

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES
OCTOBER 13, 2021
ZOOM MEETING ONLINE OR BY TELEPHONE

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Lisa Chapman called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Board members in attendance were Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Lisa Chapman, Tracey Fitzgerald, Philip Gabriel, David Lorange, Stephen Resnick, Marcello Robinson, Paula Rogers, and Laura Winikow. Members excused were Roozbeh Farahanipour, Ann Hayman, and Mark Rogo. A quorum was present. There were approximately 11 stakeholders and guests attending.

2. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lisa Chapman announced that she has clothes and hats with “What Would Laura Do?” printed on them for anyone who would like them.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Lisa Chapman moved to approve the September 8, 2021 minutes. Connie Boukidis seconded and the motion carried unanimously, with the exception of Marcello Robinson who abstained.

4. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. UCLA representative Marco Perez reported that he is now on a flexible hybrid schedule going into the office three times a week. Proof of vaccination will need to be shown to attend sporting events at Pauley Pavilion and the Rose Bowl per city and county requirements. Bruin Family weekend will be held on October 22nd and 23rd.

B. State Assemblymember Isaac Bryan’s representative Michelle Persoff gave an update on events such as a town hall last Thursday where an update on the legislative session was given, other events attended by the Assemblymember, legislation, and money allocated. Sandy Brown requested that these announcements be put in writing so they can be looked over.

C. SLO James Allen reported that neighborhood crime statistics look good with the exception of three categories: home burglaries, burglaries from motor vehicles, and grand theft auto, which are all up year-to-date.

D. CD5 Field Deputy Jasmine Shamolian reported that Councilmember Koretz has a resolution to ban camping in Westwood Park, which must be approved by the City Council. An engagement strategy will be necessary and comments on the council file are requested. Speed feedback signs were installed on Wilshire Blvd. by Comstock, Thayer, Manning, Holmby, and two on Beverly Glen. A redistricting meeting will be held on October 16th at 10 a.m. and written comments are being accepted.

E. U.S. Congressman Ted Lieu’s representative Janet Turner gave an update on legislation and announced that the Congressman will be having a Conversation with Veterans event from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. on November 7th.

5. DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

DONE NEA Freddy Cupen-Ames announced that AB 361 passed, which involves changes to the Brown Act that affects how agendas are written. A number of upcoming workshops and feedback sessions were announced: Code of Conduct, financial training, and CORE Institute for new members. The final draft of the Digital Media Policy went to BONC. The EmpowerLA listening survey is open until October 24th.

6. TREASURER’S REPORT

A. Motion to approve Monthly Expenditure Report for September 2021

Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that September's MER included a beginning balance of \$31,691.52, \$278.86 spent, and a remaining balance of \$31,412.66. An outstanding amount for Media81 of \$2,534.95 leaves a net available balance of \$28,877.71. Laura Winikow moved to approve the September MER, seconded by Lisa Chapman, and approved unanimously.

7. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

8. MEET & GREET/Q & A DISCUSSION WITH ASSEMBLYMEMBER ISAAC BRYAN OF THE 54TH DISTRICT

The Assemblymember could not attend but will be invited to a future meeting. Lisa Chapman moved to table this item, seconded by Marcello Robinson, and carried unanimously.

9. ROCCO'S TAVERN IN WESTWOOD

A. Discussion / update on installation of Operable garage doors and window against Area Planning Commission orders, and Violation of ABC license conditions.

Sandy Brown reported that after the second time Rocco's tried to install illegal doors and window, it was issued an order to comply. The ABC visited and said it would lose its liquor license.

B. Introduction of Motion: "The WWNC approves the submission of a letter to the City departments of Building & Safety, Planning, and Councilmember Koretz in opposition to the installation of operable garage doors and window."

Sandy Brown moved the above motion, seconded by Stephen Resnick, and carried unanimously.

10. NORTH WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL PLACED ON EXHAUSTED EFFORTS PLAN

Lisa Chapman reported that NWWNC was placed on this plan for three months because of its agenda-posting policy not following the rules that all NCs must abide by. The public should be informed about what's going on but meetings were scheduled whenever, no agendas were posted, a transportation committee meeting was held with no notice, and NWWNC held a meeting on October 6th after being told not to hold it and it lost its quorum after 15 minutes anyway.

11. WESTWOOD CONNECT DAY UPDATE

A. General update on event that was held on Sept. 28, 2021 at Westwood Park

Lisa Chapman reported that the event was successful with more people participating than last time, and some were placed into supportive housing. One disturbing thing was that the number of young people, teenagers who had dropped out of school, rose. This should be an annual event.

12. BOARD RESIGNATION

A. Resignation of Eloise Metcalfe

Lisa Chapman announced that Eloise Metcalfe resigned. Mark Blocker also will no longer be on the board due to moving out of the area.

B. Discussion for a replacement as Owner Residential Area 4 Director

No suggestions were made.

