

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

JANUARY 11, 2017

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

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Lisa Chapman called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. Board members in attendance were Sandy Brown, Connie Boukidis, Lisa Chapman, Caroline Conway, Chantelle Eastman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Trent Jolly, Mitchell Keiter, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, Mark Rogo, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Board members excused were Angus Beverly and Marcello Robinson. A quorum was present. There were 27 stakeholders and guests present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Philip Gabriel moved to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2016 meeting. Stephen Resnick seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. Congressman Ted Lieu's representative Janet Turner gave an update on what is happening at the V.A. and announced that UCLA will be helping veterans with mental health issues through its Center of Excellence for Behavioral Health.

B. SLO Chris Ragsdale reported that car theft is up in the area. He clarified the jurisdiction issue for 911 calls. All medical and fire emergencies are responded to without regard to jurisdiction as it is only a matter for law enforcement.

C. UCLA representative Marco Perez announced that there will be a Teach, Organize & Resist teach-in for students and community members on January 18th.

4. WESTWOOD VILLAGE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

BID Executive Director Andrew Thomas announced that a mid-block crosswalk will be installed on

Westwood Blvd. between Kinross and Weyburn sometime in mid to late February. Some work through the Great Streets Initiative will be done, including sidewalk reconstruction and removing concrete from the median for planting.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Stakeholder Steve Sann reported that Ralphs got approval for and is building a second driveway which will be for exit only, and gave an update on openings and closings in Westwood Village.

6. ELECTIONS FOR RENTER OPEN BOARD POSITIONS

A. Presentation by candidates

Cyrus Baraghoush, Ken Cluskey, Cesar Flores, Rawad Hani, Naomi Kisel, and Shelby Kretz each gave a statement to board members.

B. Vote to select candidates

Each board member voted for two candidates. Cyrus Baraghoush and Shelby Kretz each received ten votes, Naomi Kisel received eight votes, Hani Rawad received two votes, and Ken Cluskey and Cesar Flores received no votes. Cyrus Baraghoush and Shelby Kretz were elected to the open board

positions and were seated.

7. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. The Executive Committee had no report.

B. Budget

Treasurer Laura Winikow listed the December expenditures to be approved: printed material \$75.21, staffing services \$254.11, facility rental \$100, and facility set-up \$75. The Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) included a total spent of \$504.32 and \$39,444 left in the budget. All expenses and the MER were approved unanimously.

C. Land Use

1. Discussion/Action

10717 Ohio Avenue Project

Case Number: AA-2016-2813-PMLA ENV-2016-2814-CE

Project Title: 10717 Ohio Avenue

Project Address: 10717 Ohio Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Contact Info: Sean Nguyen, 213-880-6289; Hamid Gabbay, 310-553-8866

Project Description: Demolish single-family dwelling and new preliminary parcel map composed of one lot for new three story three unit condo over one level of subterranean parking.

Supporting Documents: <http://www.wwnc.org/10717 Ohio>

LUPC Chair Connie Boukidis moved, "The WWNC BOD supports Applicant in his request to subdivide this property from three apartments into three condominium units." Scott Whittle seconded and the motion carried by a vote of Yes: 14, No: 0, and Abstain: 1 (Mitchell Keiter).

New board members Cyrus Baraghoush and Shelby Kretz did not vote.

2. Discussion/Action

Five Verizon cell phone poles located at the below-referenced addresses:

SCL Westwood 02

1133 S. Glendon Ave.

DIR-2016-4278-DRB-SPP

ENV-2016-4279-CE

SCL Westwood 03

1108 S. Westwood Blvd.

DIR-2016-4285-DRB-SPP

ENV-2016-4279-CE

SCL Westwood 04

10861 Weyburn Ave.

DIR-2016-4286-DRB-SPP

ENV-2016-4287-CE

SCL Westwood 01

10833 West Le Conte Avenue.

DIR-2016-4624-DRB-SPP

ENV-2016-4625-CE

SCL Westwood 05

10901 W WILSHIRE BLVD

DIR-2016-4620-DRB-SPP

ENV-2016-4621-CE

Chair Connie Boukidis reported that the committee heard this proposal at today's LUPC meeting and moved the following motion:

The WWNC BOD opposes all five Verizon cellphone poles as proposed and urges the DRB to do

the same. The BOD urges Councilmember Koretz as well as other Councilmembers and City departments including but not limited to Bureau of Street Lighting and Department of

Transportation to assess why this equipment cannot be attached to existing structures including street lights and traffic signals similar to what takes place in other cities such as Pasadena and Santa Monica.

Ann Hayman seconded and the motion carried by a vote of Yes: 12 (Sandy Brown, Connie Boukidis, Lisa

Chapman, Caroline Conway, Chantelle Eastman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Philip Gabriel, Ann Hayman, Trent

Jolly, Stephen Resnick, Scott Whittle, Laura Winikow), No: 1 (Mitchell Keiter), and Abstain:1 (David Lorango).

New board members Cyrus Baraghoush and Shelby Kretz did not vote.

3. Discussion/Action

WESCOM

Case Number: DIR-2016-4038-DRB-SPP; ENV-2016-4039-CE

Project Title: WESCOM CREDIT UNION

Project Address: 10933 Weyburn Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Contact Info: Tom McCarthy, 949-698-1414

Project Description: Change of use of an existing tenant space (change of use from existing restaurant to Financial Services) for the creation of a new branch location for Wescom Credit Union with interest of creating a 'third place' environment for local university attendees in addition to the financial services they provide.

Supporting Documents: <http://www.wwnc.org/WESCOM>

Connie Boukidis moved, "The WWNC BOD urges the Westwood Community Design Review Board, and the City of Los Angeles Departments of City Planning and Building & Safety, to require Wescom to: provide free validated parking to its customers for at least 30 minutes in certain designated parking lot(s); provide required parking by covenant that would be recorded; and, identify how many on-site and off-site parking places would be provided for its customers and employees." Stephen Resnick seconded and the motion carried unanimously. New board members Cyrus Baraghoush and Shelby Kretz did not vote.

D. Outreach & Communications

Chair David Lorango requested bios and pictures from the two new board members, and told them they will have to do the ethics, funding, and code of conduct training. He also requested Facebook posting for WWNC.

E. Homeless Task Force

The homeless count will take place on January 25th.

F. Budget Advocates—no report

G. Public Safety—no report

H. Transportation & Parking—no report

I. Bylaws

Chair Sandy Brown wrote to the City and asked them not to do anything with the bylaws yet.

J. WRAC

WRAC representative Mitchell Keiter had no report because there was no meeting last month.

K. Zoning & Violations

This item was tabled by Chair Roozbeh Farahanipour.

8. BOARD OF EDUCATION DEBATE

A. Discussion

Connie Boukidis received a request to host a candidate debate for the Board of Education race. She

asked Mitchell Keiter to put this on the WRAC agenda for its next meeting.

9. WESTWOOD BID AD HOC COMMITTEE IN REGARD TO THE WESTWOOD VILLAGE SPECIFIC PLAN

A. Update/Discussion

BID Executive Director Andrew Thomas announced that the plan will be reviewed and amended.

The BID is interested in reaching out to all stakeholders for broad recommendations.

10. LADWP CUSTOMER BILL OF RIGHTS

A. Introduction of Motion: "Shall the Westwood Neighborhood Council adopt the LADWP Customer Bill of Rights?"

Sandy Brown moved to approve the above motion, seconded by Scott Whittle. The motion carried unanimously. New board members Cyrus Baraghoush and Shelby Kretz did not vote.

11. HOMELESS COUNT

A. Update

Lisa Chapman announced that the homeless count, co-sponsored with the Westwood Community Council, will take place on January 25th. Training will be at Hoffman Hall at 10 p.m. and the count will start at 11 p.m.

12. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 10:27 p.m.