

Westside Neighborhood Council
July 9, 2020 6:00 pm
Los Angeles, CA ZOOM
Meeting Minutes
Webinar ID: 921 1727 7680

- 1) **Welcoming Remarks:** Meeting called to order at 6:08 pm by Chair Terri Tippit. Agenda was posted on screen. She noted that Parliamentarian Jane Wishon will be monitoring the participants/speakers and will unmute as needed. Ms. Tippit explained that during discussion of agenda items following the presentation, the public speaks first so that the Board may consider public comments when making their own comments and decisions on motions. To speak, if you have phoned in, press “*9” keys. Those online should raise their hand image. Speakers should identify themselves with their name and address. When public comment has closed, board members will speak stating their name and seat number prior to commenting. Item #3 on the agenda is for public comment on any items NOT already on the agenda. Those speaking in public comment will have two minutes to speak. The Board cannot take action on something raised in public comment but we can place it on the next meeting agenda.

Seats in attendance: Seat 1-Jae Wu, Seat 2-Lisa Morocco, Seat 3 arriving late (prior to commencement of 5a), Seat 4-Kim Christensen, Seat 5-Louis Schillace (joining at 7:40 pm), Seat 6-Vicki Curry, Seat 7- Barbara Broide, Seat 8-Terri Tippit, Seat 9-Sean McMillan, Seat-10 Mary Williams, Seat 11-Mary Kusnic, Seat 12-Mark Sedlander (following vote Item 2B), Seat-13 Jane Wishon, Seat-14 Shannon Burns, Seat 15- Caryn Friedman, Seat 17-Joanne Dorfman, Seat 18-Joseph Roth. Absent: Seat 16-Wendy Dox. The Chair explained the protocol of zoom meetings, and public comment, giving the two-minute limit per speaker. Seat 2-Lisa Morocco and Seat 14 – Shannon Burns departed during discussion of item 5c. Mark Sedlander departed prior to Item 6.

2) **Administrative Items**

2a) Approval of the **June 11, 2020 WNC Governing Board meeting minutes**. Motion: Shannon Burns, Second Lisa Morocco (Seat2) Abstain-0 No-0 Yes-14 votes:

1,2,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,17,18 motion passed.

2c) Presentation of **monthly treasurer’s report** on WNC’s Funding Program account, including review and approval of Purchase Card’s monthly statement and MER for June 2020. Balance remaining at year end after June expenditures of \$ 3969.08 was \$ 237.98. Motion was made by Shannon Burns to approve the June 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) Seconded by Jane Wishon. Abstain: 0 No:0 Yes 14 votes: 1 2,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,17,18 motion passed.

Freddy Cuppen-Ames (DONE) noted that the NC Funding Program can be observed and is accessible to all online. He recommended that WNC place the MER on our website.

2b) Selection of Seat 12 Representative: Mark Sedlander, current alternate to Seat 12 to replace recently vacated seat held by Board Member Colleen Mason Heller. (See supporting document letter from Cheviot Hills HOA). Candidate Sedlander addressed the Board indicating his interest in serving on the WNC. Motion: Jane Wishon moved and Jae Wu seconded motion to appoint Mr. Sedlander to fill the remaining term for Seat 12. Abstain: 0, No: 0, Yes: 14 votes -1,2,4,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,14,15,17,18 motion passed. Freddy Cuppen-Ames of DONE asked whether Mark had completed the Funding training and Chair Tippit indicated that he had done so although it was not yet recorded by DONE. All welcomed Mark.

3) Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: No hands raised for Public Comment

4) Community/Government Reports & Announcements:

LAPD: LAPD SLO Chris Baker reported on an 11% overall decrease in crime with Grand Theft Auto being our number one crime which also plagues the entire City and country. He advised that if you have a garage to lock your car in, do it. An individual responsible for three lewd acts on Pico was taken into custody yesterday; that individual was on probation and was in violation of the probation. In SLO Rick Ballesteros' area crime was up 14% overall with vehicle crimes and robberies noted increases. He described the difference between theft and robbery and noted that the 99 Cent store is the location of many of the crimes. He advised not to put yourself in harm's way if observing a theft/robbery. There was a shooting incident (no one was hit) June 6 at the hotel at Bellwood and Olympic related to a party there. The victims left the area and were not cooperative with police.

