

Westside Neighborhood Council Governing Board/Stakeholder Meeting **Minutes**

January 9, 2020 - Thursday 7:00 P.M.
One Westside

10800 W. Pico Meeting Room B

Councilmembers in attendance and seat numbers: 1 Jae Wu, 2 Lisa Morocco, 3 Jeff Hronek, 4 Margaret Taylor (alt), 5 Louis Schillace, 6 Vicki Curry, 7 Barbara Broide, 8 Terri Tippit, 9 Sean McMillian, 11 Mary Kusnic, 12 Colleen Mason Heller, 13 Jane Wishon, 17 Joanne Dorfman

Councilmembers absent and seat numbers: 10 Stacy Antler, 14 Shannon Burns, 15 Caryn Friedman, 16 Wendie Dox

1. WELCOMING REMARKS:

- a. Call to Order 7:05 pm

2. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

- a. Review and Adoption November 14, 2019 Monthly Meeting Minutes

Motion to adopt November 14, 2019 Monthly Meeting Minutes by Mary Kusnic, Second by Colleen Mason Heller

Yes 2,3,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,17

No

Abstentions 1, 4

- b. Officer elections for 2020

Motion to elect the following officers for 2020 Colleen Mason Heller, Elections of WNC Officers for 2020:

- **Chair Terri Tippit**
- **Vice-Chair Lisa Morocco**
- **Recording Secretary**
- **Treasurer Shannon Burns by Colleen Mason Heller, Second by Jane Wishon**

Yes 1, 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,17

No

Abstentions

The role of secretary will rotate:

February – Caryn Friedman (15)

March – Louis Schillace (5)

April – Jeff Hronek (3)

May – Wendy Dox (16)

June – Joanne Dorfman (17)

July – Barbara Broide (7)

August – Colleen Mason Heller (12)

September – Stacy Antler (10)

October – Sean McMillian (9)

November – Vicki Curry

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)

4. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

a. SLO Chris Baker: there is nearly a 10% reduction in crime in Cheviot Hills with the greatest decrease in residential burglary. There are "Hope officers" who are deployed to help people experiencing homelessness get off the streets.

b. Zachary Gaidzik, Field Deputy, Supervisor Sheil Kuehl:

1. Reorganization of the Board of Supervisors

Each year, on the first Tuesday in December, the Board bids farewell to its current Chair and welcomes a new Chair. Since 2016, the Board has been rotating the Chairs in numerical order by district, so, this past Tuesday, Supervisor Kathryn Barger (Fifth District) assumed the gavel for 2020 from Supervisor Hahn (Fourth District). Supervisor Solis (First District) was elected Chair Pro Tem and will Chair in 2021. Creating the WHAM Committee

2. The Board passed a motion Kuehl co-authored with Supervisor Hilda Solis to convene a committee of leaders in the implementation of measures W, H, A, and M, henceforth known as the WHAM committee!

3. In the past few years, voters have approved significant investments totaling over \$1.5 billion to overhaul water infrastructure, fight the homelessness crisis, support local parks and beaches, and facilitate transit projects through measures W, H, A, and M, respectively. With this funding comes significant responsibility on the part of government to manage that money prudently. Responsible stewardship includes coordination and efficient use of those funds. This week's motion will bring together the departments and agencies tasked with implementing projects related to these measures so that they may effectively coordinate and utilize funds for multi-benefit projects. This committee will also include the Chief Sustainability Officer, ensuring that projects fulfill the goals of the Our County Sustainability Plan.

