

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 15, 2024
BELMONT VILLAGE SENIOR LIVING
10475 WILSHIRE BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Lisa Chapman called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. Board members in attendance were Amie Baron, Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Lisa Chapman, Tracey Fitzgerald, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Doug Mark, Michael Telerant, and Laura Winikow. Members excused were Lucas Dickey, Roozbeh Farahanipour, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, and Jonathan York. There were approximately nine stakeholders and guests attending.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lisa Chapman moved to approve the January 10, 2024 minutes, seconded by Tracey Fitzgerald, and approved unanimously.

4. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. LAFD representative Robert Takeshita gave an update on the firefighters who were burned in a truck fuel tank explosion earlier today and discussed earthquake and emergency preparedness. Points made were that supplies for 5 to 7 days are needed, bottles of water are preferable to a drum, and wipes should be part of the supplies.

B. 3rd District County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath's representative Amanda Laflin reported that emergency preparedness information is available on the website They will be hosting an emergency preparedness event and are looking for a space. Information on two property tax reductions is available.

C. CD5 Field Deputy Patricia Macias announced that the park survey was sent out and those interested who didn't receive it can still get it. Nominations are open for small businesses in the neighborhood to highlight. In answer to a question about the holdup on pickleball at Westwood Park, she said CD5 is following up on it with Recreation & Parks and it is going forward.

D. State Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur's representative Sherwin Shamoeil gave a legislative update and will send a link to the Assemblymember's press conference.

E. UCLA representative Marco Perez gave an update on UCLA events, including some at the Nimoy Theater and a USPS ceremony at Pauley Pavilion on February 24th for the first day of issue of a John Wooden stamp.

5. DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

DONE representative Thomas Soong said he will be the contact until there is a new NEA. He announced upcoming DONE events.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for January 2024

Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that the January 2024 MER had a beginning balance of \$36,013.85, \$45.35 spent, and a net available amount of \$35,968.50. Laura moved to approve the MER, seconded by Ann Hayman, and approved unanimously.

7. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

8. DEVELOPMENT PROJECT REVIEW: 10756 WILKINS

A. Project review and possible motion for/against the project

St. Paul's parent Michael Woods reported that the Design Review Board hearing will take place on March 20th. The Planning Commission hearing will take place on April 11th. St Paul's opposes the project as proposed due to safety issues. As proposed, it will make the intersection less safe. The developer is asking for more than by right, including a reduced setback from 15 feet to 11 feet, which will worsen the visibility at the intersection. The intersection already has visibility issues because it is where three streets meet. The driveway is proposed to be on Ohio instead of Wilkins and Ohio is a busy street where children travel to and from school at St. Paul's, Emerson, and Fairburn. The developer said that a traffic report would be done but it hasn't been done yet. The developer has avoided communication and contact with the public. CD5 sent a representative to view the site and there was a follow-up meeting. LADOT won't do a traffic study because it says it isn't needed but St. Paul's would like a traffic study.

Lisa Chapman suggested that the school community write a letter with the points that they want WWNC to support and bring it to the March meeting. Lisa moved, "As a preliminary discussion has been held tonight, the 10756 Wilkins proposed project will be on the March agenda, when a vote will be taken to support or not support it." Tracey Fitzgerald seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

9. HOMELESS COUNT REVIEW

Lisa Chapman thanked Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, and Philip Gabriel for their help. The homeless count had over 140 volunteers and counted 36 areas.

10. L.A. 2028 LEGACY STREETS IMPROVEMENT PLAN

A. Discussion in regard to possible street improvements the city may construct in Westwood

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION

Re: [20-1004-S1](#)

This item has to do with improvements outlined in the LA 2028 Legacy Streets Improvement Plan and what effect this may have in Westwood and UCLA such as pedestrian and bike plans, sidewalks, trees, connectivity (first/last mile, etc.).

In this regard, when CD5 Transportation Deputy Jarrett Thompson was recently asked about this, he made these comments:

"We are still waiting on reports back from the departments on specific areas for improvements. We amended the original motion in the transportation committee to be more expansive and look at the UCLA area for these improvements, however we don't have specific projects for this corridor under this motion, at this time. We just did not want UCLA to be left out of the conversation. (This item was also referred to Public Works and Ad Hoc Committee on the 2028 Olympics and Paralympic Games.)"

The City Council has requested improvement suggestions. No suggestions were made.

11. WESTWOOD PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Tracey Fitzgerald asked people to fill out the park survey and said the garden option is a write-in. She requested the formation of a subcommittee to look at park issues. Along with Tracey, Philip Gabriel and Ann Hayman volunteered to be on it. Someone to represent Westwood Gardens Park should also be on the committee. The next PAB meeting will be on February 28th at 6 p.m. but Tracey is unable to attend. Possibly Philip or Ann can go in her place.

12. HOLMBY PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Ann Hayman reported that the PAB is in transition because the president resigned in October 2023 and the board members must re-apply. At the park, trees were pruned and the tree with yellow tape was removed but the ongoing issues of unleashed dogs and private vendors using the park remain.

13. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

- A. Executive – no report
- B. Land Use & Planning
See agenda item 8.
- C. Outreach & Communications – no report
- D. Homeless Task Force
See agenda item 9.
- 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: CF 23-0914 Oversize Vehicle Parking

Support for CF 23-0914 / Park (regulations of oversized vehicle/RV parking)

Refers to City Council file [23-0914](#)

The Westwood Neighborhood Council supports CF 23-0914, which calls for recommendations for a citywide program to designate streets where RVs/oversize vehicles can safely park with access to services, including housing navigation, portable restrooms, automotive repair and septic tank disposal, and would also restrict RV parking in residential areas, commercial corridors and other sensitive areas.

Lisa Chapman moved the above motion, seconded by Ann Hayman. The motion carried by a vote of Yes: 7 (Connie Boukidis, Lisa Chapman, Tracey Fitzgerald, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Doug Mark, Laura Winikow), No: 0, and Abstain: 1 (Amie Baron).

2. Support: Request for Amendment of LAMC 41.18

Request Amendment of LAMC 41.18

The Westwood Neighborhood Council requests that the restriction in LAMC Sec. 41.18 on camping near sensitive uses be defined to include dwelling in vehicles of all sizes as well as all forms of camping within 500 feet of sensitive uses, including libraries, parks, schools and day-care centers, and that Councilmembers representing WRAC Member Councils (CMs Park, Yaroslavsky, Raman and/or Hutt) bring a motion in City Council to amend LAMC 41.18 for this purpose.

Lisa Chapman moved the above motion, seconded by Ann Hayman. The motion carried by a vote of Yes: 6 (Connie Boukidis, Tracey Fitzgerald, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Doug Mark, Laura Winikow), No: 1 (Lisa Chapman), and Abstain: 1 (Amie Baron).

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 9:41 p.m.