



WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
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**Westside Neighborhood Council
Meeting Minutes
August 13, 2020 6 pm
Los Angeles CA via ZOOM**

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 pm. The Chair Terri Tippit reviewed Zoom procedures and took role. Present were Board Members Seat 1- Jae Wu, 2, Seat 4-Kim Christensen, Seat 5 - Louis Schillace, Seat 6-Vicki Curry, Seat 7- Barbara Broide, Seat 8 Terri-Tippit, Seat 9 Sean McMillan. Seat -10 Mary Williams, Seat 12 - Mark Sedlander, Seat 13-Jane Wishon, Seat 15 - Caryn Friedman, Seat 17- Joanne Dorfman, Seat-18 Joseph Roth. Missing were seats 3 - Jeff Hronek, Seat 11 Mary Kusnic 11 joined at later 6:16pm, Seat 14- Shannon Burns, Seat 15- Caryn Friedman. Freddy Cupen-Ames from The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) was present to provide tech support.

Agenda Item 2

- a. The chair nominated Mary Williams (Seat 10) for Secretary for the remainder of the term. There was a **motion** by Sean McMillan (Seat 9) Seconded by Kim Christensen (Seat 4). The motion passed unanimously. Yes: 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13,15,17, 18
- b. There was a **motion** by seat 7 Barbara Broide seconded by seat 9 Sean McMillan to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2020 as corrected. The corrected minutes will be submitted to DONE. No discussion. Abstain: 2, 12. Remaining: Yes. 1,4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10,13,15,17, 18 Motion carried.
- c. Lisa Morocco presented the MER report for Shannon Burns. **Motion** to approve the MER for July, 2020 by Lisa, 2nd by Jane seat 13. No discussion. No abstain. All yes. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13,15,17, 18
- d. The WNC Board approved the budget for 2020-21 but we have a total of \$237.98 in rollover funds so we need to approve the revised budget for 2020-21 to include the rollover funds. We identified the under \$100 operational funds. We have a budget of \$3237.98 that will go towards under \$100 operational funds. The budget is: \$500 office supplies, \$1500 website hosting and maintenance, \$200 meeting refreshments, \$500 telephone expense, \$300 PO Box rental, printing \$237.98. **Motion** by Lisa Morocco seat 2 to approve revised 2020-2021 budget, seconded by Barbara Broide seat 8. Motion passed unanimously. No abstain. All yes. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 12, 13,15,17, 18. Barbara Broide suggested that we reserve funds for WRAC. The Neighborhood Council Congress will be in September online. They need support from NC's to cover expenses.

Mary Kusnic Seat 11 joined the meeting at 6:16 pm.

Agenda Item 3. Public Comment

The Chair Terri Tippit reviewed policies for procedures for Public Comment. No Public Comment.

Agenda item 4. Community/Government Reports & Announcements

LAPD Chris is on vacation and Rick is out of town so there is no report from the LAPD this month. Barbara commented that the Wednesday afternoon LAPD community calls have been moved to every other Wednesday.

Update from Angel IZARD CD5 Paul Koretz's office - angel.izard@lacity.org

Many businesses in the area have reported issues with the homeless. Angel attended a meeting organized by Lisa Morocco Seat 2 with several businesses to brainstorm ideas to address the issue. The following ideas were discussed: have the business fill out a trespassing form, hire private security, encourage volunteers to sign up with LAPD and signage.

The cots at Cheviot Hills Rec center are closed. The occupants have been moved to other housing. They are no longer taking in new occupants for the trailers. There are currently 99 people housed in the trailers and 9 trailers that are empty. Due to the order by Judge Carter, the City and CD5 is tasked with finding housing for the homeless that are sheltering under the freeways. Mr. Koretz's office is looking for locations for modular pods. One location under consideration is near the archery range at Cheviot. The conversation is ongoing. Available and open space in CD5 is limited. The options in the district are limited.

Discussion about party houses in CD5. The bars are closed now due to Covid so several Short Term Rental houses have become party houses. Mr. Koretz issued a press release to address the issue. Councilman's Koretz and Ryu presented a motion to the Planning Department to limit occupancy in Short Term Rentals to no more than 10 people.