Telework at LA County

4. It is no secret that LA County is home to long commutes and some pretty severe traffic congestion. All of these car trips cause high greenhouse gas emissions and create long workdays for the employees that commute. As one of the largest employers in the region, LA County is doing its part to reduce our carbon footprint and improve employee quality of life, without sacrificing productivity, by seeking out alternative work locations and strategies to mitigate needless commutes. The Board passed a motion authored by Supervisor Janice Hahn that directs the Department of Human Resources to work with our Department Heads to create and implement Alternative Work Programs at each County Department. These plans would identify positions within that department where Telework, or using a Coworking Space might make sense. Adoption Promotion and Support Services

5. Status Report on Urgent Housing Initiative This week, the Board received our first bi-monthly report on the shelter crisis and urgent housing initiative, as required by the November motion brought by Supervisors Janice Hahn and Kathryn Barger. The report shows a continuing great need, coupled with a great number of units built and opened to provide housing and shelter. Currently, there are 68 sites, including shelters and other forms of interim housing, in the process of construction. These projects will provide an additional 5,143 beds in the coming months and years, representing a 40% increase in the number of beds available to those in need of a temporary place to live. I am excited to share that the Third District is leading the way in building interim housing, with 24 sites totaling 1,767 beds currently in the works.

6. Legal Action Against Slashing SNAP Last week, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) published a final rule slashing the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP or food stamps)—the first guard against hunger—for approximately 700,000 people. The rule affects “able-bodied adults without dependents,” restricting them to three months of benefits during a three-year period unless they satisfy certain work requirements. In LA County, the local unemployment rate is above the national average, and many residents, including transition-age youth and domestic violence survivors, cope with food insecurity. The rule would also affect people experiencing homelessness, who will now have to contend with insufficient nutrition in addition to the already daunting challenges ahead of them. For reasons I cannot grasp, the federal government has decided that people struggling to claw their way out of poverty and housing instability must also go hungry. This rule serves only to make our most vulnerable residents and communities suffer. In response to the federal government's action, the Board passed a motion authored by Supervisors Hilda Solis and Janice Hahn, directing County Counsel to file a lawsuit challenging this rule.

7. Pet-Friendly Housing Ordinance For people experiencing homelessness, a beloved pet can be a source of strength to carry on in an incredibly difficult situation. However, in addition to an affordable housing shortage, there is a distinct lack of pet-friendly housing, meaning responsible pet owners are extremely limited in their options and can even be forced to make the gut-wrenching decision to give up their four-legged friends. But animal lovers in Los Angeles County can rejoice, because this week, the Board passed the Pet-Friendly Housing Ordinance, which stipulates that county-funded developments must have a pet-friendly policy. The ordinance allows for tenants to have at least one pet, provided it is cared for in accordance with State, Federal, and local laws. These requirements align with a similar LA City ordinance and a statewide bill signed into law in 2017.

8. Beach Emergency Evacuation Lights System Los Angeles County strives to incorporate accessibility for people with disabilities in all facets of our services, so I am very pleased that the Board passed a motion Kuehl co-authored with Supervisor Janice Hahn to implement the Beach Emergency Evacuation Lights System (BEELS) pilot at Torrance Beach, with the goal of expanding to all Beaches and Harbors operated public beaches. This action was inspired by an employee who is the parent of a hearing-

impaired child, who noticed that the current system, which uses audible alarms like whistles, sirens, and announcements, might be ineffective to adequately warn deaf or hearing impaired swimmers of a potential emergency. BEELS utilizes visual cues like lights, in addition to the standard alarm system. Developed in consultation with the Greater Los Angeles Agency on Deafness, BEELS will be monitored, controlled, and activated by the Fire Department's Lifeguards via a remote wireless system, which will be able to control the areas and range of lights activated during an emergency. For example, if there is a tsunami warning, BEELS can be activated at all beaches along the LA County coastline, or if there is a shark sighting at a local beach, BEELS activation can be isolated to the affected area. This state of the art system will make our beaches safer and more inclusive for all visitors.