Lisa Morocco mentioned belligerent homeless/street people harassing The Stalking Horse Pub on Pico with some now entering the restaurant and removing food from plates. John O Groats also noted increased issues, as did Atticus. Advice? Officer Baker noted an increase of transients new to this area stated there are new homeless in our area unknown to the officers -- a "different type of transient." He said that he will make an extra patrol request that will be filled based on availability of a patrol car. Barbara asked about the current LAPD deployment at the homeless housing operation at Rancho Park noting the numbers of officers that had been assigned there and removed from other work. Officer Baker reported that the daytime officers are no longer there and that they are only there during evening hours.

Public Comment/Questions: Edmund Hagadi (or Agadir?): Noting homeless in the shopping center where he works, homeless people on bikes in the walkway at Westwood Court Shopping Center, 1911-1949 ½ Westwood Blvd. Don Wood indicated that he visits the Westwood Recreation Center twice a day. Today on the first visit there were two LAPD cars there, and the second time three. In the past two weeks only once was there one car there. Is this overkill? Officer Baker indicated that there were quite a few incidents there. Abby Coleman asked if there are any other staff there onsite such as social workers. Jane answered that there are a full complement of social services available at the city COVID homeless sites.

Angel Izard, CD 5 – Reporting on the homeless counts from COVID homeless operations: Cheviot Hills Rec Center: 19 of 21 beds are occupied inside the facility. 107 of 108 trailers are occupied with 1 open. Westwood Rec Center: 26 of 83 beds inside are occupied, 40 of 44 trailers occupied with 4 open. The

facilities have halted rec center building admissions and there are efforts to scale back on use of rec center. The CD 5 office has not heard of any crime links to the Rancho Park shelter; there have been a few trash issues but otherwise it has been quiet. One resident was found to be positive for COVID and was hospitalized and is already back to the center. The Mayor's press briefing had numbers that were pretty bad. Census return percentages are pretty low and those figures will affect around 50% of Federal funds allocated to regions as well as the numbers of Congressional representatives. Representatives of Cheviot Hills HOA met with LADWP regarding power outages experienced over the past year or so seeking info on why these are happening and plans for upgrades to be made over the next year. City Council is in recess until July 28. Angel can be contacted via email at: angel.izard@lacity.org

Public Comment/Questions: Mary Kopp/Veteran Ave. reiterated the need for stakeholders to respond to the Census. Our area is very low "abysmal" and we should push for our neighbors to participate. Cindy Kane of Glenbar Ave. spoke to the DWP **meets?** and offered to share a written summary of the proceedings with those interested. Steven Wynbrandt/Cushdon Ave. asked for clarification of Angel's affiliation: She is CD 5 Field Deputy for Councilmember Koretz who covers the WNC area. Dan Nishimoto/Military Ave asked if any hotels in the area are participating in Project Roomkey. Angel replied that the **Sherman?** Hotel in CD 5 is the only one available for COVID positive individuals. Barbara Broide asked for number of responses by area. Angel indicated she would do a presentation for any community group.

Zach Gaidzik – Office of Sheila Kuehl County Supervisor 3rd District – In the interest of time, Zach referred attendees to his written report.

Freddy Cupen-Ames- Dept. Of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE): Freddy called attention to a time sensitive survey sent to Board Members. The new fiscal year has begun and due to budget situation, departments will be having cuts – more details to come. delayed and is not yet ready this month. DONE Is doing their best to provide services as restructuring is taking place; he will keep us informed.

5. Presentation (taken out of order):

5b) Westside Community Safety and Disaster Preparedness Fair / Funding request: Cynthia Saffir reported and noted that all presentation materials have been posted and are available on the WNC website. She indicated that a core of people are dedicated to the upcoming event which is even more important during a time of pandemic, earthquakes and wildfires. She hopes all looked at the survey from last year's event which showed appreciation for the fair, the interaction with participants and the fact that attendees do not feel adequately prepared. In light of the results, it was decided to expand the scope of the event to serve the combined areas of the WNC, WLANC and Palms NC. Content would also be expanded to include infectious disease info and wildfire prevention. The committee's goal has been to have an in-person fair Nov. 8th although as the pandemic continues that is looking unlikely unless some miracle comes along. Therefore they are looking at doing a virtual fair where attendees could go to a booth, see demonstrations, etc., rather than presenting a string of webinars. It is not a lot cheaper to do a virtual fair. Actual Fair budgets at around \$47,000 and the virtual fair at \$38,000+. They are submitting a \$5,000 request from WNC and will ask for \$5K from each NC. CD11/Bonin's office is

contributing. CD5/Koretz's office has pledged \$2,500 to a virtual fair and \$5,000 to a physical fair. City, County, State reps, HOA and business contributions also being sought.

