

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES  
JULY 12, 2023  
BELMONT VILLAGE SENIOR LIVING  
10475 WILSHIRE BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

1. CALL TO ORDER

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

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lisa Chapman announced that WWNC has two new members.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lisa Chapman moved to approve the June 14, 2023 minutes. Connie Boukidis requested the removal of one sentence. Lisa moved to approve the amended minutes, seconded by Ann Hayman, and carried unanimously.

4. OPEN RENTER SEAT

- A. Motion to approve Lucas Dickey for the open renter seat  
Lucas was unable to attend the meeting.

5. INTRODUCTION OF NEW WWNC MEMBERS

- A. Michael Telerant introduced himself and gave some biographical information.
- B. Doug Mark introduced himself and gave some biographical information.

6. SWEARING-IN OF NEW WWNC MEMBERS

DONE NEA Freddy Cupen-Ames swore in the nine board members present.

7. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

- A. Armine Sargsyan of the California Department of Insurance (CDI) discussed various insurance issues, such as wildfire policies and the California fair plan, which is insurance of last resort. She announced that no insurance companies have left the state but some are not writing any new policies. In answer to questions about wildfire policies and what are considered wildfire areas, she said that insurance companies don't use the fire department maps to make their rules and their wildfire insurance scores are public. The CDI has a hotline open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at 800-927-4357 and its website is [insurance.ca.gov](http://insurance.ca.gov).
- B. U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu's representative Janet Turner gave a legislative update and reported that the Congressman attended a groundbreaking for 380 units at the V.A.
- C. UCLA representative Marco Perez announced that Gayley Towers, with 545 beds, will be built at Gayley and Strathmore. Construction will begin in 2024 and finish in 2026. UCLA bought the Trust Building downtown and extension programs will expand there. Public testimony in video or writing is still being sought for the Sepulveda Corridor Transit Project. Tracey Fitzgerald mentioned that move-out at Gayley Heights was a nightmare because there is no parking and traffic backed up on Le Conte so it needs monitoring in the future.
- D. LAFD Chief Steve Skelly reported that we were lucky to have a wet winter but fire season starts in October and people should be ready, and discussed brush clearance and homeless concerns. LAFD is trying to hire 300 firefighters a year and is trying to recruit women. Information can be

found at lafd.org.

#### 8. DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

DONE NEA Freddy Cupen-Ames announced that the Congress of Neighborhood Councils will take place on September 23<sup>rd</sup> at City Hall and is open to the public. Lisa Chapman mentioned that training is not easy to access and UCLA's tech department should be consulted to improve it.

#### 9. TREASURER'S REPORT

##### A. Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for June 2023

Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that the beginning balance was \$8,178.32, with \$533.01 spent, \$500 outstanding, and a net available amount of \$7,125.31, which can be rolled over. Laura moved to approve the June MER, seconded by Tracey Fitzgerald, and approved unanimously.

##### B. Motion to approve an invoice from Axiom Suite for website hosting and maintenance in the amount of \$2,834.95

Treasurer Laura Winikow moved to approve Axiom Suite's invoice in the amount of \$2,834.95, seconded by Lisa Chapman and approved unanimously.

##### C. Motion to approve the annual budget for fiscal year 2023 - 2024

Treasurer Laura Winikow went over the line items in the budget, which is \$32,000. Laura moved to approve the budget, seconded by Lisa Chapman, and approved unanimously. Freddy Cupen-Ames said the rollover money can't be voted on yet.

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

No public comment was made.

#### 11. PRESENTATION ON LIVABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

Lindsay Sturman, the co-founder of the initiative, gave the presentation. This civic group from Larchmont has a plan to deal with the housing crisis. They surveyed stakeholders to come up with it. Stakeholders were interested in three things: no tall buildings near single family homes, the character of the architecture, and traffic along the commercial corridor. The initiative advocates building three to five stories of residential units above retail, without parking, along commercial corridors. It could work if the city has standard plans for them like it does for ADUs. The Westwood case study would require reducing Westwood Blvd. from four to two lanes, which would only remove 30% of traffic capacity but the walkability would benefit small retail. After the presentation, there was a Q & A and the ideas were discussed.

#### 12. WESTWOOD PARK ADVISORY BOARD

No report was given.

#### 13. HOLMBY PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Ann Hayman reported that the PAB does nothing. PAB President Robert Ringler should be invited to a WWNC meeting.

#### 14. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

- A. Executive
- B. Land Use & Planning
- C. Outreach & Communications
- D. Homeless Task Force
- E. Budget Advocates
- F. Public Safety/ Transportation & Parking

G. WRAC – Emergency Preparedness

H. Bylaws

I. WRAC – Report and Motions

1. Support: Minimize Light Pollution

2. Support: Director’s Determination re Murphy Drilling Site

None of the above items were discussed.

15. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 9:12 p.m.