

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

DECEMBER 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 7:04 p.m. Board members in attendance were Cyrus Baraghoush, Angus Beverly, Lisa Chapman, Caroline Conway, Chantelle Eastman, Roozbeh Farahanipour, Philip Gabriel, Trent Jolly, Mitchell Keiter, Naomi Kisel, David Lorango, Stephen Resnick, Marcello Robinson, Scott Whittle, and Laura Winikow. Board members excused were Connie Boukidis, Sandy Brown, Ann Hayman, and Mark Rogo. A quorum was present. There were 24 stakeholders and guests present.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Stephen Resnick moved to approve the minutes of the November 8, 2017 meeting, seconded by Scott Whittle and approved unanimously.

3. COMMENTS BY PUBLIC OFFICIALS

A. County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's representative Stephanie Cohen reported on the regional storm water system and rain capture and mentioned that the jurisdiction of the Domestic Violence Program has moved from the Sheriff to Public Health.

B. UCLA representative Marco Perez announced that UCLA will be closed from December 23, 2017

to January 1, 2018 and will reopen January 2nd. During this time there will be free parking on campus except for the basketball games scheduled on December 29th and 31st. Parking Structure 5 is closed and cars will be rerouted to Parking Structure 3.

4. DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD EMPOWERMENT

DONE representative Gibson Nyambura reported that Westwood Forward, the entity proposing a new neighborhood council in Westwood, held two town halls which DONE was not invited to. No application has been received yet. Philip Gabriel reported that no one from the business community was invited to the town halls either. Stakeholder Steve Sann attended both town halls and reported that there was lots of outreach to students and none to the business community. Only a few property and business owners were there. Proposed bylaws were shown with computer projection but there were no printed copies.

5. WESTWOOD VILLAGE BUSINESS IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT

Megan Furey announced that the premiere of Downsizing will take place on December 18th.

6. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Westwood Forward representative Michael Skiles apologized for not inviting the business community to the town halls and said that the BID was notified about them. No bylaw copies were printed because Westwood Forward has no money. Stakeholder Parshan Khosravi requested a discussion about emergency preparedness.

7. WESTWOOD SPECIFIC PLAN — RESTAURANT DEFINITION

A. Introduction of motion to change the restaurant definition

Stephen Resnick moved to table this item until January, seconded by Marcello Robinson. The motion was defeated by a vote of No: 11 (Cyrus Baraghoush, Angus Beverly, Lisa Chapman,

Caroline Conway, Chantelle Eastman, Philip Gabriel, Trent Jolly, Mitchell Keiter, Naomi Kisel, David Lorango, Laura Winikow) , Yes: 4 (Roozbeh Farahanipour, Stephen Resnick, Marcello Robinson, Scott Whittle), and Abstain: 0.

David Lorango moved the following motion, seconded by Trent Jolly.

WHEREAS,

The current definition of Fast Food and Restaurants in the Westwood Village Specific Plan is outdated and makes a hurdle for innovative restaurants to enter the village.

WHEREAS,

It is essential for the village to have cutting-edge and popular restaurants that alone are a destination for consumers to enter the Westwood Village and then shop at retail options.

WHEREAS,

Other popular dining areas in the Los Angeles Area, which include but are not limited to, Century City North, and Old Town Pasadena, do not have such a strict definition between Fast Food and Restaurants but additionally have a strong, healthy and sustainable number of sit down restaurants as well as a fecund environment for profitable retail destinations.

WHEREAS,

The benefits of allowing a greater number of innovative restaurants and other businesses to the Westwood Village and the political realities which likely include a six year time frame to update the entirety of the Specific Plan as well as the unfeasibility of receiving city funding to update the plan in two years is far greater than the issue of establishing a “piecemeal approach” to altering the Restaurant definition in the Specific Plan.

NOW, THEREFORE,

The Westwood Neighborhood Council recommends that Council District 5 and the City of Los Angeles Planning Department amend the Westwood Village Specific Plan to redefine a Restaurant as meeting any THREE of the current FIVE characteristics in the plan.