NOTE: Added attendance Louis Schillace. 16 board member voters now on the call.

Public Comment/Questions: William Keith: This is a challenging time with many public safety concerns. The SF Valley has the City's largest event with the Westside event the third largest in LA County. Ron Migdal/Purdue & Missouri: Spoke to the need for support of the fair and indicated that the WLA Sawtelle NC is very excited about joining in and contributing and that it would be a shame if WNC decided to back off. He asked for support. Cindy Kane said that she is a second year member of the committee, voiced support for the event and asked WNC to support. Michael Stevenson stated his support for the fair and thinks it is a great idea. He asked if participating vendors pay for their space. Cynthia answered that in the past they have asked for a considerable raffle donation and that vendors offer participants a discount on whatever they are selling. Ron Nishimoto observed that the highest event costs are related to supplies given away to attendees. If the fair is virtual, he asked what's the plan for this? Cynthia answered that in the past they used the giveaways as a way to keep track of registration and which booths attendees visited. Public comment period was then closed.

Board Discussion: Sean (seat 9): Casts his support to fund in full. Of all the things we are facing, safety is paramount. Lack of preparation for the pandemic lies with each of us. We may not have access to all supplies. I have used the N95 mask from last year's emergency kit now. Joseph (seat 18): Sees community interest and support for the event. Asks when will decision need to be made re: virtual or in-person fair? How is success evaluated? Cynthia answered: The need to invest money to build a virtual platform is a moving target/soon. Final decision will need to be made by 8/1 or 8/15 at the latest. Success? Raised hands, numbers of trainings that people attend, etc. Shannon (seat 14): Supports in principal. Issues she has: 1) Timing 11/8 problematic with expected second wave of pandemic. Would like to move it to springtime. 2) Concern about DONE policy such as the ban on live events until further notice. City now trying to determine how to approve activities. We have to submit any budget requests and even if we apply as a virtual event, it may be subject to DONE saying no. Cynthia indicated that if this is a community event presented through FOWLA, then it would not be covered by DONE rules and regs. Terri noted that DONE would want any funding returned if the Fair doesn't happen at all. DONE must approve the Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG). She noted that other NCs had money left at the end of this fiscal year that they are carrying over; WNC does not. Shannon asked what the difference might be between hosting the event vs. sponsoring the event. Answer: it didn't matter. City Clerk must approve? Must decide 8/1 or 8/8? Barbara (seat 7) asked if the proceedings could be videotaped for ongoing posting such as past emergency prep programs presented by Holmby/Westwood HOA. Answer: They will find a way to keep the best presentations but still want to present the fair as a fair. They hope that people will be able to see and look at them over time. Lisa (seat 2): Voiced a "shout out" to all involved and especially to Cynthia. She affirmed that a lot of what Terri said is true. The NPG hand off to FOWLA, affirm what Sean said. This fair covers a lot of what we talk (?) about. Safety and health crisis follows homeless issues, business community concerns. We do need to be cautious as we took a 25% cut on our funds. We need to be mindful in the event that our dollar amount given is even less. Mary W. (seat 10): Thank you to Cynthia and all those involved. The event is something the community benefits from. Can we do what Koretz's office has done? Terri:

