Morocco (Seat 2)

Vito Bello (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)

Lisa Tabor (Seat 16)

Aaron Rosenfield (Seat 17)

Absent:

Colleen Mason Heller (Seat 12)

Seated after start:

Sean McMillan (Seat 9)

Eric Shabsis (Seat 15)

2. Agenda Items:

New Business:

A) Approval of June 11, 2015 Minutes:

Minutes were reviewed and discussed, with no changes submitted.

Motion to approve as corrected: Mr. Spector

Second: Ms. Kusnic

Passed, 11-0-4

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

Seats abstaining – 5,6,9,16

B) LAPD Report:

Rashad Sharif and associate police officers – Good news is burglaries are down this month. One burglary in June on the 18th. 1600 Blk. Cotner Ave. Unknown suspect(s) pried adjacent storage locker, cut hole in victim's locker and removed shoes. Knock-knock burglars arrested. Usually worst months are hot months, July and August, so people need to make sure windows are locked. Car break ins on 7/5 included two on 1900 Kelton where a gym bag was stolen along with money and sports goods and on Beverly Glen/Mississippi where clothes and books were taken. On 7/6 there were car break-ins at 2000 Malcolm where money and tools were taken, 2200 Beverly Glen where a duffle bag and clothing were taken and at 2000 Beverly Glen where a suitcase and clothing was taken.

Ms. Broide – I called the non-emergency number at 3 AM the other night because there was a bicyclist weaving down the street. It took 15 minutes for someone to pick up.

Ms. Burns – On 6/25 there was a purse snatching robbery at the Pico Wells Fargo.

LAPD Officer Joe Harris – We got the person's description and license plate. Person was parked in the corner of the lot, overpowered a lady in her 60s.

Mr. Rosenfield – 3 AM on Tuesday night there was a helicopter circulating in the Westwood/Overland area for an hour.

Ms. Morocco – My neighbor reported a suspicious van because we are always told to report suspicious activity. Nothing happened. What do we do?

Officer Sharif – I am going to introduce Officer Harris, as this is a good segue, and then we can answer that.

Officer Harris – I am the Social Media Coordinator at the West LA office. I coordinate the Facebook and Twitter accounts. I am trying to expand to Instagram. We want to get updated pushed out using social media to the community. My email is 40215@lapd.lacity.org. Links: http://www.lapdonline.org/west_la_community_police_station and <https://twitter.com/lapdwestla>.

Ms. Morocco – So what do we do in a case of suspicious activity? My neighbor felt like she was not being heard.

Officer Sharif – She can email me too if she needs to do so.

Officer Harris – Generally, we would put an extra patrol out to look at it.

Ms. Broide – How about Nixle? The Brentwood HOA has a place to sign up for alerts on their webpage. (Nixle sign up: <http://local.nixle.com/register/?cc=lapd>).

Officer Harris – We are working on a smart phone app to do reports. The problem with Nixle is it pushes out much further (than just our area) and has a higher threshold.

Ms. Tippit – Nixle gives reports throughout the city like at Dodger's Stadium, not just our area.

Officer Sharif – I am working on getting the captain out. August 4 at Stoner Park is National Night Out. Freckles the clown will be doing face painting for \$300.

Ms. Tippit – Rashad you need to ask to be on agenda so that we can assist in covering some of these things.

Officer Sharif – I request to be on the next agenda.

(Mr. Shabsis is seated.)

C) Norm Bernier, West LA Chamber of Commerce, normanbernier@hotmail.com, 310-441-2900. The discovery Shop is a Chamber Member and had their 50th Anniversary.

Ms. Tabor – It was the 50th Anniversary of all the Discovery Shops.

Mr. Bernier – There was a photographer and there are a lot of pictures. Paul Koretz was there. It was a great event. Our office across from Lenny's has closed. We now have a virtual office. Lisa Tabor sent over a crew to pick up stuff for donations for sale.

Ms. Tabor – Thank you very much, we appreciated it.

