

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 13, 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 7:06 p.m. Board members in attendance were Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Lisa Chapman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Tracey Fitzgerald, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Doug Mark, and Stephen Resnick. Members excused were Lucas Dickey, David Lorango, Michael Telerant, and Laura Winikow. There were approximately seven stakeholders and guests attending.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Roozbeh Farahanipour reported that he and some others representing the West L.A. Chamber of Commerce and BizFed went to 3rd District County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath's office last week, and were kicked out even though they had an appointment. He was told they didn't want to listen to him and he should call instead.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lisa Chapman moved to approve the August 9, 2023 minutes, seconded by Philip Gabriel, and approved by all except for Roozbeh Farahanipour, who abstained.

4. ELECTION OF OFFICERS/COMMITTEE CHAIRS (AND MEMBERS)

A. Land Use Chair

No one volunteered to be the chair and if there isn't a chair, the whole board has to take a one hour training. DONE NEA Freddy Cupen-Ames will find out the training details.

B. Outreach & Communications Chair

Lisa Chapman volunteered to be the chair.

C. WRAC Land Use Representative (and alternate)

Connie Boukidis volunteered to be the representative. Lisa Chapman moved to approve her, seconded by Ann Hayman, and approved unanimously. Ann Hayman volunteered to be the alternate. Lisa Chapman moved to approve her, seconded by Tracey Fitzgerald, and approved unanimously.

D. WRAC Emergency Preparedness Representative (and alternate)

Stephen Resnick volunteered to be the representative. Lisa Chapman moved to approve him, seconded by Roozbeh Farahanipour and approved unanimously. Philip Gabriel volunteered to be the alternate. Lisa Chapman moved to approve him, seconded by Roozbeh Farahanipour and approved unanimously.

5. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu's representative Janet Turner gave a legislative update, announced that the Congressman made Time Magazine, and distributed informational flyers.

B. UCLA Vice Chancellor Jennifer Poulakidis announced that the Nimoy Theatre will have its grand opening on September 17th, student move-in will be from September 20th to 23rd, classes start September 28th, and a block party will be held in Westwood Village on September 24th from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

C. LAPD SLO James Allen reported that crime categories that are up in the neighborhood are thefts and robberies. Target doesn't call the LAPD about thefts but submits an online report instead. There was a follow-home robbery on the 10500 block of Wilshire. Burglaries are down, though there were two home break-ins north of Wilshire over Labor Day. There was an attempted

suicide by gun at Holmby Park and the SWAT team was called.

D. DONE NEA Freddy Cupen-Ames read a report from CD5 Field Deputy Patricia Macias. Yesterday the City Council passed a motion designating the intersection of Westwood Blvd. and Rochester Avenue as Women Life Freedom Square. A plaque will be installed in the next few weeks.

E. State Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur's representative Sherwin Shamoeil gave a legislative update.

6. DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

DONE NEA Freddy Cupen-Ames reported that the Congress of Neighborhood Councils will take place on September 23rd and is free and open to the public. SB 411 passed so meetings can be virtual with restrictions. There has been no progress on a new general manager for DONE because Mayor Bass has to hire a deputy mayor to oversee the process first.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

A. Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for August 2023

Since the treasurer was unable to attend the meeting, Lisa Chapman moved to table this item, seconded by Sandy Brown and carried unanimously.

8. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

A couple of stakeholders introduced themselves.

9. DISCUSSION IN REGARD TO IMPLEMENTING VARIOUS OUTREACH EFFORTS TO IMPROVE WESTWOOD GARDENS PARK

A. Westwood Gardens Park update and discussion of survey from Fairburn parents in regards to the park

B. Follow-up on 199 letters

C. Request that Councilmember Yaroslavsky contact the Recreation and Parks Department
Lisa Chapman moved to table this item, seconded by Tracy Fitzgerald, and carried unanimously.

10. RESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBER PAULA ROGERS – ANNOUNCEMENT OF OPEN SEAT FOR RESIDENTIAL OWNER

Lisa Chapman announced that Paula Rogers has resigned her seat and the vacancy will be advertised. The candidate may be a homeowner in any of the four homeowner areas. Stephen Resnick will be the contact person.

11. WESTWOOD PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Tracey Fitzgerald reported that the presentation Jaime Rook gave on the garden project needs to be voted on. It should be on next month's agenda. There have been illegal pickleball sessions with courts marked off with tape on the ground and someone charging \$5 per person. Fall sports have been set up and volunteers are needed for the Halloween Haunt. There have been no changes on the PAB.

12. HOLMBY PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Ann Hayman reported that RAP representative Leo sent election information to Robert Ringler but Robert hasn't sent it out to other PAB members and was not responsive when Ann asked him about it. A suggestion was made that RAP representative Leo should be invited to a WWNC meeting to discuss the issue.

13. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. Executive – no report

B. Land Use & Planning

1. 10433 Lindbrook Dr. – ENV-2023-5867-CE and ZA-2023-5866-ZAA

a. Discussion and introduction of motion to oppose this application for an over height fence and wall

This house is on the corner of Holmby with fences that are 10 and 13 feet high when the legal height is 42 inches. Holmby-Westwood Property Owners Association went to court with the owners over violation of CC&Rs and won on all five counts. Stephen Resnick moved, “The WWNC opposes the application for a variance by the owner of 10433 Lindbrook Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024 because the current fences are illegal, in violation of an Order to Comply, incompatible with the neighborhood’s character, and are a self-imposed hardship. Further, a variance will have a detrimental impact on adjacent and nearby properties. Nothing prohibits the owner from building a wall or fence not greater than 42 inches.” Ann Hayman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

C. Outreach & Communications – no report

D. Homeless Task Force – no report

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. Request to Refer Metro TCN Program to City Council Transportation Committee & LADOT

Motion

Refers to City Council file [22-0392](#)

“The Westwood Neighborhood Council, a member of the Westside Regional Alliance of Councils, requests that the Metro TCN program be referred to the LA City Council Transportation Committee and LADOT for their consideration before a final decision to implement the program is voted on by the City Council. The Transportation Committee and LADOT need to weigh in on the safety of this program through the study and review of current and historical research that has been done on roadway user distraction with digital billboards and changing message signs.”

[Read more](#)

Stephen Resnick moved the above motion, seconded by Lisa Chapman, and carried unanimously.

2. Request to Revise the LAMC Zoning

Motion

“The Westwood Neighborhood Council requests that the City revises the LAMC/Zoning to be implemented in Community Plan updates, Westside Transit Neighborhood Plans and TOC/Density Bonus ordinances to standardize setbacks, landscaping, open and recreational space, setbacks, massing and zoning, in accordance with the specific preferences communicated to the City by the relevant NC/CC for each area.”

[Read more](#)

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

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