We can only approve a virtual event. If they seek live event funding, we have to wait until August. Jae (seat 1): As Lisa said this is a labor of love. She loves Barbara's idea of recording programs but don't tell people until afterwards. The proceedings can be posted on participating NC sites. Wonderful idea. Not a fan of a live event in November at all. Need to find an innovative/creative way to get materials out to people or a pick up process. We can make it work. Terri: I don't know what to say about physical. Cynthia: If pandemic gets worse, no desire to put anyone at risk and it would be very unlikely to have a live event. Jane: proposed motion: \$5,000 NPG for virtual Safety Emergency Preparedness Fair. If not virtual, it goes nowhere. Recommends no funding for police Barstow to Vegas race uniforms. TT notes \$18,501 sponsorship funds raised are halfway there. How will you raise the other half of the funds? A: businesses, Supervisor Kuehl. Terri: Businesses have been hit hard. If you don't get as much as you want, can you cut down on giveaways? Cynthia: Yes, that is where the cuts will come. Sean: Is it possible to charge some of the vendors who attend? Cynthia: Vendors didn't have much interest in doing the event if charged. Jane: If virtual, no need for raffle. Terri: We will take a vote. Motion: Sean McMillan moved and Jane Wishon seconded: Motion for WNC to support the NPG to FOWLA in the amount of \$5,000 for a virtual safety emergency preparation fair.

Discussion: Lisa noted because the agenda item lists a \$5000 amount, we can consider \$5,000 or less, not a greater amount. If the motion fails, we can consider a lesser amount. Shannon: Tend to agree with Terri re: \$2,500 vs. \$5,000. Has a big issue with the \$5000 thing. We have an election coming; we can't help if we are working on the November general election. Better in springtime. Terri: Motion does not specify when – only that it is virtual. Lisa: Motion to clarify that the money we would give is good until the end of the fiscal year- up to June 30. Abstain: 0, No: 2 votes- Seat 8, 14; Yes: 14 votes -1,2,4,5,6,7,9,10,11,12,13,15,17,18 motion passed.

Jeff Hronik Seat 3 arrived during the previous discussion.

5a) CUP application 1936-1942 Westwood Blvd.

Prior to the commencement of the item, Barbara Broide (Seat 7) stated that she would be recusing herself from discussion or consideration of the item as a property she and her husband own falls just within the edge of the 500 feet notice area of the project. Jae Wu (Seat 1) also recused herself from this item.

Athena Novak, made the presentation on the conditional use permit request to convert 1936-1942 Westwood Blvd. from a mixed-use apartment building to a mixed-use hotel with retail/café/restaurant uses remaining on ground floor which seeks to convert 30 apartment units to 30 hotel units. (See supporting documents posted on WNCla.org website) She thanked the WNC for hearing about the project. She described the property as consisting of 13, 205 square feet lot size, zoned C4 for commercial uses and is currently a mixed use residential development consisting of 3450 square feet of ground floor retail and 30 units of approximately 400 square feet each with small kitchenettes. She stated that it has been used over the last 8 years for short term rentals. Parking is in the below level garage with 20 spaces for commercial uses and 30 spaces for the rooms for a total of 50 parking spaces. She added that Tess Halavy went door to door to nearby business owners and obtained 8 letters indicating that a hotel would bring customers who would frequent their shops and services. Tess got 5

letters from residents who live in the community and 2 letters from rabbis in support. In response to concerns raised from the community: There will be no rear balconies and rear lighting which we have agreed to. Willing to have a light designer and architect to see that there will be no glare or light intrusion to residential neighbors. Will install solar on rooftop. Roof use only for solar panels. Have agreed to have loaner bicycles for guest use – “beautiful bicycles,” maybe some three wheel bicycles and bikes for families. “We will have all the safety equipment available as well.” Re: active pedestrian uses – will have beautiful pedestrian uses at ground floor. Community serving at ground level. Maybe something more frequented. Dedicated area for drop offs-Uber/Lyft in the driveway which has two lanes. If there is a doorman, there will be a way for the doorman to signal guests to go to driveway (when Westwood has no stopping or parking during peak traffic hours). Yes, free parking absolutely. Susan McCowan (*spelling?*) very creative mind. Will make building attractive. Camouflage activities such as this (referring to the underground parking driveway being open in rear). I would encourage them to hire a landscaper. We could come up with an approved plan for landscape – in front instead of pots. We are willing to come to NC and present to you for you to chime in on the landscape plan before final. It will be operated by a third party operator. (No names of potential operators shared.) We would give the names of operators –could frequent it before we retain it. Ms. Novak requested CUP approval. We would hope you would vote in favor and support the use.

