

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES  
NOVEMBER 13, 2019  
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, Tracey Fitzgerald, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Eloise Metcalfe, Stephen Resnick, Paula Rogers, Mark Rogo, and Laura Winikow. Members excused were Cyrus Baraghoush, Roozbeh Farahanipour, David Lorango, and Marcello Robinson. A quorum was present. There were approximately seven stakeholders and guests present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – JULY 10, 2019

This item was tabled until next month. Lisa Chapman will email everyone the corrections so far.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – OCTOBER 10, 2019

Lisa Chapman moved to approve the October 10, 2019 minutes, seconded by Philip Gabriel. The minutes were approved unanimously.

4. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. California State Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager-Dove's representative Jamie Kennerk reported on legislation that the governor signed. Philip Gabriel requested that the Assemblymember look into handicapped parking fraud.

B. UCLA representative Marco Perez reported that the Beat 'SC rally will be held on November 21<sup>st</sup>. There will be no bonfire this year due to current fire conditions. The event will include a carnival at 5 p.m. and the rally from 6 to 8 p.m. The office of Community & Government Relations moved to the Occidental Building at Wilshire & Glendon in August, and Marco will give a tour if anyone is interested.

5. DISCUSSION WITH RAQUEL BELTRAN, GENERAL MANAGER, DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

General Manager Raquel Beltran introduced herself, discussed her professional background, and said that her mission is to promote civic engagement and make government more responsive. She discussed her four goals, which are to strengthen DONE's position as a resource, to improve DONE's relationship with the neighborhood councils (NCs), to improve the NCs' engagement and advocacy approaches, and to improve City Hall's relationship with the NCs. She took questions from the board about Brown Act violations, the fact that the grievance process never results in a remedy, flaws in the subdivision process, and that DONE is a self-policing department. She agreed to look into Philip Gabriel's grievance and said that she would be monitoring new NCs closely. Making WWNC's website ADA compliant was discussed and the board was told that the Department of Disability has no policy on this issue.

6. DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

DONE representative Jose Galdamez mentioned DONE's demographics survey and announced that April 15, 2020 is the deadline for bylaw amendments. Clarification on boundary lines is needed, the inventory list needs to be reviewed and agendized, and elections materials from the June election are still available to be collected. Jose said that he could collect it and Lisa Chapman requested him to pick up WWNC's election documents. At

its November 5<sup>th</sup> meeting, BONC tabled NWWNC's request to have Westwood Park and Bad News Bears Field as a shared resource. There were questions about a contiguous boundary line and it will be taken up at BONC's next meeting.

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

Westwood Community Council President Steve Sann announced that the BID's annual meeting will be held on Thursday, the Westwood library has three new librarians and is closed until November 22<sup>nd</sup> for maintenance, and there was a large turnout at the last library concert. Ann Hayman thanked Steve for organizing and dealing with the logistics of the concert series.

#### 8. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

##### A. Executive – no report

##### B. Budget

###### 1. Approval of Monthly Expenditures

Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that the MER included a balance of \$45,946.29 with \$734.95 spent and \$44,373.46 available in the budget. Laura moved to approve the MER, Philip Gabriel seconded and the MER was approved unanimously. This month's expenditure was \$84.70 for Apple One. Laura moved to approve the expenditure, Philip Gabriel seconded and the expenditure was approved unanimously.

###### 2. Motion to Approve Rollover Funds in the amount of \$5,805.68

Laura Winikow moved to approve the rollover funds in the amount of \$5805.68, seconded by Philip Gabriel and approved unanimously.

###### 3. Motion to amend the budget as to the allocation of Rollover Funds

Treasurer Laura Winikow moved to allocate \$5,000 to Neighborhood Purpose Grants, seconded by Philip Gabriel and carried unanimously. Laura moved to allocate \$805.68 to Community Improvement Projects, seconded by Lisa Chapman and carried unanimously.

###### 4. Discussion and Motion: "The WWNC approves an upgrade to the WWNC website for ADA compliance, at an initial one-time cost of \$3600 and \$10 per month"

Philip Gabriel researched this topic and concluded that if no money is involved and the website is informational only, then it isn't legally necessary to comply and WWNC should wait on compliance. DONE representative Jose Galdamez said that there is no set policy by the Department of Disability for NCs. Philip Gabriel moved, "WWNC will wait to take action on the website until the Department of Disability weighs in." Stephen Resnick seconded and the motion carried by a vote of Yes: 10, No: 0, and Abstain: 1 (Lisa Chapman).

##### C. Land Use & Planning

Connie Boukidis reported that some current issues are Sacramento's efforts to eradicate R-1 neighborhoods and remove local control and the possibility of taxis getting digital billboards.

