

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey Board of Directors' Meeting – March 7, 2006

Present: Lynne Allen, Mike Arias, Sibyl Buchanan, Joe Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Steve Donell, Don Doyle, Jeff Elder, Lisa Farland, James Ferro, David Gray, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Terry Marcellus, Paul Maynard, Sheila Mickelson, Harry Rose, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Cozette Vergari, David Voss, Gwen Vuchsas, Lisa Wellik and William West.

Excused: Robert Acherman and Pam DeArmas.

Absent: Doug Ehlers and John-David Webster.

Ex Officio: Kathryn Frengs.

Guests: John Brady, Area Representative Neighborhood & Community Service, Office of the Mayor; Stephanie Molen, Field Representative, Assemblyman Ted W. Lieu; Parker Anderson, Chief Management Analyst, DONE; Lisette Covarrubias, Project Coordinator, DONE; Mark Lewis, Senior Projects Coordinator, DONE, Emily Linnemeier, Field Representative, Senator Debra Bowen.

Item 1: Gwen Vuchsas, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:45 PM. The Roll was called.

Item 2: Steve Donell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3: *Public Comment – non-Agenda Items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker)*

- Raymond Yu – gave information on LA City Marathon/Bike Tour.

- Karen Kanter – Playa del Rey resident – spoke on parking on 83rd St. in Playa del Rey near the Gas Company lots by RV's asking for no overnight parking. Cars are speeding in the same area; please consider installing speed bumps. Also, streetlights in that area are not turning on at night consequently the street is dark.

Construction at Pershing and Fowling is an eyesore, with crews working only one day per week; asked that the project be finished in a timely fashion. Also, that is a blind intersection and it needs a 4-way stop. Falmouth needs repaving.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Item 4: Introduction – Emily Linnemeier – Field Rep/State Senator Debra Bowen – our new representative in the area was introduced to the Board.

Item 5: *Report/ Kathryn Frengs, Field Deputy for Councilman Bill Rosendahl –.*

- The Westchester Veterans Monument was recently rededicated

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- The Councilman is now chairing the Public Works Committee and is no longer on the Neighborhoods Committee.

Item 6: *Presentation - Westchester-Loyola Village Branch Library* – Mary Rydeen – The branch was reopened in 2003. It now has computers for visitor's use with some dedicated to use by kids. There is also a Young Adult Librarian who has instituted many new programs for teens. There is also an extensive library of new and vintage movies.

Playa Vista Branch Library - Joseph Atkinson – This branch was opened in 2003 and offers many of the same programs and products as the Loyola Village Branch, as well as, test preparation classes for high school students on the SAT.

Item 7: *Brief Presentation – Starbucks Coffee Shop Proposal, 83rd & Lincoln* – PLUC Chair Jim Ferro introduced project coordinators who did a brief presentation.

Kevin McDonald, representative for TC Real Estate – City Department of Building and Safety has cited the owner for improper use of the property as a parking lot.

Public comment – Tony Ciancimino – Westchester Resident – does not think this proposal is a good fit for the neighborhood.

Motion to oppose project – David Voss made the Motion. Geoff Maleman seconded. Sibyl Buchanan, Joseph Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Steve Donell, David Gray, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Sheila Mickelson, Harry Rose, Kathy Santos, David Voss and Lisa Wellik voted Yea. Lynne Allen, Mike Arias, Don Doyle, Jeff Elder, Lisa Farland, James Ferro, Terry Marcellus, John Ruhlen and Cozette Vergari voted Nay. Paul Maynard abstained from voting. The Motion passed with a vote of 14 Yea, 9 Nay and 1 abstention.

Item 8: *Public Comment– Agenda Items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker)*

Mike Arias made a Motion to take Item 13 before Item 9. Robert Dalton seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item 13: Motion to approve extension of stakeholder registration to through and including the election as recommended by DONE. Cozette Vergari made the Motion as stated. Sibyl Buchanan seconded the Motion. Lynne Allen, Mike Arias, Sibyl Buchanan, Joseph Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, Robert Dalton, Steve Donell, Don Doyle, Jeff Elder, Lisa Farland, James Ferro, David Gray, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Terry Marcellus, Paul Maynard, Sheila Mickelson, Harry Rose, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Cozette Vergari, David Voss, Lisa Wellik and William West voted Yea. David Coffin voted Nay. With a vote of 24 Yeas to 1 Nay, the Motion passed.

Item 9: Approval of Minutes of the 2.7.06 Board Meeting – Cozette Vergari made the Motion as stated. Robert Dalton seconded the Motion. The Motion passes unanimously.

