

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 13, 2017

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Lisa Chapman called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m. Board members in attendance were Cyrus Baraghoush, Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Lisa Chapman, Chantelle Eastman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Trent Jolly, Mitchell Keiter, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Board members excused were Angus Beverly, Caroline Conway, Marcello Robinson, and Mark Rogo. A quorum was present. There were 27 stakeholders and guests present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Scott Whittle moved to approve the minutes of the August 9, 2017 meeting, seconded by Roozbeh Farahanipour, and approved unanimously.

3. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. Captain Brian Wendling, Commander, W.L.A. Community Police Station, introduced himself and reported that crime is trending downward in Westwood with the exception of an uptick in burglaries.

B. CD5 Field Deputy Jasmine Shamolian gave an update on Westwood Park's dog park and trees. CD5 got Verizon to agree to co-locate its equipment so it will not need to build any new cell towers.

C. UCLA representative Marco Perez announced that student move-in weekend starts on September 22nd. On September 24th, there will be a block party in Westwood Village with food and music. The Anderson School is expanding so Parking Structure 5 will be closed and cars will be rerouted to Parking Structure 2.

D. Budget Advocate Jacqueline Kennedy, who is the Region 11 representative, introduced herself

and gave an overview of what is going on currently.

E. EmpowerLA Neighborhood Council Advocate Gibson Nyambura reported that the City Council will be voting soon on pushing Neighborhood Council elections to 2019.

4. WESTWOOD VILLAGE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

No update on what is happening in the Village was given. Discussion about the BID's vote on changing the definition of a restaurant was discussed in agenda item 9.

5. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Stakeholder Steve Sann reported that a temporary full service post office will be opening on Gayley Avenue by October 1st.

6. ELECTION FOR RENTER OPEN BOARD POSITION

A. Presentation by candidates

Candidates Joshua Baum, Naomi Kisel, and Andrew Lewis each gave a statement to the board.

B. Vote to select new board member through WWNC Bylaw Selection Process

Joshua Baum received three votes, Naomi Kisel received nine votes, and Andrew Lewis received two votes. Naomi Kisel was elected to the position and seated as a board member.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. Executive

President Lisa Chapman reported on noise complaints received about amplified music from the W Hotel. This has been an issue on and off for years. She will speak to the manager of the W Hotel along with CD5 Field Deputy Jasmine Shamolian.

B. Budget

Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that the July monthly expenditure report included spending \$400 out of the \$42,000 budget, which was approved unanimously, with the exception of new board member Naomi Kisel who did not vote. The expenditures to be approved for September were: facility rental \$100, facility setup & \$75, and staffing services \$168.71. They were approved unanimously, with the exception of Naomi Kisel who did not vote.

C. Land Use & Planning

Discussion/Action

1. 1361 KELTON

Case Number: DIR-2017-2639-DRB-SPP-SPPA

Project Title: 1361 KELTON

Project Address: 1361 Kelton Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Contact Info: Shahab Ghods, 310-478-6149

Project Description: 15 unit, 5 story apartment rental project over 2 levels of subterranean parking garage

EAF-environmental assessment

Supporting Documents: [http://www.wwnc.org/1361 Kelton](http://www.wwnc.org/1361%20Kelton)

Chair Connie Boukidis moved,

“The WWNC BOD recommends that the DRB approve the 1361 Kelton project as proposed with a recommendation for increased landscaping, based upon the commitment that this project will remain as a long-term apartment use and not be converted to condominiums.”

Sandy Brown seconded and the motion carried by a vote of Yes: 12 (Cyrus Baraghoush, Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Lisa Chapman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Philip Gabriel, Trent Jolly, Mitchell Keiter, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, Scott Whittle, Laura Winikow.), No: 1 (Ann Hayman), and Abstain: 0. New board member Naomi Kisel did not

vote.

Discussion/Action

2. UNEX UCLA

Case Number: SCH NO. 2017051024

Project Title: UCLA Long Range Development Plan Amendment 2017 and Student Housing Projects

Project Address: 10995 Le Conte Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Contact Info: Tracy Dudman, 310-206-9255

Project Description: Demolition of UNEX building and replacing with building holding up to 1,350 upper division undergraduate beds. Building estimated at 350,000 sf configured with nine and 20 levels and limited parking. Expected to be completed at latest Fall 2022.

