

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MAY 11, 2011
WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10822 WILSHIRE BLVD.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Jerry Brown called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Board members in attendance were Connie Boukidis, Jerry Brown, Lisa Chapman, David Crew, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Brent Gaisford, Toni Gray, Mark Herd, Stephen Resnick, Yoni Riemer, Clinton Schudy, Kurt Smalberg, Steve Somers, George Torbay, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Board members absent were Mark Rogo and Michael Stajura. There were also 21 stakeholders and guests in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Stakeholder Roxane Stern made a correction to the minutes as follows: She is not on the grievance committee.

3. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Eric Norton of Councilmember Koretz's office said that as a member of the Budget & Finance Committee, the Councilmember has been working on the budget which just went to the City Council. There is now money in the budget for paving alleys and trimming trees.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Roxy Colette of T-Mobile announced that T-Mobile is seeking a permit to put a cellular antenna on the rooftop of a building at 1371 S. Beverly Glen Blvd. on the west side just north of Rochester Avenue.

Holly McKee Clark of Kings College, which is an English language college for foreign students, is looking for host families for their students. A weekly stipend ranging from \$160 to \$300 would be paid to host families.

Stakeholder Wolfgang Veith requested a Land Use Committee meeting to discuss a large project that UCLA is planning to build in the North Village area which is not within the guidelines of the Westwood Specific Plan. Land Use

Chair Connie Boukidis said that the Land Use Committee will be meeting on June 15th at 6:30 p.m. at Westwood Presbyterian Church.

Stakeholder Kristina Sidrak, the Internal Vice President of UCLA's Undergraduate Student Association, expressed her concern over the Ad Hoc Bylaw Committee's recommendation to decrease student representation on the board. She felt that students' voices will be stifled.

5. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

The Executive Committee has not met.

Budget Committee Chair Yoni Riemer said there is \$5,500 left in WWNC's budget for this fiscal year.

Land Use Committee Chair Connie Boukidis said that the committee will be meeting on an as-needed basis. She has been looking into other Land Use Committees to see how they handle things.

Outreach and Communications Chair Lisa Chapman announced that the website training with Kevin took place on May 5th. The website is up and running, so any information to be posted should be sent to the committee.

The Transportation and Traffic Committee hasn't been formed yet. Scott Whittle spoke about the upcoming freeway closures in the fall, when Wilshire Blvd. freeway ramps will be closed. Stephen Resnick announced that Metro is having a community meeting on this issue May 26th from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Westwood Recreation Center.

6. WWNC DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FAIR

This agenda item was postponed until later on the agenda since Michael Stajura was not present.

7. BROXTON GARAGE

Toni Gray announced that there is another plan to lease out City garages, right after the City Council had vetoed this deal. Councilmember Koretz's representative Eric Norton said that there has been no formal proposal, just rumors, and that money from any proposed sale was not factored into this year's budget. He further said that Councilmember Koretz has asked the Department of Transportation to meet with the Neighborhood Council, Community Council, and the BID on the garage issue. Stakeholder Steve Sann

said that the BID has been approved and there has been discussion about creating a parking district in Westwood so that parking revenues stay in the district as a long term solution. Clinton Schudy will be WWNC's representative to the BID.

Toni proposed a motion which Stakeholder Wolfgang Veith suggested an amendment to. The amended motion is "Whereas the Westwood Broxton garage is an integral part of the Los Angeles planning process and was fully funded by Westwood stakeholders through parking meter fees, Therefore Westwood Neighborhood Council remains steadfast in their previous position that the 2 hour free parking and \$3 after 6 p.m. at the Broxton garage must remain indefinitely in order for Westwood to be competitive and to support Westwood and Westwood Village residents and businesses." Mark Herd seconded this motion, which carried unanimously (Yes:16, No:0, Abstain:0).

8. LOS ANGELES COUNTY REDISTRICTING

Stephen Resnick stated that the County is required to redistrict based on the 2010 census. The 3rd District is currently comprised of the Westside, Santa Monica Mountains, San Fernando Valley, and Las Virgenes. He moved that "Westwood Neighborhood Council supports the 3rd District as presently constituted." Toni Gray seconded the motion, which carried with a vote of Yes:13, No:0, and Abstain:3.

