

Westside Neighborhood Council Governing Board/Stakeholder Meeting

Thursday May 12, 2016 7:00 P.M.

Westside Pavilion 10800 W. Pico

Meeting Room A (3rd Floor behind food court)

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**1. WELCOMING REMARKS:**

• **Call to Order**

**Call to order: 7:05 PM By: Steve Spector**

**2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:**

**a. Board Roll Call**

Attendance:

Jae Wu (Seat 1)

Lisa Morocco (Seat 2)

Rick Mendoza (Seat 3)\*

Steve Spector (Seat 4)

Brendan Kotler (Seat 5)

Sarah Shaw (Seat 6)

Barbara Broide (Seat 7)

Joanne Dorfman (Seat 8b)

Jeff Hronek (Seat 9b)

Stacy Antler (Seat 10)

Mary Kusnic (Seat 11)

Francesca Beale-Rosano (Seat 13)

Shannon Burns (Seat 14)

Lisa Tabor (Seat 16)

Thomas Born (Seat 17b)

\*Upon Selection - Candidate Joined WNC Board

Absent:

Terri Tippit (Seat 8)

Sean McMillan (Seat 9)

Colleen Mason Heller (Seat 12)

Eric Shabsis (Seat 15)

Aaron Rosenfield (Seat 17)

**b. Review and Adoption, April 14, 2016 Minutes**

Motion: That the Westside Neighborhood Council approve the April 14, 2016 Minutes.

Motion by Shannon

Second by Stacy:

Motion Passes: 7 – 0 – 4 Abstain (Seats 5, 9, 13, 17)

**c. Selection to fill open Seat 3**

- Rick Mendoza candidate for Seat 3

Shannon introduced Rick Mendoza as Candidate for WNC Seat 3.

Rick spoke presenting an overview of his background and work as a stakeholder in the WNC area. He stated he is active in the industry working in an area neighborhood restaurant on Pico Blvd, with Al Watson at Gulp and very community oriented. Steve commented and Shannon noted that Rick was commended by WLAPD for his efforts recently which led to the apprehension and arrest of graffiti suspects.

Motion: That the Westside Neighborhood Council approve the selection of Rick Mendoza to Seat 3 on the WNC Board.

Motion by Shannon

Second by Stacy

Motion passes:

Yes 13

No – 0

Abstain 1 Seat 7 (Barbara abstained as she arrived late and did not hear background and discussion.)

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s jurisdiction (Up to two minutes per speaker)

**Veronica de la Cruz, of the Los Angeles City Attorney’s Office, Neighborhood Prosecutor Program** spoke and addressed the nuisance issues and conditions in the pedestrian tunnel at Selby Avenue and Olympic Boulevard. She stated that she has been in contact with Lisa. Lisa, Jae, Barbara and others commented and Veronica said she would like community input to assist in resolving the problem. Also, there was additional discussion with the board and some of the stakeholders present; she said she

would also be working with the Commissioner for the Board of Public Works in the matter. WLAPD Officers Eric Swihart and Mario Gonzales also commented and spoke about the safety issues.

Bill Christopher announced that the EIR for the planned FOX expansion is available for approximately the next 6 to 8 weeks at the Planning Department Section at the LA City.org web site . Lisa acknowledged Fox's contribution to Pick Pico again this year including supplying the 20' x 28' stage, sound equipment, DJ and tenting.

#### **4. MOTIONS (discussion and/or possible action):**

a. Barbara Broide, WNC moves to support the Neighborhood Integrity Initiative Ballot Measure.

Jill Steward, Preserve LA, gave a presentation before the WNC March 10, 2016 meeting.

#### **5. PRESENTATIONS (discussion and/or possible action):**

**a. Jim Bickhart, CD5, will give presentation on Home Sharing Ordinance (HSO)--formerly Short Term Rental. Shannon Burns, Chair WNC Ad Hoc HSO Committee, will report on what comments and action WNC should consider.**

Shannon addressed an overview of the issue and highlighted a detailed report which she had prepared from the May 3 2016 Meeting of the Ad- Hoc Shred Home Ordinance Committee. She noted that along with her, that the Ad – Hoc Committee also included Stacy Antler and Eric Shabsis. Shannon advised that the Committee agreed and was positive in this regard.

Shannon stated that Eric had prepared a Motion for the WNC to consider; however, Eric was unable to attend tonight's meeting.

Steve stated that the item and additional discussion should be tabled for tonight's meeting and we should move forward to the next agenda item.

**b. Faisal Alserri, CD5, will give presentation on Repeal of Second Dwelling Unit Conditional Use Permit Ordinance (Granny Flat).**

The proposed ordinance repeals Subsections 12.24.W.43 and 12.24.W.44 of

Chapter 1 of the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC) for the purpose of complying with state law AB 1866 on second dwelling units and "grandfathers" second dwelling units permitted since June 23,

2003. Colleen Mason Heller planned to report on this matter and discuss possible comments and action the WNC should consider. She was not able to attend.