13. DISCUSSION OF OUR AGENDAS, MOTIONS, AND THE BROWN ACT AND HOW IT COMPARES TO OTHER CITY ENTITIES

Stephen Resnick reported that different entities do things in different ways and format is not a concern. AB 361 changes how agendas are written. An agenda item needs to be specific enough that members of the public can read it and decide if they are interested in learning more about it. DONE

NEA Freddy Cupen-Ames helped WWNC to be more specific and said that a hyperlink can be used to convey more information. For example, SoRo NC uses a link to a pdf with detailed information on its motions.

14. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. Executive – no report

B. Land Use & Planning

1. Presentation of new construction home: 10750 Lindbrook Drive.

Discussion and possible motion to support.

Chair Marcello Robinson explained that the item was tabled at the LUPC meeting so there is no need for a motion. The homeowner was told by the Planning Dept. to present the project but there is no requirement to present to WWNC. The homeowner was advised to go back to Planning and see if there is any reason to present and get the name and number of whoever told him he needed to present.

C. Outreach & Communications – no report

D. Homeless Task Force – no report

E. Budget Advocates – no report

F. Public Safety/ Transportation & Parking

Chair Philip Gabriel stated that Wilshire needs to time the lights so that traffic keeps moving. Traffic officers are out there but not doing anything.

G. Bylaws

Sandy Brown reported that the committee meeting was scheduled for the same day as Connect Day so it will be rescheduled.

H. WRAC – Report and Motions

1. Support: Limitations on Personal Property in Public Rights-of-Way

Refers to City Council file [21-0929](#)

Regarding Council File 21-0929 (Buscaino/Koretz): “The Westwood Neighborhood Council supports the proposed resolution for the City Council to prohibit sitting, lying, sleeping, or storing, using, maintaining, or placing personal property, in or upon any street, sidewalk, or other public rights-of-way within a radius of 500 feet from all schools listed in Attachment A to the Council File; and further, upon adoption of the resolution, for the City Council to direct the Department of Transportation to post signs giving notice of the restrictions in the radius specified.

The Westwood Neighborhood Council also requests that the definition of “radius” be clarified to specify a radius of 500 feet from the exterior boundary lines of the schools listed in Attachment A to the Council File.”

Lisa Chapman moved the above motion, seconded by Marcello Robinson and carried unanimously.

2. Support: Request for Councilmembers to Cooperate with Member Councils re Designation of Sites Under LAMC Sec. 41.18

“The Westwood Neighborhood Council urges Councilmembers Bonin, Koretz, Raman and Ridley-Thomas (Councilmembers representing WRAC Member-Councils) to consult as soon as possible with their respective WRAC Member-Councils for input as to the designation of sites within their districts for enforcement pursuant to LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18(d), including: 1) schools, day care centers, public parks and public libraries, as defined in LAMC Sec. 105.01 (“sensitive uses”) (41.18(c)(1)); 2) overpasses, underpasses, freeway ramps, tunnels, bridges, pedestrian bridges, subways, washes, spreading grounds and active railways, when public health, safety or welfare is served by the prohibition (41.18(c)(2)); 3) designated facilities opened after January 1, 2018 that provide shelter, safe sleeping or safe parking to homeless persons or that serve as homeless services navigation centers (41.18(c)(3)); 4) any locations in

public rights-of-way for which there is documentation of a “particular and ongoing threat to public health or safety” (41.18(c)(4)). No enforcement action shall be taken unless the individuals have been offered shelter and have refused the offer.

The Westwood Neighborhood Council further requests that 1) Councilmembers bring resolutions in Council pursuant to LAMC Sec. 41.18(c)(1)-(4) and 41.18(d) as soon as any sites meeting the requirements of such sub-sections are identified to them by their respective WRAC Member-Councils; and 2) the distance of the radius prohibition set forth in such resolutions shall be as requested by the relevant WRAC Member-Councils, consistent with the distance set forth in such sub-sections.” [Background Information](#)

Lisa Chapman moved the above motion, seconded by Connie Boukidis. Tracey Fitzgerald stated that this motion is not ready for a vote. Sandy Brown moved to table this item, seconded by Stephen Resnick and carried unanimously.

I. Park Advisory

Westwood PAB member Tracey Fitzgerald reported that officers were elected. Tracey is the Vice Chair and member of a sub-committee. Secretary will be a rotating position. Flag football has 14 teams and there are also gymnastics and volleyball. Tommy’s Field opened on September 26th. Automated and self-cleaning pre-fab two-stall bathrooms will be installed at the southeast corner of Tommy’s Field in late October or early November. The demolition of the bunker bathrooms was tabled. Aidan’s Place will be losing two climbing structures. A PAB memo on Aidan’s Place was sent to the Park Commission but the design was approved as it was.

Sandy Brown asked Lisa Chapman about Robert Ringler and Lisa replied that she has attended some Holmby PAB meetings but Robert Ringler refuses to speak to her. Sandy Brown reported that there are eight homeless people sleeping at Holmby Park and she was called because they are lighting fires in the bathroom and in the park.

15. ADJOURNMENT

President Lisa Chapman adjourned the meeting at 8:48 p.m.