

## WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

JULY 13, 2016

WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, 10822 WILSHIRE BLVD. LOS ANGELES, CA  
90024

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Outgoing President Jerry Brown called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. Board members in attendance were Angus Beverly, Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Lisa Chapman, Chantelle Eastman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Mitchell Keiter, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, Marcello Robinson, Mark Rogo, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Board members excused were Ian Cocroft, Caroline Conway, Trent Jolly, and Eugene Tseng. A quorum was present. There were 14 stakeholders and guests present.

### 2. SEATING OF THE NEW WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL BOARD

#### A. Neighborhood Council Oath

Jerry Brown introduced Councilmember Paul Koretz, who swore in the new board.

### 3. ELECTION OF BOARD OFFICERS

#### A. Board designation of Purchase Card Holder & Second Signatory

Stakeholder Steve Sann conducted the elections.

Scott Whittle nominated Lisa Chapman for president. Lisa Chapman was elected president

by a unanimous yes vote.

Roozbeh Farahanipour nominated Sandy Brown for vice president. Sandy Brown was elected vice president by a unanimous yes vote.

Scott Whittle nominated Stephen Resnick for secretary. Stephen Resnick was elected secretary by a unanimous yes vote.

Lisa Chapman nominated Laura Winikow for treasurer. Laura Winikow was elected treasurer by a unanimous yes vote.

Ann Hayman nominated Connie Boukidis for Chair of the Land Use Committee. Connie Boukidis was elected by a unanimous yes vote.

Roosbeh Farahanipour nominated David Lorango for Chair of the Outreach & Communications Committee; he was elected by a unanimous yes vote.

Philip Gabriel nominated Angus Beverly for Chair of the Transportation & Parking Committee; he was elected by a unanimous yes vote.

Philip Gabriel nominated Marcello Robinson for Chair of the Public Safety Committee; he was elected by a unanimous yes vote.

Roosbeh Farahanipour requested that WWNC set up a committee for Zoning & Violations, seconded by Philip Gabriel. The motion carried by a unanimous yes vote.

Philip Gabriel nominated Roosbeh Farahanipour as the chair; he was elected by a unanimous yes vote.

Marcello Robinson suggested that WWNC have a BID representative. Lisa Chapman nominated Philip Gabriel as the BID representative; he was elected unanimously.

Sandy Brown agreed to continue on as the WRAC representative but requested an alternate. Mitchell Keiter volunteered to be the alternate WRAC representative.

Lisa Chapman nominated Marcello Robinson as the Budget Advocate; he was elected unanimously.

#### 4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Scott Whittle moved to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2016 meeting. Lisa Chapman seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

## 5. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. UCLA representative Marco Perez thanked outgoing President Jerry Brown for guiding the board and the new board for serving the community. UCLA's Annual Volunteer Day will be on September 19th all over the county. A deal is being worked out between Jackie Robinson Field and the VA in which UCLA will donate services to veterans.

B. Mayoral representative Daniel Tamm talked about the Clean Streets Challenge and the Welcome Home project for the homeless, which now has a deadline of August 28th.

C. SLO Chris Ragsdale announced that crime was down slightly compared to this time last year and reiterated the importance of locking cars and not leaving property inside them.

## 6. WESTWOOD VILLAGE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Megan Furey reported that tree trimming will occur in August. Executive Director Andrew Thomas met with CD5 staff and others to discuss Broxton Plaza.

## 7. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stakeholder Steve Sann reported on upcoming openings in Westwood Village. Sur La Table will open on July 21st and Tender Greens on August 1st.

Dana Sherrod and Sarah Blanch, of the Institute of Public Strategies, are studying alcohol and drug abuse, with a focus on reducing underage and binge drinking, and would like community input on how the problem manifests.

David Cain, the Executive Director of America's Healthy Kids which holds Kids Fitness Challenges, expressed interest in holding an event in Westwood Village.

## 8. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. The Executive Committee had no report.

B. Budget

## 1. Approval of Monthly Expenditures

Treasurer Laura Winikow listed the July expenditures for approval: \$34.65 for June staffing services, printed material \$90.89, facility rental \$100, facility setup \$75. The MER listed \$301 spent from the \$37,000 budget. All expenditures and the MER were approved unanimously.

Lisa Chapman was appointed as the second signatory.

Laura went through the changes in the new budget. Scott Whittle moved to approve the budget, seconded by Marcello Robinson, and carried unanimously.

## C. Land Use

### 1. SpireWorks

Case Number: ZA 2016 2093 CUB

Project Title: SPIREWORKS

Project Address: 1061 South Broxton, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Project Owner: Westwood Partners, LLC

Contact Info: Margaret Taylor, 818-398-2740

Project Description: Applicant seeks Conditional Use Permit to allow the sale of beer and wine for on-site consumption in conjunction with the operation of a new tenant in an existing restaurant tenant space with outdoor patio dining. Space interior 2,753 sf with 45 seats and exterior 366 sf covered and 166 sf uncovered with 34 seats; total 3,296 sf and 79 seats. Hours of operation 11 am - 12 am, 7 days a week.

MOTION: THE WWNC does not support Applicant's request for a Conditional Use Beverage permit for beer and wine on-site consumption.

The CEO of Spireworks, Jeff Rosenthal, and expeditor Margaret Taylor presented their

case for a CUP for beer and wine.

Chair Connie Boukidis moved the above motion, seconded by Ann Hayman. The motion was defeated by a vote of No: 8 (Angus Beverly, Lisa Chapman, Philip Gabriel, Mitchell Keiter, Marcello Robinson, Mark Rogo, Scott Whittle, Laura Winikow), Yes: 4 (Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Ann Hayman, Stephen Resnick), and Abstain: 3 (Chantelle Eastman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, David Lorango).