Public comment/questions: Steven Resnick, Kelton Ave: Urge you to vote a resounding no. Removing 30 rental units off the market exacerbates the housing shortage. Increasing homelessness. Housing so desperately needed. I don't think they meet the findings. Don't meet the need. Not essential to have hotel. Steve Sann, 901 Westwood Bl: I would urge the board not to support. Here in Westwood, students suffer the highest rent in the country. Studio units are ideal for grad ? students to house those who live in our community. It is wrong to exacerbate housing crisis and remove 30 units while the state seeks to rezone more and more R1 properties via bills such as SB 50 for housing. Natalie Pritzger, 607 Midvale: Longtime resident, environmental lawyer, UCLA alum. Supports. Would create a lot of jobs. Business community on life support. Better than all office space. Shortage of hotels. Could provide housing for visitors to UCLA. Sophia Rlmer, 1600 Manning: Grew up in Westwood. Call in support. Special place. Hurts to see small businesses hurting. Need to learn to adapt to COVID. “Sonya” Afsaneh Mahdipour, 1600 Wilkins: Westwood Blvd. important to Iranian community. Many friends and family come, shop and dine on Westwood Blvd. Our community shops and synagogues are here. A hotel will add charm to the boulevard. Seppi Estendi, 1600 Ashton: I like the neighborhood. Very walkable. Westwood Blvd. needs more shoppers and economic activity. This would do that. A lot of the apartments around UCLA are empty now. Daniel Galdjle, 2200 Parnell (*spelling?*): We need hotels. I support. Shorhreh Verehi (*spelling?*), 2000 Midvale: Works at Felicia Mahood. For the Jewish community it is important. Supports the project. Michael Afar, 300 Dalkeith: Works in Century City. Tight knit community. Supports. Sharon Saedi of Tacos Su Madre: Restaurant in favor. It would help us out with foot traffic. Abby Coleman, 1833 Westholme: Pretty bad idea. Hotels are sitting empty; not sure when tourists will come back. If you are concerned about homeless, bad idea. My parents visit the area frequently and stay on Santa Monica Blvd. This use prices out 30 former tenants. Vmond (Edmond?) Hajooli: Owns shopping center across the street. Vital to revitalize. Less than 500 feet away will be new units/building next to pet store. Put that part of Westwood on the map to revitalize the whole area. Jordan Wyner, 2100 Overland: Absurd to consider whether we need another hotel and

coffee shop. Should be what people need, not what project needs. Strongly against this project. Etan Miller, 2000 Midvale: Heavily support this project. Atmosphere that caters to the boulevard- European atmosphere. Create a lot of revenue. General contractor. Impose a condition to hire locals to support the vision and make it a reality. Michael Shaw, Campbell Dr.: Strongly oppose, as previous individuals have noted – there is a homeless and housing crisis. Another hotel is the last thing we need. Tess Halavy: Not going to dispute. This existing building rents for well over \$6/square foot furnished. Primarily used for a month or two – short term. Not a displacement issue. Dana Tally, 2600 Military Ave: This is not affordable housing. All a part of one system. As people can't afford housing, they move to another neighborhood. Oppose this. Public comment closed. Angel Izard speaking on behalf of CD5: The Councilmember is of the opinion that he does not support the project based on removal of 30 units of housing. Motion: Jane Wishon moved and Joanne Dorfman seconded motion to oppose the CUP application.

Discussion: Kim: Land use Committee held and a number of comments were generated by participants on the Zoom meeting. Athena has submitted a list of conditions the project would meet if approved. She noted that the building was permitted to be operated as an apartment mixed use project –not for short term rental use. Kim does not feel the CUP supports the General Plan. She voiced concern that if the Board were to support, she did not know if the items included on the list of items agreed to by the developer would be enforceable. Her main concern is losing 30 units of workforce housing. Mary W said she supports the motion to oppose because decreased housing supply results in increased pressure on prices. Don't like that apartments were used as short term rentals. Shannon: As of two years ago how many long term tenants did you have? Frank Halavy (project partner): I think none. Shannon: How many have been displaced by the decision to rent short term? Frank Halavy: For the past 8 years operated as AirBnB. Since December we stopped. Now on longer term, fully furnished. Shannon: Looking at those who spoke during public comment of those who opposed 5 were from the WNC area with 3 supporting. The majority of those supporting the project were from outside the WNC area. Caryn: Can't support. Spoke to many residents and people on the boulevard. Don't believe we need another boutique hotel. Joseph: Intrigued by the idea. Conditions can't be enforced by us. Have concern about traffic along Westwood Blvd. If the City were to approve this conversion, I would not want to hear from them again about the City's needs for affordable or workforce housing if they permit conversion to a hotel. Not the right time for this project. Vote: Abstain: 4 (Seats 5,6,8,11), No: 2 (2,15), Yes: 9 (Seats 3,4,10, 12,13,14,17,18. Motion to oppose CUP passes.