Mr. Koretz introduced a motion to the City Council to impose fines for not wearing masks in public. The Mayor is hesitant to accept an ordinance of this nature due concerns over who would issue citations, community service? Other agencies such as parking enforcement? How can a face mask ordinance be enforced?

Mr. Koretz is asking for support opposing several state bills. State Bill SB 50 has now turned into 8 or 9 bills. Mr. Koretz is asking us to reach out to our assembly member to oppose those bills.

Several leaders met to discuss the Westside Community Plan. There is a proposal to extend the deadline for community input to October 15, 2020. Send any feedback to Angel at angel.izard@lacity.org

Barbara Broide inquired if there is a second park under consideration for the tiny homes for the homeless. Angel commented that in addition to Cheviot they are looking at the park in Westwood near the Federal Bldg, possibly federal space at the VA and UCLA.

Sean inquired if people have been transferred from Cheviot to Westwood rec center. Angel responded that she was not aware of such transfers. Sean asked what has Councilman Koretz done to inform the community about the 8 or 9 bills that impact zoning? Angel responded that he is encouraging us to reach out to our stakeholders. Terri encouraged us to send the letter from Koretz to stakeholders. Joseph commented that there is a link to Mr. Koretz's letter on the CD5 website. Barbara Broide commented that the proposed state bills change daily. We need to lobby Sacramento.

Update from Zac Gaidzik - Representative from LA County SD3 Sheila Kuehl's office 60

Zac provided a recap of Covid cases in LA County. In LA County total cases today 1999, total cases in LA County 216,139 with 64 deaths reported today 5,171 total deaths. Hospitalizations 1481. The numbers are better than a month ago. LA County had 2,383 hospitalizations last month, the highest of the pandemic, so the numbers are improving. Testing 2,000,000+ people with a 7 day positivity rate of 6.4% at County Health testing sites. The office is encouraging the community to go to a primary care doctor if possible. The testing site on the VA Campus is back online but to qualify for testing at that location one must be high risk, an essential worker, living in institutionalized housing such as a nursing home or homeless shelter, or experiencing symptoms. Reminder that the best protection against Covid19 is hand washing, avoid touching eyes or mouth with your hands, practice social distancing, and wear a clean face mask when you leave home.

Due to Covid, changes to the 2020 November election procedures will be implemented. The Board of Supervisors passed a motion co-authored by Supervisor's Kuehl and Hahn. For the March election, 94% of the in person vote was completed in the last 4 days of the election so the timing for in person voting has been shortened from 11 days to 5 days. This is in an effort to reduce the health risk and burden on the poll staff and volunteers, so that more voting centers can be open with more training. Disaster Service Workers will be the primary poll workers and these workers will clean the polling places.

LA County has established a Covid relief fund composed of small grants for small businesses, microenterprises and nonprofits that have been impacted by Covid. The fund provides small grants of \$5,000-\$15,000. There are several application periods available. Zac will email details. Applications can be found at www.LAcovidfund.org

USPS issues and vote by mail - every LA County resident will receive a ballot. No stamp is required. There will be about 400 ballot drop boxes throughout the County as required by law. There will be ballot drop boxes available at the Post Office and you don't have to wait in line to drop off a ballot.

LA County passed a motion co-authored by Kuehl and Solis for the County and City Council to initiate litigation against the proposed Trump initiative that would impact the allocation of resources and exclude undocumented immigrants from the population count used to apportion congressional representatives.

There was a discussion about ballot boxes with questions concerning ballot box security and how the boxes will be supervised. Zac commented that the boxes are made of many layers of reinforced steel, many are located in locations that can be supervised 24/7 and if not the ballots are removed at the end of the day. The boxes will be available 30 days before the election starting early October. Vote counting cannot start until the polls are closed. There was a discussion about the 2020 Census and the deadline. There was a question about Covid testing and the messaging to go to a primary care doctor rather than the public testing sites. There was a discussion about voting locations and the need to replace school poll locations.