Supporting Documents: [http://www.wwnc.org/UCLA UNEX](http://www.wwnc.org/UCLA_UNEX)

UCLA representative Marco Perez reported that there will be an EIR hearing on the project on September 26th at the Luskin Center at 5 p.m.

Chair Connie Boukidis moved,

“The WWNC BOD opposes the proposed 20 story 202 ft. dormitory project at the UNEX site on LeConte for the following reasons:

- its significant negative environmental impact on Westwood Village's historic view shed that includes the Fox Theater, a Los Angeles historic-cultural monument; and
- due to the adjoining 45 ft. height restrictions imposed in the Westwood Village Specific Plan and the North Westwood Village Specific Plan.

However, the WWNC BOD does support and recommend that UCLA pursue a project that replaces the current UNEX building with one of the same height, 106 ft. with the installation of at least two levels of subterranean parking that would be accessible both

to students and the public at affordable rates and transfer the remaining height and density needed to the proposed Gayley-Strathmore, Warren or Tom Bradley sites.

Further, we call on UCLA to circulate a new and updated holistic Long Range Development Plan in an orderly fashion that allows for community and stakeholder input.”

Ann Hayman seconded and the motion carried by a vote of Yes: 9 (Connie Boukidis, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Trent Jolly, Mitchell Keiter, Stephen Resnick, Scott Whittle, Laura Winikow), No: 0, and Abstain: 4 (Cyrus Baraghoush, Sandy Brown, Lisa Chapman, David Lorango). New board member Naomi Kisel did not vote.

D. Outreach & Communications

1. Meet & Greet event—Introduction of motion to allocate funds for this event
Lisa Chapman moved that WWNC move \$1,000 from community improvement to outreach. Ann Hayman seconded and the motion carried unanimously, with the exception of new board member Naomi Kisel who did not vote.

E. Homeless Task Force

Lisa Chapman announced that there will be a LAHSA event on September 28th in West L.A.

F. Budget Advocates—no report

G. Public Safety—no report

H. Transportation & Parking

Ann Hayman reported that the Student Engagement Committee met at the Hammer Museum last night and several people volunteered to work on the committee.

I. Bylaws

1. Update as to paperwork submitted to BONC for bylaw change for WWNC to be able to add standing committees

Lisa Chapman reported that EmpowerLA Neighborhood Council Advocate Gibson Nyambura is helping with this issue.

J. WRAC

WRAC representative Mitchell Keiter reported that WRAC is still looking at creating an organization that can spend money. WRAC would then be requesting money from WWNC.

K. Zoning & Violations

Roozbeh Farahanipour reported that the restaurant grading system has changed.

8. WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH PRESCHOOL

A. Fund Raising Information

Carrie de Groot was not present so this item was tabled.

9. WESTWOOD VILLAGE SPECIFIC PLAN RESTAURANT DEFINITION

A. Discussion and possible motion of amending the Westwood Specific Plan in regards to its definitions and/or distinctions with regards to restaurants in Westwood Village

The language from the BID about recommending that restaurant definitions be changed in the Westwood Village Specific Plan was used as a reference point in this discussion. Sandy Brown gave an overview of the history of the issue. A number of other board members and Peter Clinco, owner of Skylight Gardens, all spoke. Roozbeh Farahanipour reported that CD5 Planning Deputy Faisal Al Serri said he would meet with Roozbeh and the restaurant association before the BID vote, but never did. The general consensus was that a piecemeal approach of only changing the restaurant definitions when the whole plan should be updated is not the right way to go about it. It will take six years to update the plan, but funding should be found to update it in two years instead.

Sandy Brown moved,

“WWNC requests CD5 to find funding for a two year update of the Westwood Village Specific Plan, so it can be looked at holistically with input from the whole community.”

Stephen Resnick seconded and the motion carried unanimously with the exception of new board member Naomi Kisel who didn't vote.

10. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 10:33 p.m.