5c) People's Budget Presentation

Abby Coleman gave a presentation on the People's Budget. Jane noted that we cannot vote on the presentation/on a position tonight. Do we want to support the People's Budget?

Discussion: Sean: Appreciates the presentation. Seat 9 Rancho Park neighborhood outreach brought in several hundred responses (Midvale – Overland) on the subject. There was a tremendous amount of pushback. People don't understand. I don't mind a police presence. There are thoughtful people out there. In these immediate uncertain times, 98% of those who responded would not support. Jane: The details are not there. How do you implement? What policy is needed for response to non-violent calls? This is an aspirational thing; we are not the right place, not the right body. Terri: How would this be

implemented? Who is to make the decisions? Big questions regarding \$150 million cut in police budget. Too many unanswered questions. The concept is good. Abby: Thinks it is a good thing because it got the City Council talking about budget issues, got them talking about mental health resources. Pacific Palisades example showed that social workers are doing a better job dealing with the homeless than police. It is very vague but exciting that discussion is moving forward. Good to keep pressure on Council. More money should go to different types of services for the homeless, service resistant. It is an aspirational goal.

Public comment/questions: John Mackel, Lorenzo Ave and Cheviot Hills HOA: Very vague. City Council already cut the LAPD budget. Westside has been underserved for decades. With \$150 million cut we will possibly have less services. What will the level of service be in the future? It should be clarified. People's Budget wants complete defunding. Jordan Wyner: It is a vague budget; we know it is worth the effort to stand behind it even though vague. Would chaos rule the streets of LA? Good to back aspiration. Maura Howe, Cushdon Ave: Want to put out that City Controller notes \$500 million in LAPD overtime expenses last year. Crimes that have police reports at the end of day result in officers working overtime to complete the reporting. Worth looking at People's Budget. Important to get a handle on where police money is going to marshal forces. Don Nishimoto, 2632 Military: The details on the People's Budget are at PBLA.com. Residents in our neighborhood have a very different relationship with police. I respect local officers. Impact of LAPD on entire city and how people experience are different. How to restructure budgets of multiple city agencies/departments? Bob Keehn, President of Cheviot Hills HOA: Apologize about being under informed on the topic. My concern re: budget is a bit vague. Have not done any polling yet. Proposal seems to be a bit vague. Some changes are in order. Barbara: Invited WSSM email blast recipients to comment. Aspirational goal. Important to keep in mind that different communities have very different experiences and perceptions of police. Hard to fashion a one size fits all response. Jane: Involved with another group that supported People's Budget. Yes, \$150 million was cut. However, still funding LAPD where they were last year. There is overpolicing of non-white neighborhoods. If you have a response to someone who is thinking about committing suicide... better not the police. Those are the kinds of cuts, where police are not trained to respond. Should be sent to a department. Kim: I understand and support the idea conceptually in terms of evaluating how funds are spent. Great to have it as an aspirational goal. I personally don't support it at this time without analysis. Need to evaluate tasks, performance metrics, different positions, etc. Shouldn't set a percentage blindly without facts. City Council should request study of old calls. What percentage for the different categories. Should look at in a non-emotional analytical way. ID those tasks that shouldn't be done in LAPD. Historically how it is done and how do we address it. Move staff to another department or have new positions in LAPD? Much to be done before. {NOTE: Seat 2 Lisa Morocco, and Seat 14 Shannon Burns have departed. Joseph: Concur with points raised by Kim. Need a big picture look at police priorities and funding. Should there be a third party analysis (rather than by Mayor or City Council)? Role for neighborhood Councils – not micromanaging. Rather movement for big picture, study and evaluation. Jane: Suggest formation of a committee to follow up on the issue. TT: Who to head / co-chair committee? Freddy: Made reference to the Council File on this issue: CFR 20-0692 LAPD BC Community Reinvestment. An AdHoc Committee consisting of Jane and Abby was formed. Possible presentation next month.