Freddy Cupen-Ames Report from DONE - Freddy.cupen-ames@lacity.org

Mayor Garcetti will be visiting VANC on August 29 and the NC Emergency Preparedness Alliance, Saturday, August 29 and the NC Sustainability Alliance. DONE has been restructured due to budget cuts. NEA's have been reassigned. There are now 12 NEA's for 99 NC's. Make sure you are up to date on your training. Visit the Empower LA/data website to access a list of dashboards and data. 6:30-7:30 pm tiny.cc/E/la website. The Department purchased a Canva account for all NC's. The WNC Outreach Chair

can gain access by emailing canva@empowerla.org to get set up on the DONE Canva account. The Bylaws have been updated. Please reach out to your community for the census. Wear a mask. Save the date for Congress of Neighborhoods, Saturday, September 26. Registration will be opening late August.

Agenda Item 5

5.a. Michael Stevenson presentation about the West LA Homeless.org (WLAH.org) and request for up to \$10,000 in funding. The organization was inspired by Sean McMillan of WNC. The WLAH organization is replicating the format used by the Pacific Palisades Task Force on Homelessness. WLAH.org was organized in March, 2020 has filed a 501c3 and is raising funds to engage the People's Concern to hire two social workers to engage those who are experiencing homelessness. The territory covered by WLAH is the WNC area and the adjoining Westwood Homeowners Association neighborhood. WLAH social workers will engage with and connect the homeless community with the services and resources that are available to meet their needs. Michael asked the WNC for support and for a grant of \$10,000. The documentation for the neighborhood purpose grant (NPG) will be submitted if the motion for the funding is approved. The NPG will be posted to the WNC website if the motion passes. There was open discussion about the WLAH strategy. Freddy shared the beta version of the DONE website and data collected from LA311 calls showing hotspots and encampments. Jane, Seat 13 made a motion to approve the NPG in the amount of \$10,000. The motion was seconded by Lisa, Seat 2. Sean McMillan Seat 9 and Mary Williams Seat 10 recused themselves from the vote. The motion was approved unanimously. Abstain: 0 No: 0 Yes: 1,4,5, 6,7,8,11,13,15,17,18 Recused: 9,10

5.b. Abigail Coleman passed on her presentation of the People's Budget. The People's Budget is available for review on the WNC website.

5.c. Jane Wishon made a presentation about the Resolution for the City of Los Angeles to declare Racism as a Public Health Crisis. Jane clarified that this is in reference to Institutional racism, for example in the police department. Resolution "THEREFORE, be it resolved that we are calling upon the City of Los Angeles to present a motion classifying institutional racism as a public health crisis. Instruct all City agencies to conduct internal reviews of all their current policies, instruct all City agencies to prepare individual reports." A similar motion was passed by Rampart NC. If this passes we will submit it to WRAC. Jane seat 13 made a motion that WNC support the resolution. The motion was seconded by Sean McMillan Seat 9. The floor was opened for public comment. Barbara Palley 2632 Military Avenue expressed support and stated that the City needs to proactively make amends for a history of racism. The LA County report "Portrait of LA County" gave WLA a human development score of 8 on an index of 10. She quoted findings from the 2018 report.

Angel IZard CD5 Field Deputy had questions about the resolution and suggested a community impact statement. Freddy clarified that there is already a Council file (20-0715) at City Council and a CIS could be addressed to a subcommittee or commission such as the Immigrant Affairs, Civil Rights and Equity committee. Title is "Racism/Public Health Crisis/Policies and Procedures/Racial Equity Training". This resolution was voted on by the City Council on June 20, 2020. Abigail Coleman commented that she supports the resolution and supports the idea of City departments conducting internal reviews. Vicki commented that Mayor Garcetti appointed someone to head up a new department to investigate civil and human rights in February and issued an executive directive in June on racial equity in City government. The city council resolution is more specific. This is a work in progress. Correction to the resolution: In paragraph 2 the wording "Black, indigenous and people of color" is to be substituted for "Black residents"

thereby including “indigenous and people of color” to the wording in paragraph 2. Executive order 27 clarification, Freddy Cupen-Ames commented that Gibson is the racial equity officer within DONE. Kim made a correction to the wording. The motion passed unanimously. Abstain: 0 No: 0 Yes:1,4,5, 6,7,8,9,10,11, 13,15,17,18 Jane will submit the motion to WRAC.

