

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

MAY 11, 2016

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 10822 WILSHIRE BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Jerry Brown called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Board members in attendance were Connie Boukidis, Jerry Brown, Sandy Brown, David Burke, Lisa Chapman, Ian Cocroft, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Jacob Finn, Ann Hayman, Mitchell Keiter, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, Marcello Robinson, Mark Rogo, Eugene Tseng, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Board members excused were Dean Abell and Angus Beverly. A quorum was present. There were 20 stakeholders and guests present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Scott Whittle moved to approve the minutes of the April 13, 2016 meeting. Ann Hayman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. Mayor Garcetti's representative Daniel Tamm reported on the Mayor's proposal for DWP reform and plans to alleviate homelessness.

B. Congressman Ted Lieu's representative Janet Turner reported that Congressman Lieu is investigating mail theft and there was a hearing today on USPS reform. A task force has been formed in our area to work on systemic problems. Congressman Lieu is also acting as liaison to customers who have had problems with Frontier in the transition from Verizon to Frontier phone service.

C. Eugene Tseng reported that State Senator Ben Allen's office is honoring film producer Amy Ziering as the district's Woman of the Year at a reception on May 27th.

D. State Assembly member Sebastian Ridley-Thomas' representative Brian Adams

reported that the Assembly member is sponsoring a bill to ban consumer racial profiling.

E. CD5 Field Deputy Jasmine Shamolian reported that the Westwood bike lane goes to the Mayor and then the City Council on Friday. Comments on the BMO are open until June 10th. Jasmine gave certificates of appreciation from Councilmember Koretz to all board members.

F. UCLA representative Marco Perez reported that on Transfer Day, May 14th, 7,500 people will be coming to campus. A jazz & reggae festival will take place at Sunset Canyon Recreation Area on May 30th. Graduations will be held from June 9th to June 12th.

4. WESTWOOD VILLAGE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Megan Furey reported that there will be a community meeting with the UCLA Urban Design Forum tomorrow, filming will take place on May 13th, and on May 16th there will be a movie premiere.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

6. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. The Executive Committee had no report.

B. Budget

1. Approval of Monthly Expenditures

Treasurer Laura Winikow listed the April expenditures to be approved: printed material \$122.32, facility rental \$100, facility setup \$75, postage \$3.25, and temporary staffing services \$64.68. April's monthly expenditure report included \$365.25 in expenditures with approximately \$6,000 left in the budget if all the NPGs go through.

The May expenditures were printed material \$98.10, facility rental \$150, and facility setup \$90. All expenditures and the monthly expenditure report were approved unanimously. The money from City Council President Herb Wesson was received.

Laura had revised the budget and went through the line items and changes in each. She moved to approve the new budget, seconded by Ann Hayman. The new budget was approved unanimously.

Laura requested approval to spend \$85 for ink and Office software because she prints WWNC material at home and needs the software for WWNC business. Lisa Chapman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

C. Land Use

1. Asuka Project

Case Number: ZA 2015-3684(CUB)(ZV)(ZAD)

Project Title: ASUKA

Project Address: 1151-53 Westwood Boulevard, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Project Owner: CHU FAMILY TRUST

Contact Info: Kevin Franklin, [213-706-6997](tel:213-706-6997)

Supporting Documents: <http://www.wwnc.org/ASUKA>

Action(s) Requested: Applicant seeks continued sale and consumption of full line of alcoholic beverages in an existing 2680 sf. sit-down restaurant with total seating of 46 and hours from 11 am - 12 am daily. A variance to provide 11 parking spaces by lease/valet in lieu of covenant and a request to permit two business uses to share the eleven off-site parking spaces.

Possible Motion.