5d) West LA Homeless Coalition presentation

Michael Stevenson was introduced by Chair Tippit. Mr. Stevenson outlined the many issues related to the current homeless situation and called attention to the citizen effort initiated and implemented in Pacific Palisades that has served as a model for WLA homeless organizing. He noted that the Palisades community raised funds to hire a homeless outreach team (staffed by the People Concern) to reach out to the homeless. Despite millions of dollars and many staff positions created to address homelessness, outreach to the homeless confirms that those on the streets are not being reached out to. Don Woods's visits to homeless encampments and conversations with those there indicate a failure of the existing outreach teams to make contact and sustain contact – such that trust can be established. Our area currently has approximately 200 homeless and growing. No one is connecting all the dots to actually bring the services provided for homeless to the homeless they are intended to serve. Thus, the formation of WLA Homeless Coalition which seeks to hire an outreach team dedicated to this community – one that would serve the WNC area with the addition of the Westwood Homeowners Association (WHOA) north of SM Blvd. (to Wilshire). Fundraising to cover the expenses related to having the outreach team has begun.

Already WHOA has pledged \$12,500 and WSSM has pledged \$ 15,000. The group will be approaching businesses, homeowners associations, community organizations to raise the funds needed. Budget is estimated to be in the vicinity of \$277,000/year. (Could be \$240,000/year)

Terri: Who is PC? Answer: People Concern -- A social service organization that operates 6 facilities to house homeless, and does significant work for/with the County. This is the group that was retained by Pacific Palisades.

Public Comment/Questions:

Jordan Wyner: Obviously in support. The right thing to do. Grant the money or majority of funds. Solid concrete action you could do to improve the homeless situation on the Westside. Cindy Kane (volunteer with Peoples Concern): They are doing amazing work. I support this proposal. Public Comment closed.

Discussion: Sean: Voice support for Michael Stevenson and group. Very recently observed 8 new homeless on the Pico / Sepulveda corridors. Moving to critical mass. Especially problematic with COVID. People struggling for connection. Without contact they retreat, become streetworn. This is a humanitarian crisis. If we get buy-in from community leaders, it becomes very viable to get support from very large businesses in the community. This is the one path I have seen over the years of dealing with our homeless issue that has and demonstrated success. Mary W: Is serving on the committee. Have been in touch with Sean over the years. This is a great plan. We will raise the money. So many different layers are involved. Having somebody out there who can connect with the homeless is key. Takes pressure off the police. Recently encountered a homeless man in the middle of Olympic Blvd. If we get the community behind this we can get this model worked out and take it to other areas of the City. Vicky: Assumes People's Concern has committed to provide 2 case workers as I understand the social service field is stressed right now. Answer/Michael: We have an estimated budget from them of \$ 240,000. Kim: Homelessness is our number 1 problem. All are impacted. Someone camped in front

of my home. Many areas where homeless like to congregate. This is one of the highest priorities and where we should invest our money. Terri: Review of budget:

Provider cost	\$ 240,000.
Placement Costs/ housing related:	30,000.
Vehicle operation/reimbursements	9,000
Fund Raising	20,000
Administration	<u>15,000</u>
	\$ 277,000

Jane: The model is working in the Palisades. Other than a major earthquake, this s huge and what affects all of us. All these homeless brought to Rancho Park have resulted in new transients in the area. In favor of spending \$ 10,000. This is really what our budget is for – affects everyone. If they can’t raise the money? Additional issue with Judge’s order to move homeless encampments away from freeways. Jane observes that the ACLU will sue and it will be in the courts. Discussion: WLA Homeless has filed for 501(c)(3) status with IRS and is awaiting their non-profit designation letter. They can receive money on our behalf. Vote on the item postponed to next month as we are uncertain as to where the money is to go. (Pandemic has slowed IRS review.) Motion to grant \$10,000 moved to next month’s agenda. To whom will the funds go?

