

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 9, 2014

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 10822 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 Dean Abell, Angus Beverly, Connie Boukidis, Jerry Brown, Lisa Chapman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Armen Hadjimanoukian, Mark Herd, Ryan Krebs, Stephen Resnick, Clinton Schudy, Michael Stajura, and Laura Winikow. Members excused were Sarah Austerlitz, Carole Cohen, Jolie Duhon, Samuel Haws, Mark Rogo, and Scott Whittle. A quorum was present. There were 22 stakeholders and guests present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Stephen Resnick moved to approve the minutes of the March 19, 2014 board meeting. Dean Abell seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

3. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. Mayoral Representative Daniel Tamm announced that Mayor Garcetti will be giving his State of the City speech tomorrow at the California Science Center at 5 p.m. and if anyone is interested in attending to email him.

The Planning Department and LADOT are willing to meet with the NCs regarding the proposed bicycle lanes in Westwood.

B. CD5 Economic Development Director Katherine Hennigan reported that CD5 Transportation Deputy Jay Greenstein will be giving a written response to questions on the proposed Westwood bicycle lanes. Councilmember Koretz does not support a bicycle lane on Westwood Boulevard but she will have to find out about Sepulveda Blvd. The Mayor's office has agreed to meet with CD5 and WWNC board members to discuss the bicycle lanes.

Tomorrow there will be a peaceful protest rally in front of the Regent Theater at 11 a.m. by Local 47 musicians about state tax credits for film. There will be a meeting with Street Lighting on April 14th in the North Village. On May 2nd there will be a presentation on the 50th anniversary of Stan's Donuts and on May 3rd at WOMP Councilmember Koretz will be in front of Stan's Donuts for a proclamation and a plaque. On April 19th there will be the first of four free concerts at Westwood Library Park. Councilmember Koretz will be in attendance. On April 28th there will be a reception at City Hall for Yom HaShoah which all are invited to attend.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. Executive

There was no report.

B. Budget

Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that there is almost \$35,000 left in the budget. Tonight \$17,200 will be allocated to Neighborhood Purpose Grants (NPG) and if there is any remaining money at the end of the fiscal year it will be allocated to NPGs.

C. Land Use & Planning

1. Ralphs Tasting Room Project

10861 Weyburn Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024

CASE NUMBER: ZA 2014-0227 (CUB)

Contact: Brett Engstrom, 626-683-7777

LUPC Chair Connie Boukidis reported that Ralphs made a presentation on their proposed tasting room in the old Best Buy space. Ralphs is applying for a new license to run a tasting room. Alcohol sales will be allowed from 6 a.m. to 2 a.m. Ralphs is looking at a possible store exit onto Tiverton Avenue. The LUPC committee voted to support Ralphs with one other condition which is no sales of beer in pitchers, only in single servings and also to support LADOT's study for an exit onto Tiverton.

LUPC Chair Connie Boukidis moved,

The Westwood Neighborhood Council Board of Directors agrees to support the Application by Ralphs Grocery Company for, pursuant to LAMC Section 12.24, W-1, for a Conditional Use Permit to permit on-site instructional alcoholic beverage tastings via a Department of ABC Type #86 License, in conjunction with an expanded newly remodeled Ralphs Supermarket with 24 hour operation.

Clinton Schudy seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

2. Napa Valley Grille Presentation

1100 South Glendon Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024

CASE NUMBER:

Contact: Terri Dickerhoff 213-422-1450

LUPC Chair Connie Boukidis reported that Napa Valley Grille made a presentation at the meeting about plans to reconfigure the restaurant to add seating and a handicapped ramp. The LUPC committee voted unanimously to approve the application. No live music or DJs are allowed now but there is the possibility of having them in the future.

Connie Boukidis moved,

The Westwood Neighborhood Council Board of Directors agrees to support the Application by NAPA VALLEY GRILLE for, pursuant to LAMC Section 12.24, W-1,

the continued on-site sale of full alcohol in conjunction with an existing full service restaurant to capture an increase in seating with no other changes in restaurant operation and hours of operation from Monday through Friday, 11:30 a.m. to 12:00 a.m., Saturday 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 a.m., and Sunday 11:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Dean Abell seconded and the motion was approved by a show of hands.