Mr. Bernier – Events: (1) After Hours Mixer with Erica Bachelor at Delphi Greek, 1383 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90025, Thursday, July 16, 5:30-7:30 PM. \$20 for non-members with free parking at Ross. (2) First Wednesday Breakfast, August 5, 2015, 7:15 AM - 9:00 AM featuring West Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, Los ... First Wednesday Breakfast with our City Librarian John Szabo. 11301 Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90064. The President has offered the board tickets for \$20. (3) The WLACCC Women's Networking Group has been reactivated. 4 events are coming up. More info at: <http://www.westlachamber.org>.

Mr. Spector – Thank you for coming.

(Mr. McMillan is seated replacing Mr. Hronek.)

D) CD-5 Field Deputy Philip Bennett – A thank you to Lisa Morocco and Arturo Martinez for stopping the chipping away of Little Overland, north of Pico. They were aware of a no-widening provision on Overland and saw that widening was occurring.

Ms. Morocco – LA Bureau of Engineering (BOE) approved it and the work was completed and then they realized they messed up. They have to correct it on the City's dime.

Ms. Burns – The person with the project was going to have a bigger project without the widening and he was made to pay for the widening. Now the City has to put it all back.

Ms. Morocco – The Councilman's Office did a good job getting it resolved.

Ms. Burns – Requested CD-5 continue with updates.

Ms. Morocco – This is a prime example of the no-widening provisions for Little Overland need to be placed in the West LA Plan and ordinances.

Ms. Broide – Is there a mechanism where money can be placed in an escrow account so widening can be done contiguously?

Ms. Tippit – You can bring that up with CD-5 at another time.

Mr. Bennett – We have a pilot program in our district for residential parking. There will be a placard for permit parking. There was an issue with people's permitted stickers fading.

Ms. Tippit – For all of CD5?

Mr. Bennett – Yes.

Ms. Burns – On the windshield?

Mr. Bennett – Yes. With a holographic strip.

Ms. Fu – You still need the permitted bumper sticker for now.

Ms. Antler – From the paving up to Beverly Glen, some of the diverters south of Santa Monica were removed and need to be reinstalled.

Mr. Bennett – The Councilman is currently reviewing a letter opposing Pico upzoning.

Ms. Wu – CD-5 was out in full force yesterday at the movie night in the park.

Ms. Morocco – 10522 W Pico there is a storefront being remodeled without a permit and there is word there will be a gym with 24 hour code access.

Todd Berson – There is not enough parking. Getting around things by using other parking on the premises and not remodeling bathrooms.

Mr. Bennett – A complaint is logged.

Ms. Tippit – Is there a mobility update?

Mr. Rosenfield – I sent you an opposition letter to the Mobility 2035 plan 3 weeks ago.

Mr. Bennett – The council is in recess, but I can check on it.

MS. Broide – Street lights have been out on the block for three weeks.

Mr. Bennett – Email me, I will take a look.

Mr. Rosenfield – It has happened on my street twice. All the wiring for the lights was stolen the first time. It took a month to fix. The second time, I am not sure what the issue was, but it was fixed in a day.

Todd Berson – Has a person training gym. Issues still occurring on Pontius Ave. There are no street signs on his street. 7 RVs every night parked all night and people defecating. I am hoping Phil has the file from where Chuy left off.

Ms. Tippit – On the Koretz motions, when are they going to council?

Mr. Bennett – Recess is until the end of July. We still have a couple months.

Motion by Ms. Antler to support Councilmember Koretz Department of Housing and Community Investment Motion, which reads: "I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Housing and Community Investment, the Department of City Planning, the Department of Building and Safety and the Chief Legislative Analyst study the issues enumerated below, along with any other issues they deem pertinent to preserving the City's rent-controlled housing stock, and report back to the Council with recommendations within 120 days:

- An annual cap on demolitions of RSO units based on an appropriate percentage of the overall RSO housing stock;**
- Withholding the issuance of demolition permits for RSO units until all discretionary and ministerial permits for new construction on the property are formally issued;**
- Adapting the concept of AB 2222, which calls for density bonus projects to replace pre-existing affordable units on a one-to-one basis, for City use, including**

its use for such projects that seek zone changes, receive government subsidies or remove RSO or other affordable units, and mandate on-site replacement;
□ Reviewing the impact the Small-Lot Subdivision ordinance is having on RSO units when they are replaced by multiple single-family homes that subsequently are renter-occupied, and identifying mechanisms to preserve RSO status or other affordability, minimizing use of the ordinance to evade Ellis Act re-use restrictions."