Agenda Item 6. Board Reports

6.a. Chair, Terri Tippit

There were reports of a party house at Putney and Northvale. The Police were called and they cited the people having the party, not the owners of the house. We need to tell our stakeholders that they need to report large gatherings and parties so that something can be done about it.

There was a discussion about the WNC electronic inventory. Per Lisa Morocco there is a projector and PA system in storage at Westside Two. Lisa will send in a spreadsheet to Freddy. Terri reported that she has a laptop.

6.b. Outreach, Lisa Morocco

Lisa welcomed Jay Jacobi, the new alternate to Joseph, Seat 18.

Lisa organized and attended a Zoom call with Angel, LAPD officers Baker and Balisteros and 13 local businesses regarding issues with the homeless and an increase in crime. Recently the criminal behavior is more brazen and intrusive. Some of the ideas discussed on the call were to have LAPD conduct a security assessment on the premises, the possibility of having trespass forms, establishing a WNC FaceBook group for the businesses to stay connected and share ideas. Additionally there was discussion about how to make a citizen's arrest. The LAPD committed an extra patrol and a decoy car. There was discussion about Volunteer Citizen patrol training for LAPD. This LAPD program provides BMW citizen patrol cars and an outreach team.

Lisa reported on the Responders First free meal program. The program ran over 10 weeks, provided meals to UCLA EMD and in field police, fire and EMS. The program provided over 9000 meals in the field, 2000 to UCLA EMD and over \$160,000 in meals. The program originally committed to stay in place until the restaurants were over 50% capacity. There are currently 14 restaurants participating. The program is picking up half of the restaurant tab. The program needs contributions. FOWLA is a supporter and there have been many individual and corporate donations. The program is helping to keep restaurants in business.

Lisa recommended that the WNC approve up to \$600 to cover the cost to print “No trespassing and No loitering” signage with the WNC logo for WNC businesses. The signs would cite the LAMC 4124 and penal code 647(H). Lisa made the motion to approve up to \$600 for “No trespassing and No Loitering” signs. Joanne seat 17 seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Abstain: 0 No: 0 Yes: 1,4,5, 6,7,8,9,10,11, 13,15,17,18. Freddy later commented that the City Attorney will need to approve the flyers.

Lisa made a motion to purchase White Board Sandwich signs at a cost of \$150. The signs are needed for events, elections, meetings, etc. The motion was seconded by Sean Seat 9. The motion passed. Abstain: 0 No: 0 Yes: 1,4,5, 6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18.

Lisa made a motion to pay \$1500 to The Mailroom, a DONE approved vendor, for the WNC website hosting and maintenance. The motion was seconded by Jane seat 13. The motion passed unanimously. Abstain: 0 No: 0 Yes: 1,4,5, 6,7,8,9,10,11, 13,15,17,18.

6.c. Homeless Committee, Sean McMillan There was a discussion about where we could locate mobile showers. Overland/Palms Park was identified as a possible location.

Mark Sedlander voiced concerns about having showers at Overland Park stating that there is a foot bridge to Cheviot Hills that enters the park. He also voiced concern about the "No trespassing signs". Lisa assured Mark that she will not proceed until she gets the ok from the City Attorney. Barbara asked if we should re-state the motion "subject to City Attorney approval".

6.d. Barbara Broide and Kim Christensen - Presentation on Planning

There are 2 competing motions relating to SB 1120. We would like to support the motion to oppose SB1120. There are two motions for us to issue community impact statements on. Jane to clarify SB1120, would allow any lot to be subdivided and on each subdivision allow two homes. The lot next-door could not do the same. Barbara further corrected that with the proposed plan one lot could have a single family residence, an ADU, and a junior ADU. Barbara quoted an article stating that with the proposed zoning changes we could end up with 4-8 market rate houses on one single-family lot and there would be no provision for affordable housing, no parking requirements, no setback requirements, no EIR. We want to support Councilmember Ryu and Koretz's motion to oppose SB1120 Council File #20 -002 – S101.

