

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES
OCTOBER 11, 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, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Tracey Fitzgerald, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Stephen Resnick, Michael Telerant, and Laura Winikow. Members excused were Lucas Dickey, David Lorango, and Doug Mark. There were approximately eight stakeholders and guests attending.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sandy Brown announced that she would like to bring the housing element issue to WRAC.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Tracey Fitzgerald moved to approve the September 13, 2023 minutes, seconded by Ann Hayman, and approved unanimously.

4. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. 3rd District County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath's representative Amanda Laflin reported Jonah is the new housing/homeless liaison and gave some updates.

B. Mayor Bass's westside representative Marian Ensley introduced herself and said that she could send a monthly update from the mayor's office. Her email is marian.ensley@lacity.org.

C. LAFD representative Matt Webber of Battalion 9 reported that they have been responding to the V.A. with EMS. They are also partnering with Kaiser in responses to 5150 calls.

D. LAPD SLO James Allen reported that neighborhood crime categories that were up year-to-date were burglaries and robberies, while aggravated assaults, grand theft auto, and burglaries from motor vehicles declined. Thefts remained high because of shoplifting at Ralphs and Target. Officer Allen reported that he has been cleaning up after the homeless once a week and that most of them have addiction or mental health issues and don't want help, just a handout so they can continue drinking or using.

E. CD5 Field Deputy Patricia Macias reported that four signs are being made for Women Life Freedom Square, Westwood Gardens Park is being cleared out but the locking timing on the gate needs to be fixed, Metro will start boring phase two on October 16th and Veteran Avenue will be closed down to one lane each way.

F. UCLA representative Marco Perez reported that October 27th - 28th will be Bruin parents weekend, Metro will be holding an outreach meeting on the Sepulveda Transit Corridor Project on October 24th, and a Veterans Day program will take place on November 9th at John Wooden Alumni Center.

5. DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

There was no report.

6. TREASURER'S REPORT

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

Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that the beginning balance was \$39,570.50 with \$51.20 spent, \$3,084.17 outstanding, and a net available amount of \$36,434.66. Laura moved to approve the August 2023 MER, seconded by Lisa Chapman, and approved unanimously.

B. Motion to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for September 2023

Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that the beginning balance was \$39,518.83 with \$390.07 spent on Adobe software and \$2,933.98 on the website, and a net available amount of \$36,194.78. Laura moved to approve the September 2023 MER, seconded by Tracey Fitzgerald, and approved unanimously

7. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

8. WESTWOOD PARK GARDENS PROJECT

A. Introduction of Motion to support the Westwood Park Gardens Project

Tracey Fitzgerald moved, "The WWNC supports the Westwood Park Gardens Project as presented in August by Jaime Rooke." Ann Hayman seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

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

Lisa Chapman stated that Fairburn parents were surveyed.

B. Follow-up on 199 letters

CD5 Field Deputy Patricia Macias confirmed that the letters were sent out.

C. Request that Councilmember Yaroslavsky contact the Recreation and Parks Department
This has been done.

10. UPZONING OF SINGLE FAMILY NEIGHBORHOODS

A. Discussion and Introduction of Motion

"WHEREAS City data shows more than enough zoning capacity in each of our communities on our underutilized commercial corridors, public lands, and through adaptive reuse, and because our residential neighborhoods have already been rezoned through SB 9 and ADU law that allow duplexes and ADUs on a single lot.

THE WWNC stands with our other neighborhood councils, community groups including United Neighbors, and HOAS in demanding that our Councilmember Katy Young Yaroslavsky and Mayor Karen Bass stand up for our communities and tell the Planning Department to reject the up-zone of our single-family and sensitive multi-family neighborhoods, and instead, locate all upzoning on our underutilized commercial corridors."

Connie Boukidis moved the above motion, seconded by Ann Hayman and carried unanimously.

11. HOMELESS HOUSING LOCATIONS

A. Discussion and Introduction of Motion

"The Westwood Neighborhood Council requests from Councilmember Katy Yaroslavky's staff a full map of all existing and approved to be built homeless housing (including shelters, Interim, bridge, and permanent) in Council District 5. We request this full information by October 31, 2023."

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

12. BROXTON GARAGE

A. Discussion and Introduction of Motion

"The Westwood Neighborhood Council strongly objects to Council District 5 (CD5) considering the Broxton parking garage to be used for any type of homeless housing. We object to the characterization by CD5 that the Broxton garage is "underutilized". This garage is heavily used

and is a much-needed asset for Westwood Village, and its business community. We also object to any initiation of discussions with stakeholders in consideration of using the Broxton garage site for homeless housing as it is inappropriate and does not meet the criteria.”

Tracey Fitzgerald said that the Broxton Garage is the highest-grossing parking garage in the city so it is not underutilized. CD5 Field Deputy Patricia Macias stated that the garage is not being considered for housing now or in the future.

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

13. WESTWOOD PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Tracey Fitzgerald reported that a Halloween event will be held on October 28th. Recreation & Parks has approved pickleball for the park. Courts 1 and 2 will be redone, soundproofed, and the reservation system will be the same as for tennis courts. CD5 Field Deputy Patricia Macias will find out about the amount of Quimby funds available. The next PAB meeting will be on October 26th.

14. HOLMBY PARK ADVISORY BOARD

Ann Hayman reported that the current president will resign and an election will be held in January 2024 for a new president. When the park staff leaves at 3 p.m. all the rules are violated: dogs are off leash, people hang things from the trees etc. and it is worse on the weekend. The staff gets negative reactions when they try to enforce the rules. Two trees have been roped off with yellow tape. A wish list for Quimby funds will be made.

15. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

- A. Executive – no report
- B. Land Use & Planning – no report
- 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. Support: Request for a public park and skateboard facility at the West L.A. Commons project
Motion

“The Westwood Neighborhood Council requests that the L.A. City support WLASNC’s request for a public park and skateboard facility, as part of the West L.A. Commons project, that maintains high-density housing and numerous affordable units. This park would serve the 2,500 tenants of the project as well as the 5,000 neighbors who live on the south and don’t have a park (many are low-income households), and visitors from Westwood, Mar Vista, Bel Air-Beverly Crest and Brentwood who visit the Felicia Mahood Senior Center and the West L.A. Municipal Building.”

[Read more](#)

Background

[Background Information](#)

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

16. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