Second: Ms. Kusnic

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Motion by Ms. Broide to support Councilmember Kortez Rent Stabilization Ordinance motion, which reads: "I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Housing and Community Investment review the Rent Stabilization Ordinance and how the City regulates implementation of the Ellis Act and report back to the City Council with findings and recommendations within 120 days; and I FURTHER MOVE, that this review should include, but should not be limited to, potential technical amendments responding to changes in state law, changes mandated by case law, and market conditions, as well as fees, rents, and amendments to state law the Council might want to pursue."

Second: Ms. Burns

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Ms. Broide – Can these be made as a CIS?

Ms. Tippit – We do not need to say it is a CIS, they all can be a CIS. We need someone to file them.

Mr. Rosenfield – I will do it, but I need my own log-in.

E) Pick Pico, Jae Wu, Chair – I was very happy and pleased Pick Pico went so well. I received an acknowledgement from the Councilmember. I got about 30 emails saying what a great event it was. A job well done to everyone. A beautiful production. It takes a village. Thank you Westside Pavilion and JMB. We have great photos. Three middle school kids took photos along with merchants. We have a nice archive for next year. It really put the WNC on the map. It showed how much this was needed in our area. FOX had a nice banner and did a great contribution. Lot's more volunteers. We were the front page of the Santa Monica Star. A bigger location needed was the main feedback. People are excited to come back next year.

Ms. Morocco – We are almost in the growing pains of taking on Pico Blvd.

Mr. Bennett – Take over Pico.

WNC Board – Cheers!

Ms. Morocco – We need to look at funding as a board and see how we can be smarter next year.

Ms. Wu – The City did not make it easy to put on the event. Lot's and lot's of paperwork for Lisa.

Ms. Morocco – DONE is trying to make it easier. A few years back, the idea of events was a hard one for them. But we have to spend our money smartly.

Ms. Wu – It was a labor of love. Lots of work behind the scenes to make things work. At the last moment, the City put us under the microscope.

Ms. Morocco – I want to form a committee with people from NCs who have done events in the City, so that we have a checklist of best practices. Jae took on Pick Pico, really stepped up when I could not. So, thank you Jae.

Ms. Wu – It was a great collaboration. Next year we need bike racks and more volunteers. We had great signage this year thanks to David Anderson. Next year for entertainment we are going to do a youtube interview.

Ms. Tippit – Jae has volunteered to contribute articles to the Santa Monica Star for us.

F) Treasurer's Report, Lisa Morocco - \$585.32 was left over at the end of the fiscal year in the account.

Ms. Antler made a motion to approve the MER for June 2015 with a balance of \$585.32.

Second: Ms. Broide

Board Vote: 15-0-0

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Seat 6 – stepped out temporary for vote

Ms. Morocco – I have compiled a budget for 2015/2016 with broad categories as follows. People present their ideas on how to spend each of those categories and we can review if it is a worthy cause.

Mr. Spector – How do we change the categories if say we need to spend more on an election?

Ms. Morocco – We simply make a motion.

Ms. Broide – I have a copy of the City of LA's budget that I will pass around. Same people who represented us with Budget Advocates will represent us this year.

**Westside Neighborhood Council
Budget for Fiscal Year 2015-2016
APPROVED on 7/9/15**

Funds			
Total Annual Allocation		\$	42,000.00
<hr/>			
Budget			
Code	Category		
100 Operations		5%	2,100.00
AUD			0
EDU			0
FAC			0
MIS	General Operations	30%	630
OFF	Office Equipment and Supplies	40%	840
POS	Post Office Box	10%	210
TAC	Phone	20%	420
TRL	Translation and Transcription		0
	Sub Total	5.00%	\$ 2,100
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200 Outreach		30%	12,600
ADV	Advertising/Outreach Materials		10,200
EVE			0
MEE			0
NEW			0
WEB	Website Maintenance/Enhancement/Creation		2,400
	Sub Total	\$	12,600
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300 Community Improvement		40%	16,800
CIP	Community Improvement Projects	100%	16,800
	Sub Total	\$	16,800
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400 Neighborhood Purpose Grants		25%	10,500
GRT	Neighborhood Purpose Grant		
	Sub Total	\$	10,500
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500 Elections (or Selections)		0%	
ELE	Election Outreach Expense		0
	Sub Total	0.00%	\$ -
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Grand Total		\$	42,000

Motion by Ms. Morocco to approve the budget as presented for 2015/2016.