Motion: We move to oppose CF 20-0002-S107 Cedillo/Bluemenfield motion as we oppose SB1120.

Discussion: Barbara Palley 2632 Military Ave. inquired about the availability of supporting information for these agenda items on the WNC website. Barbara stated that there were earlier reports, Councilman Koretz sent out a newsletter about it, and this has been discussed at previous meetings. Barbara has referred stakeholders to the Livable California website. Barbara Palley commented that the bills appear to have provisions to increase housing stock. Barbara stated the bills have been amended. Barbara Broide calls to question to find affordable housing provisions. Lisa Schwartz 2844 Westwood Blvd. commented how do they define affordable housing, there are no studies for traffic, air quality, for increased congestion, etc. These plans and studies were pre-pandemic. There needs to be new studies after the pandemic is over because there will be opportunities for mixed use affordable housing in commercial areas. She is going on record as a "no", we have enough traffic. Lisa Morocco commented that Junior ADU's 500 sf or less don't count to dwelling. Barbara commented that the city will be given a new number for housing to create in the coming housing cycle. Post pandemic work habits will change and people will be working from home.

The motion passed unanimously. Abstain: 0 No: 0 Yes: 1,4,5, 7,8,9,11,10,13,15,17,18.

Barbara Broide presented another **motion**: WNC supports counsel file 20-0002-S101 as we oppose SB 1120. Kim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. Abstain: 0 No: 0 Yes: 1,4,5,,7,8,9,10,13,15,17,18.

Barbara stated the home sharing ordinance action CPC20-27062-CA limits the use of a number of owner occupied units in rent stabilized buildings. The item is not on the agenda so Barbara made a **motion**: WNC send a letter raising questions and answers to strengthen protections to the City Planning Commission and department in reference to the Short Term Rental ordinance. Kim seconded the motion.

(Caryn was not present since Sean's report and now she's back) in light of the lack of consistent enforcement there are issues raised with expanding the program to allow RSO units to be included in the program particularly when the inclusion, how can the city protect against the fact that owners of RSO buildings may choose to evict a tenant in order to take occupancy of the unit and then use it as a short term rental. How can the city protect RSO units from abuse should these units be allowed to participate in the RSO program. They are going forward with this measure to create an amendment to the STR ordinance. Public Comment: Abigail Coleman supports this motion. The motion passed unanimously. Abstain: 0 No: 0 Yes: 1,4,5, 6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18.

Kim Christensen led a discussion on the upcoming WLA community plan meetings to discuss Pico north and Pico south. There will be two meetings to go over what's proposed for the WLA community plan. Then they will bring it back to the full board. They have asked for an extension to the October 15 presentations from City planning. Refer to the website www.planningthewestside.org for resources on the plan concept and an interactive map that show proposed changes. Changes to residential, commercial and industrial zones. After the plan is adopted the community planning department is hoping to move on to the environmental review process in early 2021. We need feedback from stakeholders. Webinars can be viewed at www.planningthewestside.org. These meetings give stakeholders the opportunity to weigh in. Each seat rep needs to send notice out to stakeholders that their area will be on the zoom meeting. There will be two large Zoom meetings. WNC will discuss and take a position at the October meeting.

There was a **motion** by Terri Tippit moved to adjourn seconded by Jane Wishon 13 to adjourn the meeting. Abstain: 0 No: 0 Yes: 1,4,5, 6,7,8,9,10,11,13,15,17,18. The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 PM

Please refer to WNC Website and agenda for supporting documents:

[Meeting Agenda August-13-2020.pdf](#)

[WNC-MER-7-20.pdf](#)

SECRETARY'S CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the approved minutes of the

Westside Neighborhood Council meeting held on August 13, 2020

Secretary, Mary Williams, Seat 10