D. Outreach and Communications

1. Elections

Chair Lisa Chapman reported that the candidate filing period is closed. Last year there was a candidate forum held before the board meeting.

Jerry Brown moved that WWNC hold a candidate forum before the May board meeting, seconded by Mark Herd. The motion carried unanimously. Lisa will speak to the church administration about this.

E. Public Safety

Chair Michael Stajura announced that the City has suspended all LAFD hiring and the LAFD is understaffed by about 600 firefighters.

About 400 people rioted at the “Undie Run” on Wednesday night when 15 UCPD

officers enforced a riot line off campus on the street. This took place around 2 a.m. in the North Village. Every Wednesday night there is an unofficial UCLA student event where students congregate and run in their underwear. There were about 8,000 runners but when it ended, about 400 people wouldn't go home.

UCLA representative Rachel Brashier said that the incident has been discussed and requested agendaization of this item for the next meeting.

Michael Stajura moved that WWNC agendaize a community policing meeting between LAPD and UCPD at the next meeting. Mark Herd seconded and the motion was approved by a show of hands. Michael Stajura will prepare a motion and contact both police departments.

F. Traffic

Chair Angus Beverly reported that he has received complaints about Veteran Avenue by Westwood Park because there is only one crosswalk and it is dangerous to cross there. There are no lights there and pedestrians can't be seen at night. Possibly street bumps, zebra stripes, or reflectors could be installed.

G. WRAC

WRAC representative Ryan Krebs reported that WRAC is looking into holding a candidate forum for candidates running for election to the U. S. Congress 33rd district and for candidates running for a seat on L. A. County's Board of Supervisors.

6. NEIGHBORHOOD PURPOSE GRANTS

A. Warner Avenue Elementary School requested \$5,000 for library books. The books in the library are 20 years out of date and the school would like to bring the library up to at least the 2001 level. The total cost of the books to be purchased is \$8,349.

B. Emerson Middle School requested \$5,000 for its Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Academy, one of three academies at the school. STEM has robotics and video game design classes. The money requested would be used for computers to program the robots. Thirty computers are needed which cost between \$1,200 and \$1,300 each. \$6,000 has been raised so far.

C. Fairburn Avenue Elementary School requested \$5,000 for an auditorium upgrade. The auditorium is used for Fairburn's 450 students for arts programs. A new speaker system, projector, and screen will be purchased which cost about \$19,000.

D. Friends of Westwood Library requested \$4,609 to replace six chairs in the magazine section. New chairs cost \$671 each plus a shipping cost of \$583 for all six. The Westwood library branch is the sixth busiest library in Los Angeles so the chairs get a lot of use.

E. The Los Angeles Conservancy requested \$5,000 to nominate four buildings in Westwood as historical monuments. The Conservancy has made a nine year effort to

get 25 buildings nominated for historical status in Westwood. It has enough money to nominate seven buildings so the money requested would allow a total of eleven buildings to be nominated.

Several ways of dividing the \$17,200 were discussed. Michael Stajura moved that the \$17,200 be divided four ways between the three schools and the Conservancy, with each receiving \$4,300, and the unspent money at the end of the year will go to the library. Mark Herd seconded and the motion carried by a vote of Yes: 7 and No: 3. Board members Roozbeh Farahanipour, Stephen Resnick, and Laura Winikow recused themselves from the vote.

Mark Rogo arrived at 9:05 p.m.

7. BICYCLE LANES IN WESTWOOD

Jerry Brown said that NCs were not brought into the loop while discussing Westwood bicycle lanes and it's a late entry now. Lisa Chapman was concerned because UCLA was consulted at meetings that WWNC was not privy to. Clinton Schudy wanted the study of Sepulveda Blvd. as a bicycle lane to be off the table. Mayoral Representative Daniel Tamm said that there are many conversations and both LADOT and the Planning Department are willing to get WWNC's input and that WWNC has not been purposely excluded.

8. IMPACT OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

This item was not discussed.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President Jerry Brown adjourned the meeting at 9:20 p.m.