



WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

P.O. Box 64370 Los Angeles, CA 90064

www.wncla.org (310) 474-2326



Westside Neighborhood Council Governing Board/Stakeholder Meeting

MINUTES

January 10, 2019 - Thursday 7:00 P.M.

Westside Pavilion 10800 W. Pico Meeting Room A

Councilmembers in attendance and seat number: 1 Jae Wu, 2 Lisa Morocco, 4 Kimberly Christensen, 5 Brendan Kotler, 6 Elnie Vannatim, 7 Barbara Broide, 8 Terri Tippit, 9 Sean McMillan, 10 Stacy Antler, 11 Mary Kusnic, 12 Colleen Mason Heller, 13 Jane Wishon, 14 Shannon Burns, 15 Caryn Friedman, 16 Wendie Dox, 17 (selected during the meeting) Joanne Dorfman.

Councilmember absent and seat number: 3 Jeff Hronek

1. WELCOMING REMARKS:

a. Call to Order 7:10 pm

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

a. Review and Adoption November 8, 2018 Minutes as corrected

Motion to approve made by Lisa Morocco, seconded Shannon Burns.

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 16

No:

Abs: 6, 12

Motion Passes

b. Colleen Mason Heller, Chair of Elections subcommittee.

- Chair Terri Tippit
- Vice-Chair Lisa Morocco
- Recording Secretary Jane Wishon
- Corresponding Secretary Mary Kusnic
- Treasurer Shannon Burns

Motion to elect the nominated members made by Colleen Mason Heller Second Barbara Broide

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

No:

Abs:

Motion passes

c. Selection for Seat 17, At Large

Motion to select Joanne Dorfman, a homeowner and volunteer stakeholder in the WNC boundaries made by Stacy Antler. Second Kimberly Christensen.

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16

No:

Abs:

Motion passes

Mr McMillian, seat 9, appointed Richard Feifer as his alternate.

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)

a. Sean McMillan (seat 9) announced that the Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count is seeking volunteers theycountwillyou.org to volunteer. This year's count will take place January 22, 23, and 24th the the WNC area being counted on January 23rd. He reminded the Council and audience that the count is needed in order to fund services for the homeless.

b. Ian Strano, a constituent who resides at 2373 Selby Ave reminded the Council and audience that the WNC was established for "doing good in the neighborhood" but he stated that the Council "is going into areas that impact our homes and we're going to push back aggressively. We'll hire lawyers and we're planning to strike back." He purported to represent "over 500 homeowners that are anti-WNC." Mr. Strano disrupted the meeting by speaking without being acknowledged by the Chair. He repeatedly asked a stakeholder "do you own a home" implying the

stakeholder did not have a voice without owning a home. DONE representative Vanessa Serrano and Vice-Chair Morocco tried to explain to Mr. Strano that the board is advisory only and the board could take action on agenda items because the agenda complied with the Brown Act requirements.

c. Jennifer Schneiderman, a constituent, made an appeal for “public arts” and stated that she will work with the WNC to seek funding for public arts projects.

4. PRESENTATIONS (discussion and/or possible action):

- a. Ready Your LA Neighborhood (RYLAN) program-Faye Cousin, Emergency Management Department.
Ms Cousin explained a new program is available (see attached handout) that seeks to prepare residents for major emergencies so that residents can help one another during those first hours when emergency response professionals may not be available. The Rylan team will come out to neighborhoods to provide 90 workshops for 15 – 20 residences. This is intended to be small groups support.
- b. Gyu Kaku at [10925 West Pico Blvd.](#) Support for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) to allow the sale and dispensing of beer and wine for onsite consumption in conjunction with an addition to an existing restaurant which will total 3,501sf with 106 interior seats, with hours of operation from 11:30am-11:30pm daily. (see attached)
Sheryl Brody, an advisor to the restaurant, explained that the restaurant had received faulty advice and so now is paying rent on the space next door without being able to build the expansion planned. Ms Brody requested the WNC write a letter of support for the CUP and Zone variance they are requesting. The Council members asked the restaurant to consider alternative approaches for parking including but not limited to tandem parking and valet.
Motion to write a letter to the Zoning Administrator with a copy to Jordan Turner, the planning aide at CD, that requests that the Gyu Kaku file remain open for a minimum of 2 weeks after the hearing to allow us to extend our outreach and investigation to other businesses and residences as well as the DOT regarding the usage and demand or the current DOT parking lot at Midvale and Pico made by Barbara Broide Second by Sean McMillan.

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

No:

Abs:

Motion passes

- c. **Motion: WNC supports establishment of an independent Office of Transparency and Accountability as was recommended by the LA 2020 Commission and endorsed Herb Wesson** made by Barbara Broide Second Colleen Mason Heller.

