

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

FEBRUARY 10, 2016

BELMONT VILLAGE 10475 WILSHIRE BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Jerry Brown called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Board members in attendance were Angus Beverly, Connie Boukidis, Jerry Brown, Sandy Brown, Lisa Chapman, Ian Cocroft, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Jacob Finn, Ann Hayman, Mitchell Keiter, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, Eugene Tseng, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Board members excused were Dean Abell, David Burke, Mark Rogo, and Marcello Robinson. A quorum was present. There were 17 stakeholders and guests present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Scott Whittle moved to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2016 meeting. Eugene Tseng seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. The December 2015 minutes that were not previously approved will be taken up at the next meeting.

3. THE HONORABLE PAUL KORETZ, LOS ANGELES CITY COUNCILMEMBER FOR THE FIFTH DISTRICT

Councilmember Koretz spoke about the homeless issue being top priority, with identifying the different elements involved as an important component along with family

reunification. He announced that Westwood Blvd. will be getting a dedicated street enforcer for

signage and other issues and also spoke about Westwood Blvd. and the Great Streets Initiative and

the fact that Westwood Blvd. was only picked for a bike lane because it's a Great Street, short

term rentals; and UCLA being used as an Olympic venue if L.A. wins the bid for the 2024 Olympics.

A. Questions from the WWNC Board

Questions were asked about the bike lane, the fact that Design Review Board members must be

changed and the timeline for those changes, and better notification of issues from CD5 to WWNC.

B. Questions from the Public

Questions were asked about the bike lane and the fact that Sur La Table is waiting for a letter so it can go to Building & Safety for permits.

4. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. Mayoral representative Daniel Tamm announced that Mayor Garcetti has appointed Wendy Greuel to the board of LAHSA and that there will be 1,200 units of supported housing built at the West L.A. V.A. property.

B. Congressman Ted Lieu's representative Janet Turner announced that the Purple Line extension and parking are on the V.A.'s master plan. There are some challenges with the traffic study so a second study has been ordered. There is a Community Veterans Engagement Board forming.

C. UCLA representative Marco Perez reported that UCLA supports the 2024 Olympic bid and that UCLA is partnering with the V.A. The Geffen Academy's initial study was released today, with a scoping meeting to be held on February 25th where public comment can be made. It is scheduled to open in 2017. Geffen Hall on Tiverton and LeConte will be opening in September 2016.

Sandy Brown asked whether the old Kanner Architects building on the south side of LeConte, three doors west of Westwood Blvd., is owned by UCLA. Currently all its windows are blocked which is against the specific plan. Scott Whittle asked about UCLA's support for a bike lane on Westwood Blvd. since there is an individual from UCLA's transportation department who speaks at meetings representing UCLA. Marco Perez replied that it is not an official position of UCLA unless it comes from the Chancellor or Vice Chancellor.

D. West LAPD Senior Lead Officer Chris Ragsdale had no update.

5. WESTWOOD VILLAGE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Megan Furey reported that sidewalk reconstruction on Westwood Blvd. will begin on March

7th. The BID's next meeting is on February 18th at 8:30 a.m.

6. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There was no public comment.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. The Executive Committee had no report.

B. Budget

Treasurer Laura Winikow listed the expenditures to be approved: \$51.88 for January 2016 printing costs; \$113.66 for December 2015 staffing services; \$92.86 for January 2016 staffing services; \$75 for facility setup and \$100 for rental for the January 2016 meeting. All expenditures and the monthly expense report were approved unanimously.

An expense of \$56.58 in printing costs for the February meeting was approved unanimously.

Laura also reported that she had received an email from the City Attorney's office stating that NCs are no longer allowed to give Neighborhood Purpose Grants to schools if a parent

of a student at that school is on the board, which is problematic. Mitchell Keiter

volunteered to look into this.

C. Land Use had no report.

D. Outreach & Communications

1. Elections—this was tabled until the next meeting.

2. Homeless Count

Chair Lisa Chapman reported that the homeless count was a success and starting later this year was a good idea. The numbers doubled from last year's count.

E. Homeless Task Force had no report.

F. Budget Advocates had no report.

G. Public Safety had no report.

H. Traffic had no report.

I. WRAC had no report.

8. BYLAW CHANGES

A. Introduction of Motion: “To make our balloting system of three ballots (Business, Homeowner, and Renters) permanent”

This was tabled until next month’s meeting, when more precise wording will be introduced.

9. 1140 GAYLEY AVENUE (SIMMS PROJECT)

A. Update

Sandy Brown submitted an appeal on the grounds of parking numbers for Le Pain Quotidien. The appeal will be heard sometime between mid-March and May.

10. COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT REQUEST

A. Introduction of Motion: “Request for funding for the ‘Let’s Get Lit’ campaign to improve lighting in the North Village”

Jacob Finn explained that this campaign to engage North Village residents may require money from WWNC. Scott Whittle raised the issue of historical and aesthetic concerns with new lighting. Jerry Brown suggested applying for a Neighborhood Purpose Grant.

11. CONSIDERATION OF THE PURCHASE OF ADDITIONAL SOUND EQUIPMENT FOR THE
BENEFIT OF HEARING IMPAIRED MEETING ATTENDEES

Jerry Brown reported that he called the city number listed on the agenda to make a request for equipment for the hearing impaired but was unable to do so. Ken, a representative from the hearing impaired community, said that it would help if everyone used a microphone and recommended a wireless induction loop system. He further said that there is money from the city available and volunteered to work with WWNC and city officials on this. Jerry Brown will work with Ken on this issue. The board agreed that it is worthwhile to spend money on such a system and a committee will be formed to look into it.

12. CITY HALL TOUR

A. Update on tour for WWNC members

Sandy Brown reported that nine members have signed up.

13. IMPACT OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

A. Discussion of how to assess the impact/success (or lack thereof) of Neighborhood Councils and the Neighborhood Council system

This topic was not discussed.

14. ADJOURNMENT

President Jerry Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:28 p.m.