c. Debbie Dyner-Harris, District Director for CD5

1. Introduced Angel Izard, new Field Deputy for our area.
2. Announced a bridge housing site at La Cienega and Pico
3. If there's trash as part of a homeless encampment, please call the CD5 office for cleanup.
4. There's a new integration with CalTrans to enforce cleanup
5. No tents on sidewalks from 6 am to 9 pm
6. There's a draft EIR for sidewalk repair – the first wave of repairs removed a significant number of trees so now there's planning so that repair doesn't mean loss of tree canopy.
7. Street vending is now legal with proper permits
8. There's a Westwood greenway project underway
9. The Census is vital to receiving funding for services. It will primarily take place online and the Census Bureau is looking to hire, especially people who speak languages other than English.

d. Jamie Kennerk, Field Representative of Assemblymember Kamlager-Dove

1. Lattes and Legislation with the Assemblymember on January 25th
2. AD 32 which ends private prisons and SB206 the Fair Pay to Play act which would require college athletes to be paid

5. PRESENTATION (discussion and possible action items)

- a. Presentation on proposed project at 10275 W. Pico-A conditional use permit to allow the sale of dispensing of a full-line of alcohol beverages for a new 1,850sqft restaurant having 40 interior seats and an uncovered 1,720 sqft patio having 50 exterior seats. Hours of operation are from 6am-2am daily by Mark Jones. The building is a historic red brick building that had housed a restaurant. Steve Roe, a neighbor spoke in support.

Motion: To support the prospective project with a recommended condition to the ZA that once the tenant is identified that the applicant return to the NC to present the mode and character of operation prior to effectuation by Margaret Taylor, second by Lisa Morocco

Yes 1, 2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,17

No

Abstentions

- b. Presentation from GPI on the renovation of West End (Old Macy's) 18000 Pico Blvd. – not present

c. Presentation on proposed TOC project at 2600-2616 S. Sepulveda Boulevard and 11164 Richland Avenue. Planning Case Nos. DIR-2019-4705 (Requests Environmental Assessment and transit Oriented Communities designation) by Matthew Hayden.

The proposed project was submitted as a TOC project consisting of a 5-story, 43-unit apartment complex including 5 affordable (10% extremely low income) units with subterranean parking containing 46 vehicle parking spaces and 41 bicycle parking spaces. TOC density bonus includes a 70% increase in density, increase of FAR from 3:1 to 4.5:1, and minimum parking space requirement of 0.5 parking spaces per unit.

Other incentives being applied per LAMC Sec. 12.22.A.31 include: additional height (+22 feet), reduced front and rear yard setbacks (4.5 foot front yard instead of 15-foot front yard and 10.5 foot rear yard setback instead of 15-foot rear yard), reduced open space (25% reduction). Additional request: waiver of street dedication and improvements along Richland Avenue (per LAMC Sec. 12.37).

The subject site location includes 4 parcels with a total of 8 existing housing units. Charles Horwitz and Loral Carillo, neighbors spoke in opposition.

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--MER for November and December 2019.

Motion: To approve the MER for November 2019 by Lisa Morocco, second by Jae Wu

Yes 1, 2,3,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,17

No

Abstentions

Ineligible to vote 4

Motion: To approve the MER for December 2019 by Lisa Morocco, second by Jae Wu

Yes 1, 2,3,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,17

No

Abstentions

Ineligible to vote 4

b. Outreach, Lisa Morocco:

- \$1500 to FOWLA for WLAPD Baker to Vegas Run – no motion made

c. Chair Report, Terri Tippit

- \$60 for Backblaze computer back up system

Motion: To approve \$60 for Backblaze computer back up system by Lisa Morocco, second by Jae Wu

Yes 1, 2,3,5,6,7,8,9,11,12,13,17

No

Abstentions

Ineligible to vote 4

c. Homeless Committee, Sean McMillan –

- reminder that the Homeless Count is vitally important to receiving services for our neighborhoods
- Homeless Committee meeting on January 22nd at Heyler Realty

e. Planning Committee, Barbara Broide and Kim Christensen

- Update on Planning Issues – see attached report

f. WRAC report, Barbara Broide no report

7. ADJOURNMENT: 9:25 pm