

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES  
JANUARY 11, 2023  
ZOOM MEETING ONLINE OR BY TELEPHONE

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Lisa Chapman called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Board members in attendance were Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Lisa Chapman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Tracey Fitzgerald, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Stephen Resnick, Paula Rogers, and Laura Winikow. Members excused were David Lorango, Marcello Robinson, and Mark Rogo. A quorum was present. There were approximately 18 stakeholders and guests attending.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tracey Fitzgerald made a correction to agenda item 14 J. Lisa Chapman moved to approve the amended November 9, 2022 minutes, seconded by Stephen Resnick, and carried unanimously.

4. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

- A. U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu's representative Janet Turner gave a legislative update.
- B. UCLA representative Marco Perez announced upcoming Metro outreach meetings about the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project on January 24<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>.
- C. LAPD SLO James Allen gave a crime report as of the end of 2022. Year-to-date, all categories were down with the exception of burglaries and thefts. Theft were mainly package thefts and shoplifting at 7-11 and Target. On February 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a safety fair at the West LAPD station on Butler Avenue.
- D. Councilmember Yaroslavsky's field deputy Jarrett Thompson introduced himself and reported that most of the staff has been hired except for homeless team staff. Zachary Warma will be director of the homeless team. Jarrett said he will be working on transportation issues and Patricia Macias will be the Westwood field deputy. Sandy Brown requested a meeting with HOAs and the field deputy to give background on Westwood and Philip Gabriel requested a walk-through.
- E. 3<sup>rd</sup> District County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath's representative Zac Gaidzik reported that the Board of Supervisors declared a state of emergency over homelessness in the county.
- F. State Senator Ben Allen's representative Rad Nowroozi introduced himself and reported that the district (24<sup>th</sup>) changed slightly and has a larger population.

5. DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

DONE NEA Freddy Cupen-Ames reported that he emailed his report to board members. He is waiting to hear from the City Clerk if the election will be held, due to no contested seats. He is working with the City Attorney's office on CF 22-1070, dealing with virtual meetings. Neighborhood Councils could be moving to in-person meetings with a limited hybrid option.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

- A. Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for November 2022  
Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that the beginning balance was \$34,442.13 with \$38.40 spent and an outstanding balance of \$97.28 paid, and an ending balance of \$34, 306.45. Laura moved to approve the November MER, seconded by Lisa Chapman, and approved unanimously.
- B. Motion to pay outstanding AppleOne invoices from previous fiscal year from this year's budget (\$38.40, 76.37, 56.32 = \$171.09)

Treasurer Laura Winikow moved to approve the payment of \$38.40, seconded by Tracey Fitzgerald and approved unanimously. Treasurer Laura Winikow moved to approve the payment of \$76.37, seconded by Tracey Fitzgerald and approved unanimously. Treasurer Laura Winikow moved to approve the payment of \$56.32, seconded by Lisa Chapman and approved unanimously.

#### 7. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Stakeholder Samuel Parnes requested information about WRAC's Emergency Preparedness Committee and other emergency preparedness organizations in the neighborhood.

#### 8. PRESENTATION ON WOMEN, LIFE, FREEDOM

A. Introduction of Motion: "The WWNC supports a Women, Life, Freedom, Mahsa Amini "square" at Westwood Blvd and Rochester Ave. in Westwood."

Amir Angha, Mani, and Mehrak gave a presentation on their proposal. Mani explained that Los Angeles was chosen to commemorate the Women, Life, Freedom movement because the largest expatriate community of Iranians is here and it is the capital of the Iranian diaspora. The idea is to place a plaque on the light pole at the intersection of Westwood Blvd. and Rochester Avenue. The plaque will have a simple design with three words.