Discussion that this adds a layer of government that may not be in our best interest. Ms. Broide will pursue a meeting with the Controller’s Office and budget watch groups.

Motion withdrawn

5. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- a. LAPD Senior Lead Officer Rick Ballesteros explained that there are 5 categories of crime that have increased slightly in our area. Please remember to keep your doors locked and do not leave personal items visible in your car.
- 1 Robberies
 - 2 Aggravated Assault
 - 3 Burglary
 - 4 Grand Theft Auto
 - 5 Theft
- SLO Ballesteros also announced an 11 week Citizen’s Police Academy that will commence February 27. Classes to be held Wednesday nights from 6-9 pm. For more information, please contact SLO Ballesteros. 33652@lapd.online
- The LAPD will begin to place plain clothes officers on Metro platforms and trains to deal with the thefts of phones and other valuables.
- b. Debbie Dyer Harris represented CD5 and Councilmember Koretz. She announced that our new Field Representative is Samantha Vega.
The Selby pedestrian tunnel issue is still being addressed with the DOT returning a crossing guard to the intersection of Overland and Olympic at least temporarily.
- c. Stephanie Cohen represented County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl’s office.

The Supervisor's office is working with other agencies to explore the feasibility of bridge housing at the WLA National Guard Armory space which is usually only available as a winter shelter. The proposal would build a new building and be open 24 hours a day. The number of beds tbd (see attached handout) There will be a community meeting to discuss the proposal at the

- Felicia Mahood Senior Center
- 11338 Santa Monica Blvd, LA 90025
- 6 pm – 7:30 pm
- January 29, 2019

The Chabad organization has expressed willingness to transform the top floor of their building in Westwood by "Fraternity Row" into bridge housing. More details to come.

6. BOARD REPORTS (including discussion and possible action items):

a. Treasurer, Shannon Burns

- Monthly Treasurer's report on WNC's Funding Program account, including review and approval of Purchase Card's monthly statement— (see attached)

Motion to approve MER for November made by Shannon Burns Second by Sean McMillan

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

No:

Abs:

Motion passes

. **Motion to approve MER for December** made by Shannon Burns Second by Mary Kusnic

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

No:

Abs:

Motion passes

b. Outreach, Lisa Morocco

Motion to allocate additional \$500 for Pick Pico meeting supplies and food made by Lisa Morocco Second by Stacy Antler

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

No:

Abs:

Motion passes

Motion to provide an NPG to the Overland Ave School Science Lab up to \$500.00 made by Lisa Morocco Second by Barbara Broide

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 16, 17

No:

Abs: 15

Motion passes

Motion to provide an NPG for Rancho Park Library for up to \$2000.00 to update their computer section books

made by Lisa Morocco Second by Colleen Mason Heller

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17

No:

Abs:

Motion passes

c. Chair Report, Terri Tippit

WNC Selection March 14, 2019 at 6 pm

Terri Tippit reported that the new owners of the mall would work with the WNC to provide space for the monthly board meeting and a space for the March 14, 2019 the Selection Meeting in case of large crowds. All stakeholder groups are encouraged to get the word out to stakeholders and encourage their participation either as a candidate or a voter.

d. WNC Boundary Correction Ad Hoc Committee, Colleen Mason Heller

- Update on boundary correction sent to DONE (see attached letters). The Commission approved the boundary adjustment for the area that was previously within Westside NC boundaries, changing Palms NC's northern boundary to: North from the intersection of Overland and National, east side only, to the Interstate 10 Freeway, then east along the Interstate 10 Freeway, south side only, to the intersection of Palms/National/Exposition.
- Vanessa Serrano of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment explained that the only way to change our eastern boundary and include the east side of Anchor Ave is to process a change request and complete the process. The Commission rejected a boundary adjustment that fell within the boundaries of SoRo NC.

e. Planning Committee, Barbara Broide and Kim Christensen

- The Community Plan is moving forward. There will be a walking tour with City Planners to look at areas within the WNC that work well and areas that we do not wish to emulate. (See attached)
- Restaurant Beverage Program Ordinance 2nd Staff hearing January 31, 2019

Motion to send a letter of support for the Restaurant Program Ordinance with the stipulation that language is added to section 32w that excludes projects from the Program if the project requires a parking variance made by Kimberly Christensen Second by Lisa Morocco.

Yes: 1, 2, 4, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13, 15, 16, 17

No:

Abs: 5, 6, 7, 11, 14

Motion passes

f. Jane Wishon, WRAC update – no report

7. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Terri Tippit announced that the Bylaws special committee will bring Bylaws amendments to the next meeting.

8. ADJOURNMENT: 9:45 pm

Submitted by Jane Wishon