

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 9, 2011
WESTWOOD PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
10822 WILSHIRE BLVD.
LOS ANGELES, CA 90024

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Jerry Brown called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m. Board members in attendance were Connie Boukidis, Jerry Brown, Lisa Chapman, David Crew, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Brent Gaisford, Toni Gray, Mark Herd, Stephen Resnick, Tom Schneider, Clinton Schudy, Kurt Smalberg, Michael Stajura, George Torbay, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Board members absent were Joseph Gilliard, Mark Rogo, and Steve Somers. There were also 18 stakeholders and guests in attendance.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Scott Whittle moved to approve the October minutes. Connie Boukidis seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

3. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Councilmember Koretz's deputy Sarah Mallory said that the issue of apron parking had come before the Transportation Committee, which recommended the retention of apron parking without a permit system, as before. A permit system for street parking was recommended for the North Village area and Beverly Glen Blvd. Administrative Code Enforcement (ACE) will start as a pilot program with the LAPD in 2012. ACE will take minor violations of the law which used to be handled as a criminal matter and make them subject to administrative citation instead. The LAPD will issue these citations.

Santa Monica Mayor Richard Bloom introduced himself. As well as being the mayor, he is also active in regional affairs as the Chair of Westside Cities Council and a member of the California Coastal Commission. He expressed interest in a trolley from the subway into Santa Monica once the line is extended to Westwood. He answered questions about bus lanes and development in Santa Monica, and digital ads on the sides of Big Blue Buses.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

5. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

The Executive Committee has not met.

Budget Committee Chair Brent Gaisford said that WWNC has spent approximately 4% of its 2011 - 2012 budget of \$40,500 so far.

Land Use and Planning Committee (LUPC) Chair Connie Boukidis said that the committee is working on a system to upload information onto WWNC's website.

Connie moved that, "The WWNC Board grants authority to the Land Use and Planning Committee to review proposed Land Use projects that would expand or change the use of properties in the WWNC District and/or cause a significant community-wide impact, and make recommendations thereon to the greater WWNC Board for further action." Laura Winikow seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

The Lindbrook/Gayley project has made a presentation before the LUPC, and the project has been to the DRB and Westwood Community Council. Nobody liked the project's architectural design. The developer is changing the design but will still be asking for increased density, parking under the alley, and variances. It may come up for a vote at December's board meeting.

Outreach and Communications Committee Chair Lisa Chapman said that WWNC's website has been updated, a newsletter is being sent out, and the committee has received positive feedback.

Public Safety Committee Chair Michael Stajura said the committee has not met in the last 30 days.

6. WESTSIDE SUBWAY EXTENSION

Kurt Smalberg received feedback from a number of residents who are unhappy about the subway going underneath their homes, and he sent Metro a letter about a possible route change that would minimize tunneling under homes.

Kurt moved that, "Be it resolved that Westwood Neighborhood Council. opposes the location of a new Century City station at any site that would cause the return route to a selected Westwood/UCLA station be installed under and near so many homes in Westwood." Toni Gray seconded the motion. Discussion of the motion followed. The motion was defeated by a vote of Yes: 1 and No: 15.

7. NEIGHBORHOOD PURPOSES GRANT: WARNER ELEMENTARY

Stakeholder Andy Horn requested \$5,000 in order to buy new tablet computers for the school. LAUSD changed the way teachers grade test results to a mandatory system using a tablet with a stylus and finger pads. There is no way to interface the school's computers in order to comply with this mandate.

8. NEIGHBORHOOD PURPOSES GRANT: EMERSON MIDDLE SCHOOL

Stakeholder Dara Williams requested \$10,000 to help bring music back to Emerson, which has been lost due to budget cuts. Music is one of the electives 6th graders could take if there was funding. Emerson would hire a graduate student in music from UCLA, which is allowed due to a memorandum of understanding between Emerson and UCLA. Emerson also hopes to have an orchestra for 7th and 8th graders.

9. NEIGHBORHOOD PURPOSES GRANT: BRENTWOOD-WESTWOOD SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

Stakeholder Greta Couper requested \$5,000 to help defray the \$8,500 to \$15,000 cost of putting on a concert in Westwood. The orchestra puts on four free concerts a year, and is planning one in Westwood in April. The orchestra will be having a rehearsal at Emerson Middle School in February.

After the three grant proposals were heard, the board discussed funding options. Lisa Chapman moved that, "WWNC grants \$5,000 to each organization." Roozbeh Farahanipour seconded the motion. Mark Herd amended the motion to "WWNC funds each organization at 80% of its request." Michael Stajura seconded the motion, which carried with 12 votes in favor. The original motion was voted on, which was defeated with two votes in favor.

10. BANNERS FOR WESTWOOD LIVE

Brent Gaisford looked into placing banners advertising Westwood Live with WWNC's name on them on lamp posts on Wilshire Blvd. and Westwood Blvd. and got some price quotes. A quote for 20 banners was \$4,400 for the first month and \$1,000 for each subsequent month that they are placed on the lamp posts. The quote includes the permit fees, which is why subsequent months are cheaper than the first month. The banners which are placed on the lamp posts are chosen by lottery and remain up for a 30 day period. After a banner is up for that period, there is no guarantee of when it will be up again. After discussion, the board felt that placing banners on lamp posts is not worth the cost and there may be a better place to hang a banner which can stay up year round. Suggestions were made to seek input from stakeholders, have a

contest for a banner design, and agendaize this item for the Outreach and Communications Committee.

11. VETERANS LAND

Kurt Smalberg moved, "Resolved that the Westwood Neighborhood Council supports the mission of the Coalition for Veterans Land to save the Veterans land for direct services to Veterans and to protect the quality of life in Los Angeles." Michael Stajura seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

12. NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ELECTIONS FOR 2012 & 2014

Jerry Brown said the City Clerk announced that they do not have the money to hold neighborhood council elections in 2012, so elections will not be held until 2014. NC's will have to fund it themselves if they want to have elections in 2012. Elections would have to take place by email or in a public forum. The City Clerk wants recommendations from the NC's about what they would prefer to do, possibly by December or January. Stakeholders can be asked to take a survey on WWNC's website. Michael Stajura will ask about this at the next WRAC meeting.

13. PRESIDENT'S REPORT ON DONE

President Jerry Brown read a statement to the board that he made on his own behalf at a BONC meeting.

14. REPORT ON THE DISASTER PREPAREDNESS FAIR

Michael Stajura reported that the Disaster Preparedness Fair was a success, with attendance of about 300 people. He thanked CD5 for funding the \$551 cost of closing one lane of Glendon Avenue, Sarah Mallory for making the fair happen, and a host of other organizations and people who contributed to the fair's success. In the future, the fair may become a CD5 event and rotate among different neighborhood councils.

15. BYLAWS

This item was tabled.

16. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.