{Note: Mark departed prior to Board Reports item}

6. Board Reports

6b) Outreach: Motion: Jane moved and Jae seconded a motion to allocate \$400 to upgrade the WNC website to a newer version of Wordpress to make it more modern and a secure website. No discussion. Vote: Abstain: 0, No: 0, Yes: 14 votes:

6d) Planning Committee: Written Planning Report emailed with updates on various motions moving through City and statewide planning legislation.

Review of the following measures and votes were taken:

-- CF 20-0838 (Ryu) - to make permanent the Slow Streets Program. Motion: Barbara moved and Joseph seconded: WNC opposes measure to make the Slow Streets Program permanent at this time. Discussion summary: Program lacks criteria, staffing and evaluation on streets implemented to date. Current program has been in use during COVID when “normal” traffic patterns are not in force. Program impacts would need to be evaluated and likely may need CEQA evaluation. Traffic diversion and impacts should be addressed. The program sprouted up to address an immediate need during lockdown. Adopting it permanently is not appropriate without serious analysis, criteria, implementation and enforcement staffing. Vote: Abstain: 0, No: 0, Yes: 14 votes – Seats 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18. CIS to be issued.

--Motion: The WNC requests that the Los Angeles City Council immediately initiate a discussion and put in place a mechanism for developing reforms that can either be adopted by the Council or, if necessary, be placed on the ballot as a voter initiative no later than the 2022 City election. Motion made by Barbara, seconded by Jane. Vote: Abstain: 0, No: 0, Yes: 14 votes – Seats 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18. Letter to be written

--Motion: The WNC supports the intent of CM Ryu's CF 20-0609 motion to increase transparency and reduce pay-to-play environment surrounding land use decisions, but to request that alternative measures to increase transparency and public disclosure and involvement re: 245 invocation be explored before presentation of a ballot measure, including consideration that mandates the involvement of the area NC with the NC having the option of vetoing a proposed 245 action in their community. Motion made by Barbara, seconded by Kim. Vote: Abstain: 0, No: 0, Yes: 14 votes – Seats 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18. CIS to be written

6e) WRAC Motions:

--Motion: WNC insists that the Neighborhood Councils are not prohibited from communicating with non-City of Los Angeles government representatives and/or staff not with entities other than those within the City, regarding issues impacting their neighborhood; and that Neighborhood Councils are free to discuss any issues of local concern. Barbara moved, Kim seconded. Vote: Abstain: 0, No: 0, Yes: 14 votes – Seats 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18. Letter to be written

--Motion: The WNC recommends postponement of action on the proposed Atkins Housing Package of bills until such time as the previously enacted 2018 and 2019 housing legislation has been given a chance to increase housing production as promised. (The list of bills is available on WNC website.) Motion made by Barbara, seconded by Jane. Vote: Abstain: 0, No: 0, Yes: 14 votes – Seats 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18. Letter to be written to LA City Council urging inclusion in City's lobbying agenda.

7. Adjournment:

Upon motion, the meeting was adjourned at 10:30 pm. Vote: Abstain: 0, No: 0, Yes: 14 votes – Seats 1,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18. *(Who made and seconded the motion?)*

Supporting documents posted on wncla.org website in advance of the July meeting:

- [WNC agenda July 9 2020](#)

Support Documents:

- [WNC MER June2020](#)

Item 2b: [wnc CHHOA Sedlander WNC endorsement letter](#)

Item 5a: Halavy Project

- [Westwood CUP Plans](#)
- [Westwood Color Rendering](#)
- [Report to WNC Board re CUP Application 1936-1942 Westwood Blvd](#)
- [Westwood Blvd. CUP Application and Findings](#)
- [Halavy project to convert 1936-1942 Westwood Blvd Conditions](#)

Item 5c:

- [People's Budget Sample Letter](#)
- [LAPD programs](#)

Item 5d: [WNC WestLA Homeless.Plan. 5.25](#)

Item 6c: Safety Fair Proposal

- [WNC NPG 06.29.20](#)
- [Responses062920survey](#)
- [Summary Survey Data 062920\[1\]\[1\]](#)
- [WNC 2020 fair proposal July 2020 meeting](#)
- [Estimated expenses 2020 fair](#)

Item 6d (Planning Committee):

- [Ryu Slow Street Motion](#)
- [WNC Atkins Housing Bills](#)

Update from Supervisor Kuehl – [Read it here](#)