The five characteristics of a Restaurant in the current Specific Plan are:

- “Prepares cooked-to-order meals, and
- Has table and seats for consumption on the premises; and
- Provides waitering/waitressing table service, where order takes place at the table and food is delivered to the table; and
- Payment occurs after eating; and
- Utilizes non-disposable dishware, flatware and glassware (Sewerage Facilities Fee required by the Department of Public Works).”

The motion carried by a vote of Yes: 11 (Cyrus Baraghoush, Angus Beverly, Lisa Chapman, Caroline

Conway, Chantelle Eastman, Philip Gabriel, Trent Jolly, Mitchell Keiter, Naomi Kisel, David Lorango,

Laura Winikow), No: 2 (Roozbeh Farahanipour, Stephen Resnick), and Abstain: 2 (Marcello Robinson, Scott Whittle).

Stephen Resnick stated that the lack of movement on the Specific Plan should be on the January agenda and discussed with CD5.

8. SAMPLE ALCOHOL CONDITIONS

A. Introduction of motion to revise the sample alcohol conditions that are posted on the WWNC website for new businesses

President Lisa Chapman discussed the the fact that there is a false perception, predating the WWNC, that Westwood Village doesn't allow live entertainment or dancing, and proposed removing some items from the sample alcohol conditions posted on the website to try to dispel this perception. Several members expressed the opinion that this discussion should be held when the LUPC members who could not be at tonight's meeting are present.

Marcello Robinson moved to table this item for 30 days, seconded by Stephen Resnick. The motion was defeated by a vote of No: 9 (Cyrus Baraghoush, Angus Beverly, Lisa Chapman, Caroline

Conway, Chantelle Eastman, Philip Gabriel, Trent Jolly, Naomi Kisel, David Lorango), Yes: 6 (Roozbeh Farahanipour, Mitchell Keiter, Stephen Resnick, Marcello Robinson, Scott Whittle, Laura Winikow), and Abstain: 0.

Lisa Chapman moved to add one sentence to the following motion, "There shall be no live topless entertainment or anything of that nature," at the end of the paragraph. Naomi Kisel seconded.

The Westwood Neighborhood Council does hereby amend and delete the following conditions to the WWNC Sample Alcohol Conditions to be given to all applicants seeking projects that require a CUB, or CUX permit within the WWNC boundaries.

- 1). Proposal to delete condition # 2
- 2). Proposal to delete condition # 17
- 3). Proposal to delete condition #18
- 4). Proposal to delete condition #19
- 5). Proposal to modify condition #20 to the following:

If applicant wishes to provide entertainment such as live music, disc jockey with amplified music, dancing, karaoke or shows, they must apply for a CUX permit (conditional use for alcohol and entertainment). This must be properly licensed and permitted by all relevant government authorities. There shall be no live topless entertainment or anything of that nature.

All other conditions to remain the same.

The motion resulted in a tie, which was a defeat according to Rosenberg's Rules. The vote was Yes: 6 (Cyrus Baraghoush, Angus Beverly, Lisa Chapman, Chantelle Eastman, Naomi Kisel, Trent Jolly), No: 6 (Caroline Conway, Philip Gabriel, Stephen Resnick, Marcello Robinson, Scott Whittle, Laura Winikow), and Abstain: 2 (Roozbeh Farahanipour, David Lorango).

9. FOOD DELIVERY

A. Introduction of motion to provide for permits and inspections of Food Delivery vehicles
Roozbeh Farahanipour presented the motion, which Chantelle Eastman and David Lorango suggested amendments to, and were approved unanimously.

Roozbeh Farahanipour moved the following amended motion. Stephen Resnick seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

WHEREAS,

The Westwood Neighborhood Council believes the growing Food Delivery Industry has moved from a simple niche market to a multi-level and multi-faceted industry to meet the growing needs of our busy community.

WHEREAS,

What was once a simple neighborhood, with family restaurants with walk-in clients or in-house drivers has now morphed into an expansive multimillion dollar catering/delivery/third party

services for the surrounding businesses. With this expansive growth comes a responsibility to our community to provide a good product in a timely manner with food safety for all being the ultimate achievement.

Currently there is no set of specific standards for food delivery individuals who work for third party services.