Barbara commented on the background of the issue and an information sheet was distributed.

Steve stated that the item and additional discussion should be tabled for tonight's meeting and we should move forward to the next agenda item.

**c. Eric Lieberman, presentation on proposed small lot division at 1834 Pandora.**

**Lisa recused herself for the presentation and discussion and left the meeting for this issue.**

Eric gave a detailed presentation with project representatives of the 1834 North Pandora project. He stated the zoning is RD1.5-1-0 and the lot is 50 x 110 feet for total area of 5,505.55 square feet. He presented renderings of the project and described it as entailing the demolition of one single family home and the construction of 3 single family homes, each is 2400 square feet. The building proposed will be three stories, 35' – 10 1/4" to the top of parapet and 41' - 3 1/2" to top of stair roof structure. He stated each will have 3 bedrooms and 2 1/2 baths with a 2 car garage. Eric explained this project qualifies under the Small Lot Subdivision Ordinance. He stated there are separate exterior walls with minimal spacing in between each; and, as they are sealed the building appears to be one structure from the exterior. Steve and board members and a number of stakeholders present discussed various aspects of the project. Phillip of CD 5 also commented and gave insight to planning issues. Stacy addressed several aspects including the garage access and setbacks. Possible street widening, potential removal of trees and services were discussed in detail. Eric said there would be roof decks and no zone changes were required he added the homes would be priced at approximately \$850,000. to \$900,000.

Eric addressed the WNC Board and said he would like to have the WNC support for the project.

Barbara stated she had spoken with Eric Lieberman and that he and project representatives made a presentation at WSSM last week. She said they had two questions:

1) Front yard setbacks were a concern. It was not clear if they were attempting to take advantage of the option to have reduced front yard setbacks. Pandora is a substandard street (so small that parking is permitted only on one side of the street) and the previous small lot subdivision project moving forward on that block did not take advantage of the option to push the project further forward from other properties/projects. The impact of reduced front setbacks would be especially nasty on that street in terms of scale, pedestrian friendliness, neighborhood character, etc.

2) Maintenance/buyer agreements: We found in the earlier small lot subdivision on Pandora that if each owner of the small lot projects were to place their three city issued trash cans on the street in front of their property, there would be no place for them. Eric explained that the owners, each could enter into a maintenance agreement to address common area items including trash hauling. We asked for more information.

She said that there were those who felt the project will replace affordable rental units with million dollar plus small lot units for a net loss of affordable units in our community; however, as the project is "by

right" and the developer is not requesting any variances, WSSM would prefer that no position be taken on the project by WNC.

Motion

The Westside Neighborhood Council supports the project located at 1834 North Pandora and additionally supports keeping the trees and opposes the street widening.

Motion by Stacy

Second by Tom

Motion passed

Yes 11

No 3 (Seats 7, 8, 14 )

Abstain 0

Note: Seat 2 recused herself and was not present for presentation discussion and board vote.

**d. Barbara Broide - update on Sign Ordinance and recommendation on action WNC should consider.**

Barbara distributed information and spoke on the **CITYWIDE SIGN ORDINANCE**

She encouraged everyone to get informed, to educate their friends and neighbors and fellow stakeholders and to take a position. She outlined the ways in which this can be accomplished as follows:

Pass a motion and community impact statement supporting the City Planning Commission's 10/22/15 Sign Ordinance recommendations.

Write to Council's PLUM COMMITTEE (c/o Sharon.Dickinson@lacity.org), with copies to full Council (c/o Alan.alietti@lacity.org) and Mayor (Mayor.garcetti@lacity.org) in support of City Planning Commission's 10/22/15 actions on the Sign Ordinance.

Attend the next PLUM Committee Hearing to testify at City Hall.

Plan to attend upcoming Council meetings on the Sign Ordinance to follow PLUM action.

She also said when writing to refer to: Council File: 11-1705

She encouraged support for the new Sign Ordinance Version B+ as approved by the City Planning Commission on 10/22/2015 and said to urge the PLUM committee and City Council to adopt that version of the ordinance which:

a) Disapproves any AMNESTY for existing billboards that lack permits or have been altered in violation of their permits.

b) Disapproves the "grandfathering" of any sign districts that weren't approved or applied for in April, 2009, when the CPC approved the initial version of the new sign ordinance.

c) Restricts any new off-site signs, including digital billboards, to sign districts in 22 areas zoned for high-intensity commercial use.

d) Requires existing billboards to be taken down before any new off-site signs can go up in sign districts. The takedown ratio of existing signs to new signs would be 5 to 1 for conventional and 10 to 1 for digital.

e) Sets administrative civil penalties for sign violators that will act as a real deterrent to illegal billboards and other signage.

f) Prohibits off-site signage in city parks and recreation facilities.