Second: Ms. Burns

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Ms. Tippit – Brandon did not feel he could continue as treasurer. Shannon Burns and Craig Silvers have volunteered to fill the role of treasurer.

Motion by Mr. Rosenfield to have Shannon Burns fill the role of treasurer.

Second: Mr. Spector

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

G) Chair Report - Terri Tippit, Chair – I appoint Barbara Broide as the WNC liaison to the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance.

Motion by Ms. Broide: “We the WNC agree to be a member of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance. The Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance advances sustainability and resilience across Los Angeles through advocacy, sharing of best practices and community action.”

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Ms. Tippit – Lawn for cash expires tonight.

Ms. Burns – If you decide to kill your landscaping, make sure you are in the cue and be aware sometimes the City needs to come out and verify.

Ms. Tippit – You are allowed to have a dead lawn now.

Ms. Tippit – Last month, Mr. Martin during public comment wanted us to reconsider the vote on BevMo!. We cannot take action on items dealing with public comment. He said he did not know about the meeting with BevMo!. We fulfilled notice as required to let people know about the agenda. Mr. Martin also claimed the hours that BevMo! gave in our meeting were not correct since they gave hours of operation, not the hours from the CUP.

Ms. Broide – Mr. Martin came to our HOA Board Meeting. He said the difference between the hours of operation and hours on the CUP were not clear. He also had an issue with recusal of board members.

Mr. Shabsis – I take issue Barbara with you insinuating I had an ethical dilemma. I recused myself and I went on the other side of the desis to represent my client, which is okay by ethics.

Ms. Tippit – The legal opinion from Carmen Hawkins in the City Attorney’s Office is: “Compliance and/or violation of the Conflict of Interest laws is personal to the individual who may hold the conflict and is very fact specific. It is not the Board's violation. It is in the Conflict area that our office provides advice to individual board members. The conflict matter is not a basis for reconsideration of the Board's action on the agenda item. Reconsideration is based on your by-laws. I can't provide you advice on whether he should have left the room or not because that answer is fact specific to him. The Board can raise a concern, but you can't order a Board member to leave the room. That is their individual decision. Again, if this matter arises in the future, the person with the conflict should contact our office ahead of time for how they should handle the matter. Once the

violation has occurred, there is no undoing it. The issue of how you get notice to your stakeholders is a matter to be addressed by your Board.” Reconsideration is based on the bylaws, and the bylaws say we can’t do it. Eric left after BevMo because he had recused himself. He was the client’s representative and it is up to Eric to decide ethics. It is up to each individual representative to make sure people in their areas know of our meetings. I personally send everything to my email lists, but it is posted in public places too like the mall and library. It is up to the seat holder to get the info out; it does not come back to the WNC.

Mr. Spector – As Vice Chair and the last Ad hoc Committee Chair, every person should take some time to look at the ethics and it can be confusing. We are advisory. We can possibly be in positions of conflict. It is dangerous for us not to take time to read through this. There can be conflict within 500 ft.

Mr. Rosenfield – I want to echo what Steve said. We have to be very careful. The laws are written for state and city officials, but we are bound by them. It can be tough because everything we vote on is in our boundaries where we work and live, so everything is a potential conflict.

Ms. Broide – There is not enough time between when our agenda is posted and meeting days to go door to door and let everyone know.

Mr. Shabsis – PLUM requires businesses seeking permits to deliver notices to people within 500 feet. What should not happen is the rules for engagement change in the middle of the process. A business in Encino is paying \$750 or \$1000 to do outreach. Land use has the businesses go to the NCs first. Businesses follow the rules placed before them as long as they are clear. If we are talking 800 residents, it may be \$500.