Connie Boukidis moved:

WWNC supports Spireworks' request for a CUP for beer and wine, contingent on the identified conditions outlined in the attachment incorporated into the ABC license:

1. No "Happy Hour" type of reduced-price alcoholic beverage or "2 for 1" promotion shall be allowed at any time.
2. Alcohol shall not be sold by the pitcher or in kegs. Beer and wine shall be served in glasses. Beer may be served in individual bottles.
3. No alcohol shall be allowed to be consumed on any adjacent property under the control of the applicant.
4. There shall be no exterior advertising of any kind or type, including advertising directly to the exterior from within, promoting or indicating the availability of alcoholic beverages. Interior displays of alcoholic beverages or signs which are clearly visible to the exterior shall constitute a violation of this condition.
5. No signs are permitted on the outside of the building or directed from the inside to the outside which display or advertise the availability of alcoholic beverages.
6. No sale of alcohol shall be permitted at any self-service, automated checkout station (checkout conducted primarily by the customer, with assistance by a store monitor) if

such are available on the site. All sales of alcohol shall be conducted at a full-service checkout station directly attended by a cashier/checkout clerk specifically assigned solely to that station.

7. The alcoholic beverage license shall not be exchanged for a public premises type license nor operated as a public premises.

Marcello Robinson seconded and the motion carried by a vote of Yes: 8 (Angus Beverly, Connie Boukidis, Lisa Chapman, Chantelle Eastman, Mitchell Keiter, Marcello Robinson, Mark Rogo, Scott Whittle), No: 4 (Sandy Brown, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Stephen Resnick), and Abstain: 3 (Roozbeh Farahanipour, David Lorango, Laura Winikow).

#### D. Outreach & Communications

1. New Board Member Training needs to be completed within 30 days.
2. Outreach Survey was not discussed.

E. Homeless Task Force was tabled.

#### F. Budget Advocates

Marcello Robinson will attend the Budget Day meeting on July 30th.

G. Public Safety was tabled.

#### H. Traffic

Angus Beverly announced that a stop sign was installed at the intersection of LeConte and Levering.

I. WRAC had no report because there was no meeting.

### 9. SOBER LIVING HOMES

#### A. Discussion on Sober Living Homes in Westwood

Scott Whittle introduced Bill Larsen of the Nuisance Abatement Department in the City Attorney's office, who reported on the problems with sober living homes in R-1 neighbor-

hoods. There are two in Westwood Hills on Sunset Blvd. but it is also a city-wide problem. Crime goes up near these homes. They can legally only be gone after as boarding houses. These homes are unregulated so other laws which apply to regulated homes don't apply to them. The owners have lobbyists so no laws have been passed to regulate them and probably won't be.

Stakeholder Terry Tegnazian voiced support for a state law regulating the sober living homes and requested WWNC's support on this.

Stakeholder Mike Schwartz reported on living next door to such a home and said that there were 14 men between the ages of 18 and 35 living there without any background checks.

#### 10. WELCOME HOME PROJECT

A. Discussion in regard to having volunteers host gatherings to discuss homelessness in Los Angeles

Laura Winikow explained that the City gives talking points to facilitate these discussions. Volunteers are needed to lead the discussions and to create a kit for a family moving into housing, and WWNC will need to do some outreach. Sandy Brown suggested partnering with the BID and getting donations from businesses in Westwood Village. Laura requested

that this topic be on the agenda for next month's meeting.

#### 11. ILLEGAL CUTTING OF TREES ON WESTWOOD BOULEVARD

A. Introduction of Motion: "The Westwood Neighborhood Council requests that the City of Los Angeles investigate illegal tree cutting on Westwood Blvd, south of Wilshire Blvd and obtain the resources to replace all the trees that have been illegally cut. The

WWNC further requests a police report to protect future criminal acts of tree cutting in our neighborhood and assign a detective from the LAPD to this case.”

Roozbeh Farahanipour reported that in the area between Wilshire Blvd. and Santa Monica

Blvd. between 80 and 90 trees are missing, on all streets. Roozbeh moved the above motion, seconded by Philip Gabriel and carried unanimously.

## 12. 611 GAYLEY

A. Update on the appeal of the Zoning Administrator’s decision on this project

Connie Boukidis reported that although nobody received notice about this hearing, which was done deliberately and is unprecedented, the appeal was denied by a vote of 3 to 1.

Stephen Resnick reported that the APC Chair was concerned about the lack of notification but the City Attorney’s office stated that the project can’t be re-heard on account of that.

Sandy Brown recommended that WWNC send a letter to the law firm objecting to the lack of notification and requested that this be an agenda item for the next meeting.

## 13. BYLAW COMMITTEE

A. Organization

Sandy Brown asked for volunteers to form a small committee which will meet with DONE.

Angus Beverly, Chantelle Eastman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Mitchell Keiter, and Marcello Robinson volunteered to be on the committee.

## 14. BIKE LANE ON WESTWOOD BLVD. (MOBILITY 2035)

A. Update

Sandy Brown reported that the City Planning Commission agreed to change the bike



lane from Westwood Blvd. to Gayley/Midvale Avenue but Westwood Blvd. can still be studied and discussed.

#### 15. IMPACT OF NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCILS

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

Lisa Chapman stated that she would like to have both sides presented on motions, pro and

con. The Neighborhood Integrity Initiative needs to be studied.

#### 16. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 10:26 p.m.