##### D. Outreach & Communications

###### 1. Nominations for Chairperson

No one volunteered so this will be revisited at the next meeting.

##### E. Homeless Task Force

Chair Lisa Chapman is in touch with Chantelle Eastman and will be attending a roundtable meeting on November 21<sup>st</sup>. She will try to set up a meeting in December.

##### F. Budget Advocates – no report

##### G. Public Safety/ Transportation & Parking

###### 1. Discussion in regard to a request for a Traffic Study at Wilshire/Veteran

There is no report because the committee didn't meet.

H. Bylaws – no report

I. WRAC – no report

J. Park Advisory

Sandy Brown reported that she found a new president for the Westwood PAB but the current president will not discuss it with her.

9. PRESENTATION: NC COMMS

This item was tabled as the presenter did not attend the meeting. The presentation will be rescheduled.

10. DISCUSSION & MOTION: “THE WWNC OPTS-IN FOR A 3 YEAR PERIOD FOR THE GREATER LOS ANGELES HOMELESS COUNT”

A. Reference: <https://form.jotform.com/92964992425169>

Lisa Chapman moved the above motion, seconded by Ann Hayman and carried unanimously.

11. 900 HILGARD AVENUE

A. Discussion & Introduction of Motion in regard to building code violations

Philip Gabriel moved, “In reference to the LADBS code enforcement violations for 900 Hilgard issued July 12, 2019, the Westwood Neighborhood Council (WWNC) respectfully requests that LADBS issue a non-compliance letter to the property owners and take swift enforcement action thereafter, should the lack of remediation on the part of the property owners continue. Further, we ask that the certificate of occupancy of office/club for the building when erected in 1950 and the R3 zoning updated in 1988 be enforced by LADBS. Five months have elapsed since the complaints were received by LADBS on 4/26/19, and we ask LADBS to ensure that the property owners not further delay.” Ann Hayman seconded and the motion carried by a vote of Yes: 10, No: 0, and Abstain: 1 (Eloise Metcalfe).

12. HISTORIC STATUS FOR THE KELLY MUSIC BUILDING

A. Discussion & Motion: The WWNC supports the designation of Historic-Cultural Monument status for this iconic Westwood building and authorizes a Community Impact Statement to the Los Angeles City Council to support the unanimous recommendation of the Cultural Heritage Commission.

Stephen Resnick moved the above motion, seconded by Ann Hayman, and carried unanimously.

13. MOBIL GAS STATION & CONVENIENCE MART (10857 SANTA MONICA BLVD.)  
ALCOHOL PERMIT

A. Discussion & Motion: The WWNC opposes this request to issue an Alcoholic Beverage License and that Councilmember Koretz should request the Los Angeles City Council to deny issuing a letter of support

This business applied for an alcohol permit some time ago but the request then disappeared. Westwood Community Council President Steve Sann reported that both Chevron and Walgreens withdrew their requests for an alcohol permit due to neighborhood opposition. He suggested amending the motion to add, “and request for finding of public convenience and necessity to allow an Alcoholic Beverage License at this address.” Stephen Resnick moved the amended motion, seconded by Tracey Fitzgerald and carried by a vote of Yes: 10, No: 0, and Abstain: 1 (Philip Gabriel).

14. UPDATE ON BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS MEETING OF NOVEMBER 5, 2019

This was discussed in agenda item 6, the question about a contiguous boundary line.

15. UPDATE ON THE BOARD OF RECREATION & PARKS MEETING OF NOVEMBER 6, 2019, IN REGARD TO THE PROPOSAL FOR A 2<sup>ND</sup> SOCCER FIELD AT WESTWOOD RECREATION CENTER

A. Motion to approve the submission of a CIS statement

Stephen Resnick reported that he attended the meeting along with Sandy Brown and Steve Sann. Only three of the five commissioners were present and they didn't want to take a vote. There was no RAP presentation but the three commissioners spoke and said that there were a number of issues that should be addressed at the next meeting, such as looking at alternate locations.

16. DISCUSSION IN REGARD TO HOLMBY PARK AND DOGS OFF LEASH

Lisa Chapman reported that there have been many complaints to WWNC's website and to board members regarding this issue. Sandy Brown said that park rangers and Animal Control will come out. The signs were stolen and this needs to be enforced for insurance reasons.

17. WWNC GET TOGETHER

Eloise Metcalfe volunteered to host a get-together for board members at her house. Board members agreed that this was a lovely idea and suggested a potluck. Eloise will email everyone with possible dates.

18. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 9:48 p.m.