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Item 10: Review of new funding policies from DONE – Steve Donell – DONE sent out new rules and policies as follows:

1. New “use it or lose it policy” would be enacted on monies that have not been spent 3 years after funding. Westchester Streetscape is still owed \$25,000 but they never submitted a bill for us to pay. It is not in our current budget, which would have to be changed if they should ask us for the funding before next year’s budget is written. The Treasurer proposes we allow Streetscape until December 31, 2006 to request the funds. After that date, the funds will no longer be obligated.

Item 11: *Approval of Treasurer’s Report* – Steve Donell – A report was distributed – Robert Dalton made a Motion to approve. Paul Maynard seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item 12: *Motion to Approve Reimbursement to Board members for NCWPDR expenditures* – as listed. Steve Donell made the Motion as stated above. Kathy Santos seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Election Committee Report – Cozette Vergari – DONE contends that we are out of compliance with Citywide Election Procedures. The NCWPDR has done everything in a timely fashion, however, due to staffing difficulties at DONE, the NCWPDR election procedures were not approved 90 days prior to the election. This is a requirement of the new Citywide Election Procedures which went into effect on February 1, 2006.

Parker Anderson apologized on behalf of DONE and accepted the blame. He stated that DONE would write a letter of apology for us and send a letter to the Argonaut regarding the facts surrounding us having to postpone our election. He also stated that DONE would try to find a way to change the date on our lawn signs.

Item 14: *Governmental Affairs/City Services Report – Discussion “912” Commission* – David Voss made a Motion to table this item to a future meeting. Sibyl Buchanan seconded the Motion. Robert Dalton made a Friendly Amendment to move this item to April Board Meeting. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item 15: *Motion to ratify the Charter for Citywide Congress of Neighborhood Councils as recommended by the NCWPDR Governmental Affairs/City Services Committee* – David Voss made a Motion to table this item to the April meeting. Sheila Mickelson seconded the Motion. David Coffin and David Voss voted Yea. Lynne Allen, Sibyl Buchanan, Joseph Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, Robert Dalton, Steve Donell, Lisa Farland, James Ferro, David Gray, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Terry Marcellus, Paul Maynard, Sheila Mickelson, Harry Rose, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Cozette Vergari and Lisa Wellik voted Nay. With a vote of 19 Yea and 2 Nay, the Motion failed.

Robert Dalton made the Motion as stated above. Sheila Mickelson seconded the Motion. Lynne Allen, Robert Dalton, Steve Donell, David Gray, Patricia Lyon, Terry Marcellus, Sheila Mickelson,

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Harry Rose, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos and Cozette Vergari voted Yea. Sibyl Buchanan, Joseph Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Lisa Farland, James Ferro, Geoff Maleman, Paul Maynard, David Voss and Lisa Wellik voted Nay. With a vote of 11 Yea and 10 Nay, the Motion passed.

Item 16: *Appointment of Representatives to Citywide Congress* – The President of the Board appointed Cozette Vergari as the NCWPDR representative and Patricia Lyon as the alternate to the Citywide Congress of Neighborhood Councils. The appointments were approved by unanimous acclimation.

Item 17: *CD #11 Summit Reports* – this item was tabled to another meeting.

Item 18: *Appointment of Representative to NC Planning MOU Taskforce* – The President of the Board appointed David Gray as the NCWPDR representative and Jim Ferro as the alternate to the Citywide NC Planning MOU Taskforce. David Voss made Motion to approve the appointments. Cozette Vergari seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

President's Report

Item 19: *Public Safety Town Hall Meeting follow-up, Neighborhood Watch Training Meetings 3.8. & 3.22* - The Town Hall meeting on Public Safety hosted by the NC was a very informative and very successful with over 400 residents attending.

Item 20: *NCWPDR e-News* – Our e-News network is up and running. David Coffin sends out informative emails to the registered stakeholder database.

Item 21: *CERT Training* – Approximately 28 people attended the first session of the Community Emergency Response Team training seven sessions course scheduled for March and April. The NC is planning another seven-week course for Fall, 2006.

Item 22: *City Planning Commission Meeting 3.16.06, 4PM, Council Chamber, City Hall*

Item 23: *NC Alliance Meeting 3.18.06, LA City College, 9:30PM* – Robert Dalton will attend as our representative.

Item 24: *Conflict of Interest Training, 3.28.06.* – Required by state law, this is the first in a series of training sessions that are mandatory for NC Board Members.

NCWPDR has placed an outreach piece in the 3.9 issue of the Argonaut.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:29 PM
Next Meeting: April 4 – 6:30PM
Location: Westchester Community Room
Submitted by: Judith Ciancimino

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