

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

JULY 10, 2013

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Jerry Brown called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Board members in attendance were Sarah Austerlitz, Angus Beverly, Jerry Brown, Lisa Chapman, Rozbeh Farahanipour, Armen Hadjimanoukian, Mark Herd, Ryan Krebs, Stephen Resnick, Clinton Schudy, Michael Stajura, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Members excused were Dean Abell, Connie Boukidis, Carole Cohen, Jolie Duhon, Samuel Haws, and Mark Rogo. A quorum was present. There were 12 stakeholders and guests present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Scott Whittle moved to approve the May 8, 2013 meeting minutes, seconded by Clinton Schudy; the motion carried unanimously.

3. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

a. CD5 Field Deputy Sarah Mallory announced that she has reached her two year anniversary and that next week is her last week. She was thanked by President Jerry Brown on behalf of WWNC and by stakeholder Wolfgang Veith. Jerry Brown also asked for a meeting with Councilmember Koretz because there are so many things going on in the City currently which could destroy Westwood.

b. UCLA's Government and Community Relations representative Marco Perez announced that construction has started on the convention center and that Parking Structure 6 and Ackerman turnaround are closed indefinitely. Vincent Wong is gone and there is no

replacement yet. UCLA is looking at forming an email list to send campus updates. Clinton Schudy asked why UCLA Extension has taken a street level space in Westwood Village when according to the Specific Plan street level is for retail. Retail has been added in the Student Union and it should be reversed where classroom space is in the Student Union and retail is in Westwood Village. Jerry Brown said that UCLA should communicate with WWNC instead of WWNC having to ask questions. Marco gave out his contact information so that questions can be sent to him in advance of the meeting.

c. Officer Hope of West LAPD Station said crime is at a low point and there are no current trends. The LAPD has received complaints about food trucks in Westwood Village but enforcement has been scaled back because the City lost a lawsuit in court. Transients continue to be a problem. A hate crime occurred when a flyer was left on a jeweler's window which referenced 9/11.

Stephen Resnick asked about the loud fireworks at the Los Angeles Country Club. CD5 Field Deputy Sarah Mallory said they had a permit from the Los Angeles Fire Department (LAFD).

d. Michael Stajura introduced LAFD Battalion Chief Albert Ward, who said that all fire-related issues go through LAFD. Permits go through the Bureau of Fire Prevention and Public Safety.

Michael Stajura asked about the fact that LAFD services UCLA but doesn't get reimbursed so UCLA is getting free services which are funded by City money. Chief Ward said there is a memo of understanding between UCLA and LAFD, and LAFD

must respond to UCLA's calls. Stakeholder Sandy Brown commented that UCLA made 1,100 calls to LAFD last year. CD5 Field Deputy Sarah Mallory said that legislation could be drafted on this issue.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Executive Director of UCLA Homecoming Kaitlyn Williams explained that UCLA's old homecoming tradition has been revived in the past three years. Homecoming takes place in the fifth week of fall quarter which starts on October 27, 2013 this year. The football game will take place on November 2, 2013. They want to work with Westwood businesses, and sponsor a "Paint the Town" contest in which students would decorate the windows of Westwood businesses. Stakeholder Sandy Brown recommended that they work with Westwood Village businesses on a discount card for students during Homecoming Week. Lisa Chapman will post homecoming information on WWNC's website.

b. A stakeholder reminded everyone to be aware of the upcoming mural ordinance because many people are unaware of this issue. CD5 Field Deputy Sarah Mallory said that it isn't scheduled for a vote yet and she will tell Brian Perry in CD5's office to notify WWNC when it is.

c. Stakeholder Sandy Brown said that Westwood Blvd. is being considered for a bike-only lane from National Blvd. to UCLA. Sepulveda Blvd. and Avenue of the Stars are also being considered. Stephen Resnick spoke to merchants on Westwood Blvd. and they oppose it because it would remove parking which would impact businesses negatively. CD5 Field Deputy Sarah Mallory said that Councilmember Koretz has

ordered a study on the idea but doesn't support it. Stakeholder Steve Sann said that this is a very serious issue which could destroy Westwood Blvd. and it is disturbing that a study is happening because that is the first step to a bike-only lane. Bikes account for only .6% of all trips in the City.

5. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS/REPORTS

A. The Executive Committee had no report.

B. Treasurer Laura Winikow said that the budget is due to DONE tomorrow. DONE is also requiring a Strategic Plan, with a vision of what the NC should be with five goals and five solutions. Jerry Brown requested agendization of this item for the next meeting. The budget was changed but only because DONE changed some categories, so it is almost the same. Scott Whittle, seconded by Michael Stajura, moved to approve the budget. It was approved unanimously. Extra unspent money was allocated to the three schools and the library per Jerry Brown, so they are now receiving \$1,955 instead of the original \$1,350. Westwood Presbyterian Church didn't notify Laura when the credit card was declined.

Laura Winikow moved, seconded by Scott Whittle, that \$1,200 be approved for website maintenance. The motion was approved unanimously.

C. Land Use & Planning

1. There was no LUPC meeting. Stephen Resnick said that Westwood Homeowners Association took a position against the request for a zone variance for an illegally converted garage and reduced setback because it will add to density and traffic. There will be a hearing on this matter on August 1, 2013. Michael Stajura moved, seconded by Scott Whittle, that WWNC opposes the zone variance request by Farshaad Rafie, owner of 10525 Ohio Avenue. The motion passed with a vote of Yes: 12 and No: 1.

2. The 10269 Santa Monica Blvd. project will be presented next month.

8. CODE VARIANCES FOR PLANNED PROJECTS, INCLUDING DENSITY BONUSES RELATED TO SB1818

Jerry Brown said that opposition must be CEQA-based and that WWNC needs a default position, which should be formulated by the LUPC. Stephen Resnick said that two SB1818 projects have come up within Westwood Homeowners Association's boundaries recently. These projects ruin neighborhoods and Coumcilmember Koretz needs to be involved on this issue. Stakeholder Wolfgang Veith said that the developer must show financial need to qualify the project for SB1818, and a judge ruled on this with the Strathmore Apartments in the North Village. There is a meeting on the City's zoning changes at the Medina Center on Saturday at 10 a.m.

5. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS/REPORTS

D. Outreach & Communications Chair Lisa Chapman reminded the board that not everyone has completed the ethics and budget training. She has been getting lots of emails about neighborhood problems, mainly concerning traffic, and recommended that a Traffic Committee be set up to deal with it. UCLA conference buses that park on Gayley and Sunset have a permit to park there.

E. Public Safety Chair Michael Stajura anounced that the upcoming Disaster Preparation Fair in October may be scaled down and combined with the Farmer's Market on Broxton. That way it will be cheaper and no permits will be necessary.

F. WRAC representative Michael Stajura said that he is no longer able to be WWNC's WRAC representative after two years and asked if someone could attend the July 17th and August 21st meetings. Mark Herd volunteered to be the new WRAC representative

and said he could attend the July meeting. One issue brought up at WRAC was getting the NCs to produce better Community Impact Statements that would be more effective, uniform, and complete, possibly through a formalized process.

6. BYLAWS

Jerry Brown was told by Grayce Liu of DONE that retroactively changing bylaws is not possible, so there is no point in the proposed bylaw amendment that would change the term of board members retroactive to 2012. Having staggered terms for board members was not in the original bylaws and should be discussed. Jerry moved that WWNC rescind the submission of bylaw amendments. Lisa Chapman seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

7. CUB REQUESTS FOR BEER/WINE/LIQUOR LICENSES

There was no discussion on this topic.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President Jerry Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:44 p.m.