

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

BOARD MEETING MINUTES

MAY 8, 2013

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

10822 WILSHIRE BLVD.

LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Jerry Brown called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. Board members in attendance were Angus Beverly, Connie Boukidis, Jerry Brown, Lisa Chapman, Carole Cohen, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Armen Hadjimanoukian, Mark Herd, Ryan Krebs, Stephen Resnick, Mark Rogo, Michael Stajura, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Board members excused were Dean Abell, Sarah Austerlitz, Jolie Duhon, Samuel Haws, and Clinton Schudy. A quorum was present. There were six stakeholders and guests in attendance.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

3. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. The Executive Committee had no report.

B. Treasurer Laura Winikow prepared a current budget report and a proposed budget for next year. She stated that there is \$3,714 left in this year's budget minus upcoming expenses of \$100 for secretarial services, \$40 for copies, \$18 for envelopes, and \$618 for the next six months meeting room rental fee, which totaled \$776. This left \$2,938 in the budget. Jerry Brown had suggested using the \$2,938 to amend the Neighborhood Purpose Grants (NPG) and raise the grant amounts.

Connie Boukidis moved that WWNC take the \$2,938 and split it five ways to increase the grant amount of each of the five prior NPGs by \$587. Lisa Chapman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Jerry Brown moved that WWNC accept the proposed budget for next year. Roozbeh Farahanipour seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Laura Winikow moved that the following expenses be reimbursed: \$75 set up fees each for April and May totaling \$150, \$5 for postage, \$40 for copies, \$18 for envelopes, \$100 for secretarial services, \$618 for six months meeting room rental, and \$166.61 for copies. Michael Stajura seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

C. Land Use & Planning Chair Connie Boukidis said there was nothing before the committee currently.

D. Outreach & Communications Chair Lisa Chapman announced that the mayoral candidate debate was a success, with 650 RSVPs received and about 400 people who attended the debate. She thanked stakeholder Sandy Brown for putting it together.

E. Ad Hoc Helicopter Committee Chair Jerry Brown said that William Dunne at UCLA is getting estimates from helicopter companies to reconfigure the flight path. William Dunne wrote a script for the helicopter companies to read to the pilots on takeoff and landing which was a first draft and still needs work.

Committee member Wolfgang Veith said he thought there was less intrusion lately.

F. Public Safety Chair Michael Stajura announced that the next Disaster Preparedness Fair will be held on October 19, 2013. The crosswalk at Gayley and Landfair in the North Village is on LADOT's list to survey but LADOT has a backlog so it's unclear when it will be surveyed. Installing a speed bump or dots in the street to slow down traffic was an idea proposed but it is not legal.

4. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Senior Lead Officer Chris Ragsdale announced that there is a 20% reduction in crime compared to this period last year, with no serious crime currently. Westwood's main crimes are personal theft and car break-ins.

5. RECONSIDERATION OF THE PROCESS OF RECEIVING AND REVIEWING NEIGHBORHOOD PURPOSE GRANTS

Jerry Brown asked for input on NPGs. Lisa Chapman said that NPGs should only be given out once a year. Michael Stajura proposed three alternatives: have a committee to screen NPGs, have a special extra meeting only for NPGs, or have one regular board meeting devoted solely to NPGs. A committee would use a scoring sheet to rate NPG applications. Connie Boukidis recommended limiting the time for each NPG presentation. Carole Cohen thought a screening committee would be redundant.

Lisa Chapman moved that WWNC accept Neighborhood Purpose Grants once a year. Michael Stajura seconded the motion. The motion carried by a vote of Yes: 13 and No: 1.

Scott Whittle moved that the Neighborhood Purpose Grants be done in March. Angus Beverly seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Michael Stajura moved that WWNC establish a screening committee to preview NPG applications and make recommendations to the board. Angus Beverly seconded the motion. The motion was defeated by a vote of No: 11 and Yes: 3.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE MOTIONS REGARDING AMENDING

WWNC'S BYLAWS

Jerry Brown shared a proposed change to the factual basis stakeholder category from BONC. The proposed change had four points to it and would not affect WWNC's bylaws.

Connie Boukidis moved that WWNC support BONC's recommended changes to the factual basis stakeholder category. Stephen Resnick seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of Yes: 12, No: 1, and Abstain: 1.

Lisa Chapman proposed a change in bylaws to make board member terms four years instead of two. Lisa moved that WWNC amend its bylaws to extend the term length from two years to four years, to go into effect retroactively from the last election. Connie Boukidis seconded the motion. The motion passed by a vote of Yes: 10, No: 3, and Abstain: 1.

9. ADJOURNMENT

President Jerry Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:44 p.m.