Lisa Chapman amended the motion to say "Women, Life, Freedom Square." Philip Gabriel seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

#### 9. REINTRODUCTION OF PREVIOUSLY PASSED MOTION TO SUPPORT WWNC PARTNERSHIP WITH UCLA FOR CANDIDATE FORUMS THAT TOOK PLACE IN SEPTEMBER

A. Introduction of Motion: "WWNC joins with UCLA as an Official Partner for upcoming election forums for council district 5 and supervisorial district 3 forums; and will contribute \$500 to assist with planning costs."

Laura Winikow moved the above motion, seconded by Lisa Chapman, and carried unanimously.

#### 10. WESTWOOD PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Tracey Fitzgerald reported that there was no meeting last month. The next meeting is January 25<sup>th</sup> and there will be a pickleball presentation. Aidan's Place had a grand opening and it is well-used but the zipline isn't working.

#### 11. HOLMBY PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Ann Hayman reported that no January meeting has been scheduled yet. There was an issue with the new playground because the rain made a repair necessary. Enforcement of regulations at the park is drive by so leash laws, among others, are not enforced. A suggestion was made to go through CD5 to get a park ranger out there.

#### 12. WWNC ELECTION OUTREACH

This item was not discussed.

#### 13. HOMELESS COUNT OPT-IN

A. Introduction of Motion: "The WWNC opts in to sponsor the 2023 Greater Los Angeles /Westwood Homeless Count."

Lisa Chapman moved the above motion, seconded by Laura Winikow, and carried unanimously.

#### 14. WESTWOOD HOMELESS COUNT UPDATE

Lisa Chapman announced that the count is sponsored by WWNC and Westwood Community Council (WCC). She will co-chair the homeless count with WCC Chair Steve Sann and Chantal Eastman. It will take place on January 25th, with check-in at the Westwood Presbyterian Church. Training will take place at 10 p.m. and the count will start at 11 p.m. So far 62 volunteers signed up but more are needed.

## 15. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

- A. Executive – no report
- B. Land Use & Planning – no report
- C. Outreach & Communications – no report
- D. Homeless Task Force – see item 14
- E. Budget Advocates – no report
- F. Public Safety/ Transportation & Parking – no report
- G. WRAC – Emergency Preparedness – no report
- H. Bylaws – no report
- I. WRAC – Report and Motions

1. Support: Oppose IKE (interactive kiosk) program (CF 22-1154)

### **Oppose IKE (interactive kiosk) program (CF 22-1154)**

#### **MOTION**

Refers to City Council file [22-1154](#)

The Westwood Neighborhood Council opposes the IKE program as present in Council File 22-1154 for the following reasons:

- There is no local competitive bidding process.
- This project needs a financial analysis, as it is using public space to generate revenue.
- This project has negative environmental impacts and there is no environmental review (CEQA).
- This project creates visual pollution and takes away space on the sidewalk that could be used for trees.
- This project is a source of driver distraction, which is contrary to the City's Vision Zero policy.

#### Background

#### [Background Information](#)

Stephen Resnick moved the above motion, seconded by Tracey Fitzgerald and carried unanimously.

2. Support: Venice Blvd. Improvements Project Concerns/Withhold Support

### **VENICE BLVD. IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT CONCERNS/WITHHOLD SUPPORT**

#### **Motion**

Refers to City Council file [22-0694](#)

The Westwood Neighborhood Council, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, is concerned that removing one vehicle lane in each direction on Venice Blvd. between Inglewood Blvd and National Blvd. will divert traffic onto other adjacent local, collector and arterial streets. Until such time as LADOT conducts modeling studies to predict the volume of vehicular traffic that will be diverted off Venice Blvd. when the road diet component of this project is installed, our Council will be withholding its support for Phase One of the Venice Blvd Mobility Improvements project.

The member Councils directly affected by this project are: Venice, Mar Vista, Palms and South Robertson. The member Councils which may be affected by redirected traffic include: Del Rey, WLA/Sawtelle and Westside.

(relevant Council File: Council File: 22-0694)

[Read more](#)

Stephen Resnick moved the above motion, seconded by Ann Hayman, and carried unanimously.

16. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 9:14 p.m.