She said it is important that communities speak out in favor of a strong sign ordinance to protect our visual landscape.

Motion:

The WNC supports the new Sign Ordinance Version B+ as approved by the City Planning Commission on 10/22/2015 and to urge the PLUM committee and City Council to adopt that version of the ordinance including items a thru f as outlined above.

Second Stacy

Motion Passed

Yes 13

No 0

Abstain 2 (Seats 5, 11)

### **Special Emergency Motion**

#### **City Council Mobility Plan Amendment**

Shannon spoke of the latest developments regarding Mobility 35 and the bike lanes; she also noted that this is a timely issue, the recent meeting and details of which were not known to WNC prior to printing the meeting agenda. Philip also spoke with respect to CD5 and Councilmember Koretz' position.

Steve and the members discussed that the matter should be considered as an emergency motion as it is time sensitive.

The motion that the WNC consider same as an emergency motion -

Motion by Barbara

Second by Shannon

Motion Passed

Yes 14

No - 0

The Motion: The Westside Neighborhood Council supports Councilmember Koretz' motion to amend the Mobility Plan 2035 to eliminate proposed Bike Lanes on Westwood Boulevard and to study alternative locations.

Motion by Barbara Broide

Second by Shannon Burns

Motion passed

Yes - 14

No - 1(Seat 17b)

Abstain- 0

## **6. COMMUNITY / GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

### **a. LAPD Senior Leads-- Eric Swihart and Mario Gonzales**

Officer Eric Swihart discussed the huge spike in auto thefts and stated there is not any one make or model in particular that's targeted; he said it is across the board including vans and trucks. He said most occur in garages and subterranean garages late at night or early in the morning hours. They also discussed that catalytic converters continue to be an item targeted due to their high price. Steve discussed a few of the RING benefits and the officers commented on its value with respect to home security. Stacy addressed the mail theft issue in the Beverly Glen area. Officer Gonzales commented on and alerted everyone to the telephone scam where callers are claiming to be Federal Agents and that they will ask for money. Lisa and Jae acknowledged and thanked the WLAPD for supporting Pick Pico again this year and said we all look forward to seeing them at the event later this month.

### **b. LA City Council District Representative—Philip Bennett**

Philip presented an update on the activities of CD5. He updated and summarized various issues including the Mobility 35 bike lanes, stating he believes there will be a few more steps in the process, Home Sharing Ordinance and Granny Flats, Second Dwelling CUP Ordinance. He added that everyone and Councilmember Koretz are looking forward to the Pick Pico Event.

### **c. LA City & other Government Departments/Agencies**

### **d. Community and Stakeholder Organizations--LA Chamber**

## **7. BOARD REPORTS (including discussion and possible action items):**

### **a. Treasurer, Shannon Burns,**

Shannon presented the WNC Monthly Treasurer's report on WNC's Funding Program account, including review and approval of Purchase Card's monthly statement for --MER.

Motion by Shannon

Thank the WNC approve the Treasurer's report on WNC's Funding Program account, including review and approval of Purchase Card's monthly statement for --MER for April 2016.

Second by Mary

Motion Passed

Yes 15

Lisa explained the issue regarding DONE and the AppleOne invoice.

Motion: That the WNC approve the AppleOne invoice for \$660.51.

Motion by Lisa

Second by Shannon

Motion Passed

Yes 13

No 0

Abstain 2 (Seats 3, 8 )

**b. Pick Pico, Lisa Morocco**

- Update on Pick Pico Street Fair to be held May 22, 2016.

Lisa and Jae presented an overview of the Pick Pico event which will take place on Sunday, May 22, 2016.

Lisa acknowledged everyone for their support and sponsorships, noting especially Fox, Macerich, JMB, LAPD, LAFD, and FOX. She and Jae noted that it is Captain Nielson's birthday and that there will be a special acknowledgement for him. Jae said there are 115 participants this year including area restaurants, businesses and artists and vendors. Lisa thanked FOWLA for their help and said their assistance made everything so much more efficient. They asked for help in getting press coverage for the event and said there would be many officials attending and great entertainment for all. Lisa and Jae asked for everyone's help; and said they would be sending a sign-up sheet for scheduling volunteers to help at the event.

**c. Mobility, Colleen Mason Heller Chair**

- Grand Opening of Expo Phase 2 at the Palms station on National Blvd. between Clarington Ave.

and Palms Blvd. from 10 AM to 4 PM-ride Expo FREE that day!

**8. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

**9. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion to adjourn by Stacy.**

**Second by Shannon**

**Meeting adjournment at 9:20 PM**