Chair Connie Boukidis moved:

WE the WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL wholeheartedly support this Applicant and project taking into account that this is a continued use of the premises as a restaurant and the longstanding good reputation of the Applicant within our community, subject to the following conditions:

That the Zoning Administrator leave the file open and refrain from rendering a decision until he receives:

- 1) an executed lease from the Applicant for the seven parking spaces on the Midvale property that is for a one year term, through 5/31/17 to be renewed on a yearly basis;
- 2) an executed contract between Applicant and AAlliance Valet Parking where AAlliance will provide valet parking to the premises nightly between the hours of 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.;
- 3) A written statement signed by the Applicant stating that he is not seeking a full liquor license, only beer and wine and only seeking hours from 11 a.m. to 11 p.m.; and
- 4) that these agreements explicitly cover the required total 14 parking spaces on and off-site;
- 5) that provision be made by the Council office to review this case within one year from the date of the decision.

Marcello Robinson seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

D. Outreach & Communications

1. Elections

Chair Lisa Chapman announced that the candidate forum went well and thanked Steve Sann for moderating. Elections will be held Sunday, June 5th from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Westwood Recreation Center.

2. Vote on approval of pricing for election venue

Chair Lisa Chapman reported that she finalized the paperwork for renting Room C at the Westwood Recreation Center and the bill was \$553. The amount was approved unanimously.

- E. Homeless Task Force had no report.
- F. Budget Advocates had no report.
- G. Public Safety - see agenda item 12.
- H. Traffic had no report.
- I. WRAC had no report.

7. LA 2024 OLYMPIC BID COMMITTEE PRESENTATION

Jeff Millman, Tamara Kristofferson, and Joslyn Treece reported on L.A.'s bid for the 2024 Olympics. The bid team is headquartered in Westwood. UCLA is an important part of the bid because it will house athletes and its venues will be used for competitions. Cultural events could also take place at UCLA and in Westwood. The bid will be submitted in February 2017 and a decision will be made in September 2017. The bid team has a website and would like to develop a volunteer program.

8. RENAMING OF TIVERTON & LECONTE AS DAVID GEFFEN SQUARE

A. Introduction of Motion: "The Westwood Neighborhood Council enthusiastically supports the naming, with signage, of the intersection of Tiverton and LeConte Avenues as

David Geffen Square in honor of Mr. Geffen's visionary leadership and philanthropic support of the UCLA Medical Center, Westwood, and the City of Los Angeles."

Jerry Brown moved the above motion, seconded by Mitchell Keiter.

UCLA representative Marco Perez and Vice Chancellor Keith Parker gave a presentation about the sign which UCLA hopes to put up, which they characterized as a dedication, not renaming. A discussion ensued about the pros and cons of such a sign, and whether it should be on City property or UCLA's property.

Laura Winikow moved to amend the motion by striking the word “enthusiastically” and adding the wording, “in the northeast corner” after the word “signage”, seconded by Mitchell Keiter.

Sandy Brown moved to amend the motion by adding after the word “signage” the wording “with the state seal, to be placed in the northeast corner”, seconded by Connie Boukidis. The motion was defeated by a vote of No: 9 (Jerry Brown, David Burke, Lisa Chapman, Ann Hayman, Mitchell Keiter, Marcello Robinson, Mark Rogo, Scott Whittle, Laura Winikow), Yes: 6 (Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Jacob Finn, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick), and Abstain: 1 (Eugene Tseng).

Laura Winikow’s motion was defeated by a vote of No: 8 (Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, David Burke, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Ann Hayman, Stephen Resnick, Marcello Robinson, Scott Whittle), Yes: 6 (Jerry Brown, Lisa Chapman, Jacob Finn, Mitchell Keiter, David Lorango, Laura Winikow), and Abstain: 2 (Mark Rogo, Eugene Tseng).

The original motion was defeated by a vote of No: 10 (Sandy Brown, David Burke, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Ann Hayman, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, Marcello Robinson, Mark Rogo, Scott Whittle, Laura Winikow), Yes: 3 (Jerry Brown, Jacob Finn, Mitchell Keiter), and Abstain: 3 (Connie Boukidis, Lisa Chapman, Eugene Tseng).