9. NORTH VILLAGE PARKING SHORTAGES

Brent Gaisford said that flyers announcing that the DOT would start ticketing soon were recently placed on cars apron-parked in the North Village. The ticketing has now been delayed to mid-June. Eric Norton of Councilmember Koretz's office said that they were upset about the timing of it and asked DOT to hold off on enforcement. There followed lengthy discussion on this topic by board members and stakeholders. During this discussion, the original motion was amended.

Brent moved, "Whereas the North Village faces chronic parking shortages already, and Whereas many students have off campus jobs beyond easy reach of public transportation, and Whereas orderly apron parking in the North Village doesn't interfere with pedestrian and street traffic, and Whereas a parking enforcement policy should be established to keep sidewalks and streets free of parking encroachments, Therefore the Westwood Neighborhood Council calls on Councilmember Paul Koretz and City Attorney Carmen A. Trutanich to protect resident parking rights while still keeping sidewalks accessible for all residents of Los Angeles." Steve Somers seconded the motion, which carried unanimously (Yes:16, No:0, Abstain:0).

10. NEIGHBORHOOD PURPOSES GRANTS

This item was tabled until the next meeting.

11. RESIGNATION OF BOARD MEMBER TERRY PULLAN

President Jerry Brown announced that Terry Pullan has resigned from the board effective immediately and the board must select someone to replace him.

Jerry moved that, "Westwood Neighborhood Council advertises on the website and send notice to those who ran for the business seat and to the email list." Brent Gaisford seconded the motion which carried unanimously (Yes:16, No:0, Abstain:0).

Lisa Chapman requested placing this item on the agenda for the next meeting.

12. WESTWOOD CURRENT AWARENESS

Brent Gaisford asked for suggestions of any publications about community events that people read to find out what is going on in Westwood. Weekly school newsletters, emails from organizations and their websites if they have one, newsletters of religious institutions, the library, and Westwood Recreation Center were mentioned.

13. WESTSIDE REGIONAL ALLIANCE OF COUNCILS (WRAC)

Stephen Resnick said that although WWNC has joined WRAC, no representative has been designated. Brent Gaisford moved to appoint Michael Stajura as the official WRAC representative. George Torbay seconded the motion which carried unanimously (Yes:16, No:0, Abstain:0).

14. AD HOC BYLAW COMMITTEE UPDATE

Jerry Brown said that the new bylaws were not posted in a timely manner which may be a violation of the Brown Act so the City Attorney advised WWNC that they should be carried forward. All the previously approved bylaws are in effect except for Article V, which deals with board composition. The Bylaw Committee then had another meeting and modified the bylaw recommendations. The Bylaw Committee recommended a modification of who can vote for what seat on the board, which would apply only to students and

factual basis stakeholders, who would be restricted to only voting for one board seat. The Bylaw Committee was concerned about UCLA students because they are short term and part time residents who can be easily rallied to vote and could drown out the voices of homeowners with their numbers.

Jerry Brown moved, "Westwood Neighborhood Council accepts the recommendation of the Ad Hoc Bylaw Committee." After the motion was made, there was a very lengthy and sometimes contentious discussion on this topic between board members and stakeholders. During this discussion at 9:21 p.m. Michael Stajura arrived. Kurt Smalberg seconded the motion, which was defeated (Yes:6, No:10, Abstain:0). The number of votes remained at 16 because although Michael had just arrived, Laura Winikow left.

Stephen Resnick and Michael Stajura both volunteered to be on the Ad Hoc Bylaw Committee. Michael suggested a special board meeting to deal with this issue. Connie Boukidis requested that this be placed on the agenda for the next board meeting.

15. WWNC DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FAIR

This was originally Item 6 but couldn't be discussed until Michael Stajura arrived. Michael announced that the fair will be postponed to October 2011. Michael proposed an amendment to his motion that \$500 be added to the budget--that the amount be changed from \$500 to \$625. Clinton Schudy seconded the amended motion, and it carried unanimously (Yes:16, No:0, Abstain:0).

16. AD HOC GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

Stephen Resnick announced that the Grievance Committee will have its first meeting on Thursday May 19th at 4 p.m. at St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church.

17. MOTION TO ADJOURN

President Jerry Brown adjourned the meeting at 10:26 p.m.

The next meeting is Wednesday June 15, 2011 at 7 p.m. at the Westwood Presbyterian Church.