Ms. Broide – We should have a consistent policy for businesses on how to reach the people effected.

Ms. Antler – How do you determine who is effected?

Ms. Broide – Previously we looked at 1000 feet.

Ms. Morocco – I agree we can do better.

Mr. Spector – We can do better, but it is also a tough task.

Ms. Burns – We can request businesses notice people, but we cannot require them to do it. We rely on the seat to get the information out and it is easy to have businesses give a presentation here.

Mr. Shabsis – Applicants need to have a timeline and procedure.

Ms. Shaw – We should have something that we can give to people on what they need to do. A checklist.

H) Emergency Motions, Eric Shabsis – At the last meeting we discussed the accident on Overland. Solutions that are deemed appropriate include: speed feedback signs on north and south Overland and increased enforcement. The Councilmember is trying to get it paid for by EXPO since they created the situation and want it to be done before school starts on August 4th.

Mr. Spector – I agree with it as an emergency motion since the agenda was out before the issue came up and it is a pressing matter before our next meeting.

Motion by Mr. Shabsis to take emergency motions on Overland traffic safety and funding.

Second: Mr. Spector

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Motion by Mr. Shabsis to “move to support Councilman Paul Koretz and the department of Transportation in its efforts to calm traffic along Overland between Coventry and Cushdon with the installation of speed feedback signs, both north and southbound, and increase traffic enforcement.”

Second: Ms. Burns

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Motion by Mr. Shabsis to “move to support Councilman Koretz in his request to the Expo Construction authority to authorize payment and installation of the speed feedback signs, and urge its installation prior to August 18.”

Second: Ms. McMillan

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Motion by Mr. Shabsis to “move to authorize WNC president to send letter of support for Mr. Koretz’s funding request to CEO and Boardmembers of the Expo Construction Authority.”

Second: Ms. Kusnic

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

I) Policy and Procedures, Steve Spector, motion to amend Article X, Section 1 of WNC Bylaws to provide for election/selections every 4 years rather than every 2 years by making the following changes to that Section so that the next election/selection will be in November 2018 – I mentioned in public comment last month and it was on agenda that we would move to amend our bylaws,

Motion by Mr. Spector to amend the bylaws as follows: “Section 1: Administration of Election/Selection - The WNC shall hold a selection process instead of an election to fill the Governing Board. The Governing Board will be chosen at a meeting which will be held every 4 years during the month of November ~~in even number years~~. The Governing Board shall, no later than July 7th in ~~even numbered years~~ each election year, set the date of the selection process meeting. A selection committee consisting of stakeholders, who cannot be candidates, shall be appointed by the Governing Board no later than ninety (90) days prior to the date of the meeting. The selection committee shall promulgate procedures for the conduct of the selection process meeting and selection of Governing Board members. The selection committee shall also choose an independent and neutral third party to monitor the selection process and certify the result. All selection procedures shall be in conformity with the selection rules established by the City of Los Angeles and shall be approved by the Department.”

Second: Ms. Morocco

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Ms. Tippit – I called Tom Soone and asked for form to change the bylaws. He said the form was not being used since May and I am waiting on a response back on a form so we can submit the changes to DONE. Otherwise, we can submit the changes without the form.

Ms. Broide – I want to put on next month’s agenda a list of motions from WRAC. I also want to report on the 6/30 PLUM meeting, since this board has shown its support for a sign ordinance. PLUM scheduled a vote right before the council went on vacation and virtually gutted the measure. They are proposing to grant amnesty to illegal signs. There was an orchestrated audience in support of signs and especially digital signs at the meeting. Next month I will bring a motion to try to strengthen the sign ordinance. We have to remember sign companies donate sign space to candidates and against candidates.

Ms. Antler – Lange Foundation was a huge success. Thank you to everyone for your support.

Motion to Adjourn At 8:58 PM.

Motion By: Ms. Morocco

Second By: Mr. Spector

Board Vote: 16-0-0 unanimous

Seats in favor - 1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,16,17

Submitted: By Aaron Rosenfield, Secretary