9. NEIGHBORHOOD INTEGRITY INITIATIVE

A. Introduction of Motion: “The Westwood Neighborhood Council supports the

Neighborhood Integrity Initiative.”

This motion was tabled until the next meeting because there were no supporting documents.

10. SECOND DWELLING UNIT REPEAL ORDINANCE

A. Introduction of Motion: “The Westwood Neighborhood Council opposes the repeal of this ordinance (CPC-2016-1245-CA).”

Connie Boukidis reported that there is a hearing on this tomorrow and it is being pushed through quickly. It is supposed to relieve the housing shortage but there are parking and traffic issues to be discussed and there has been no community input.

Connie moved the above motion, seconded by Stephen Resnick. The motion carried by a vote of Yes: 12 (Connie Boukidis, Jerry Brown, Sandy Brown, David Burke, Lisa Chapman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Jacob Finn, Ann Hayman, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, Scott Whittle, Laura Winikow), No: 2 (Mitchell Keiter, Mark Rogo), and Abstain: 2 (Marcello Robinson, Eugene Tseng).

11. COMMUNITY INTEREST STAKEHOLDER

A. Introduction of Motion: Review the definition of SORO NC’s definition of a an NC Stakeholder and discuss whether we would like to adopt it as is or submit changes to it of our own, per board discussion. “

Lisa Chapman requested that board members submit any changes in the stakeholder definition that they would like for the next meeting. Sandy Brown pointed out that other bylaw changes are also needed, and all changes should be sent in together. A bylaw

committee should be formed. No vote on the motion was taken.

12. NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT GRANT

A. Introduction of Motion in Support of Increased Lighting in Westwood Village

Jacob Finn moved, seconded by Ann Hayman:

MOTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED LIGHTING IN WESTWOOD VILLAGE

Jacob Finn, Renters Director

Ian Cocroft, Student Director

WHEREAS, more than 64 property crimes and 12 violent crimes have occurred since January 1st, 2016 in the Westwood North Village between the hours of 9PM and 5AM;

WHEREAS, over 10,000 University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) students live within one mile of campus;

WHEREAS, the current street lighting infrastructure in the North Village of Westwood is inadequate, leading to many dark locations and dim lighting in general;

WHEREAS, improvements such as LED bulbs and updated circuitry would enhance the lighting situation in the neighborhood;

WHEREAS, increased street lighting can serve as a deterrent for crime and create a safer community;

WHEREAS, the Westwood Neighborhood Council (WWNC) recognizes the importance of student activism in calling attention to issues of safety;

WHEREAS, the WWNC believes that partnerships with stakeholders such as University of California Police Department (UCPD), UCLA administration, and the City of Los Angeles are crucial in improving the safety of UCLA students;

WHEREAS, UCPD and the UCLA USAC Internal Vice President’s office have asked the Westside Alliance, a coalition of landlords, tenants, and UCLA administration, to upgrade the lighting on their respective properties;

THEREFORE LET IT BE RESOLVED that the Westwood Neighborhood Council calls upon the Bureau of Street Lighting for the City of Los Angeles and the Office of City Councilmember Paul Koretz to upgrade the lighting infrastructure in Westwood Village as expediently as possible.

LET IT FINALLY BE RESOLVED that the Westwood Neighborhood Council allocate a \$1,000 Neighborhood Improvement Grant to match and partner with the UCLA USAC “Let’s Get Lit” campaign.

Scott Whittle moved to amend the motion to change the word “expediently” to “expeditiously”, seconded by Sandy Brown, and carried unanimously. Jacob Finn moved to approve the amended motion, seconded by Ann Hayman; the motion carried unanimously.

13. IMPACT OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

A. Discussion of how to assess the impact/success (or lack thereof) of Neighborhood Councils and the Neighborhood Council system
This topic was not discussed.

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Jerry Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:53 p.m.