There is no approval process for vehicles used in Food Delivery and there is currently no inspection of these vehicles. It is important to note that these vehicles are used for purposes other than delivery of food, such as carrying people, animals, and third party deliveries. Most of the time there is no protection against food contamination.

There is no process to ensure proper temperature control for food delivery.

The delivery staff are frequently untrained in proper food handling procedures, sanitation issues, and environmental health issues that can lead to food borne illness, hospitalization, and possible death.

WHEREAS,

The responsibility for all of these points of concern fall directly in the hands of the food provider who has no control if the delivery service is other than their trained staff. When 2 out of every 3 meals a day are eaten away from home we lose control of our personal health and well-being. This is a responsibility of the whole community to work together and educate ourselves with tools that are provided for our health and safety.

NOW, THEREFORE,

The Westwood Neighborhood Council recommends that Los Angeles County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl call upon the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health that Food Delivery companies like UberEATS, Postmate, Amazon, Doordash, Caviar, and other third party delivery services be made to apply for health permits from the Los Angeles County Department of Public Health. The companies should be able to inspect vehicles that deliver food. It should be incumbent upon said companies to require individual drivers (employees or contractors) that come in contact with food to complete a Full Protection (Food Handler) Manager Certificate.

With training and inspection of drivers, vehicles, and basic common sense we can help ensure safety for our community.

10. DISCUSSION OF A POSSIBLE TOWN HALL TO ADDRESS THE ANNEXING OF WESTWOOD VILLAGE BY WESTWOOD FORWARD OR REMAINING WITHIN THE BOUNDARIES OF WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

President Lisa Chapman stated that a date needs to be picked. Skylight Gardens owner Peter Clinco offered his restaurant as a meeting place during certain evening hours.

11. RECOMMENDATION FOR WESTWOOD DESIGN REVIEW BOARD MEMBER

A. Introduction of Motion: "The WWNC recommends that Gene L. Fong, AIA, be appointed as a board member"

President Lisa Chapman moved the above motion, seconded by Philip Gabriel, and carried unanimously.

12. STANDING COMMITTEE STATUS REPORTS

A. Executive – no report

B. Budget

1. Approval of Monthly Expenditures

Treasurer Laura Winikow reported that the October Monthly Expenditure Report (MER)

included expenses of \$1,159.96, an outstanding balance of \$584.08, and a commitment of \$163.17, with \$49,337.71 left in the budget. The MER was approved unanimously. The November MER included expenses of \$332.40, outstanding balance of \$509.08, and a commitment of \$163.17, with a remaining balance of \$39,477.31. The November MER was approved unanimously. December expenses were facility rental \$75, setup \$100, and printed material \$54.07, approved unanimously, and a reimbursement to Laura Winikow of \$15.66, approved unanimously.

C. Land Use & Planning – Connie Boukidis

1. DISCUSSION/ACTION: (previously discussed on 12/10/14)

888 DEVON

Case Number: ZA 2014-3144-DRB-SPP-SPPA

Project Address: 888 Devon Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024

Contact Info: Neill Brower, 310-712-6833

Project Description: Filing of a modified project permit compliance and tract map for the 888 Devon project. Substantially the same height and massing, same unit count, nearly identical floor area, with slightly more excavation. The aesthetics of the building have changed slightly, though the modified design uses similar colors and finish materials to the original, so re-filed for Design Review, and filed for a tract map for condominiums.

Supporting Docs: [http://www.wwnc.org/888 Devon](http://www.wwnc.org/888%20Devon)

Neill Brower presented the project. He stated that they wanted to come before the WWNC before

going to the DRB on January 17, 2018.

D. Outreach & Communications

Chair David Lorango announced that he would wait on student outreach until after the town hall.

E. Homeless Task -Force

Chairs Lisa Chapman and Chantelle Eastman reported that a meeting was held at which the homeless count was discussed. The task force will look into a multi-disciplinary approach and partnership with St. Joseph's. Parshan Khosravi will be the UCLA student liaison.

F. Budget Advocates – no report

G. Public Safety – no report

H. Transportation and Parking – no report

I. Bylaws – no report

J. WRAC – no report

K. Zoning and Violations – no report

13. ADJOURNMENT

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