

# The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey Board of Directors' Meeting – February 6, 2007

**Present:** Mike Arias, William Ballerini, Stephen Bentley, Sibyl Buchanan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Pam DeArmas, Steve Donell, Don Doyle, James Ferro, Tom Flintoft, Terry Issac, Lynn Kataoka, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Terry Marcellus, Richard Nelsen, Nancy Niles, John Ramey, John Ruhlen, Kathy Bartlow-Santos, Denny Schneider, Frances Stronks, Mary Taylor, Cozette Vergari, David Voss and John David Webster.

**Excused:** David Gray.

**Absent:** Lisa Farland and John Ruhlen.

- A. Call to Order – Mike Arias, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:44PM.
  - B. Pledge of Allegiance - Frances Stronks
  - C. Appointment to seat #30 - Tom Flintoft - Terry Marcellus nominated Tom Flintoft to fill Seat 30, Service and Fraternal Organizations. Frances seconded the nomination. The nomination was accepted unanimously.
  - D. Special Presentation to Gwen Vuchsas – Mike Arias – Presentation of a Certificate from Bill Rosendahl and Mayor Villaragosa, thanking Gwen for her years of service to the Westchester/Playa del Rey community and especially to the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey.
  - E. Presentation - Irma Silverstein, League of Women Voters of Los Angeles – She is a Stakeholder in NCWPDR and a Westchester Resident. Irma gave each Board member a copy of the book Los Angeles: Structure of a City Government, written by Raphael J. Sonenshein, Ph.D. of the League of Women Voters.
  - F. Approval of Minutes of January 9, 2007 Board meeting - Robert Dalton made a Motion to approve the Minutes as submitted. John-David Webster seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.
  - G. Appointment of Committee Chairs – a matrix of Board member and their committee appointments was distributed. John-David Webster made a Motion to approve the appointments as stated on the matrix. Doug Ehlers seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.
- Advance on Calendar – Item K.2 – Motion to expand the number of Board Members that can serve on the Planning and Land Use Committee from 8 to 9 Board Members (Ferro) – Jim Ferro made the Motion as stated. Bill Ballerini seconded the Motion. Robert Dalton made a Friendly Amendment to change the words “Planning and Land Use Committee to PLUC” to “ALL Committees” – both the maker and second accepted the Friendly Amendment. The Motion passed unanimously.

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H. Appointment of Committee members –

AP – none

Budget – none

Bylaws – none

Communications – none

Education – Jeanne Breunig, Gail Levy, Laurie Ferro, John Wessels and Shelly Fryer.

Elections – Effeginia Martinez.

Government Affairs – Karen Kanter.

Communications - none

PLUC – Bill West, Heather Lemmon, Catherine Tyrrell and Kent Strumpel.

Public Safety – Cindy Hench and Myra Kriwanek.

Lincoln Streetscape – none.

Sepulveda Streetscape – none.

I. Public Comment - non-agenda items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker)

Raymond Yu –

2.11 – 29 Annual Firecracker Run – Chinatown

2.18 – Happy Chinese New Year

2.24 – Golden Dragon Parade - Year 4705 is the year of the Boar Pig

- Nora Maclellan – Playa del Rey resident – Asked for help with the oversized vehicle parked on Manchester which is being used as a construction office for the adjacent development. It is parked in an unsafe manor, partly on the sidewalk. It is an unsafe vehicle with no rear lights or bumpers and is very hard to see when driving up Manchester from Pershing. The construction will take at least 18 months. She asked that we join with Rosendahl to remove the vehicle.

- Stephanie Molen – Field Representative for Assemblyman Ted Lieu – has opened a new office in El Segundo at the corner of Miraposa and Center streets. There are three new staff members

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with Samuel Lieu as the Westchester Representative. There will be an Open House in about three weeks; mailers will be sent out.

- Robert Acherman – Westchester Resident – asked that backup documentation be posted to website. He also asked that the stakeholder-seat vacancies on NC committee be posted on the website and better publicized in the community.
- Rebecca Bernal – Westchester Field Deputy for State Assemblyman Curran Price – distributed town hall flyers regarding the 3.7.07 “Meet and Greet” in the Westchester Municipal Building.  
[Rebecca.Bernal@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Bernal@asm.ca.gov)

### J. Representative Reports:

1. Lisette Covarrubias, DONE Project Coordinator – not available
  2. Isaac Lieberman, Field Deputy/Councilman Bill Rosendahl –
- Stabbing at St. Bernard’s High School – News Release was distributed.
  - Councilman Rosendahl was named Chair of Southern CA Regional Airport Authority. He will be opposing north expansion in favor of regionalization.
  - Police Commission Meeting – January, 2007 – the Community Police Advisory Board members were presented with an award for their community involvement.

LAX liaison to the community Chad Molnar – will be attending NC meetings regularly to hear concerns of community regarding LAX. He is employed by LAWA but he reports to Councilman Rosendahl. He may be reached at 310.568.8772.

2.22 – LAWA is hosting a meeting in the Community Room regarding noise impacts.

3. John Brady, Area Field Representative/Mayor's Office – not available
4. Edgar Saenz, Representative of Congresswoman Maxine Waters – distributed a flyer for a Town Hall Meeting on March 3, 2:00PM at Ahmanson Auditorium, University Hall, Loyola Marymount University

K. Motions/Actions Items: (Public comment on agenda items limited to 2 minutes) – no speaker cards were received.

**Consent Calendar:** (*These items will be enacted with one vote unless a Board member or a stakeholder requests that an item be placed on the Discussion Calendar.*)

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1. Motion to approve reimbursement of Board member expenditures (Donell) – David Coffin made a Motion to pay the \$259.90 domain name registration fee. Kathy Bartlow seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

### **Discussion Calendar:**

1. Presentation and motion re: application for Liquor License for Comedy Club - 5581 Manchester – R&B Station former site – Brian Silveira representing The Katherman Company (TKC) asked that we support their request for a full liquor license and the upcoming Zoning Hearing in West Los Angeles. There was not enough information to make an informed decision so this item was continued to the March Board Meeting. TKC will request a hearing continuance.

### L. Committee Reports:

#### Standing Committees

1. Airport Relations - David Voss – nothing to report.
2. Budget & Finance - Steve Donell (Approval of Treasurer's Report) no committee report. City Information Bulletin #2007-05: Regarding: Standardization Budget Template and Minimum Funding Allocation Requirements was distributed; it describes a template budget process for all NC's. David Voss made a Motion that Robert Dalton and Steve Donell write a letter to the City Attorney asking for the opinion on the legality of imposing such a template on NC's. Geoff Maleman seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously. David Voss will write a letter to DONE requesting an explanation of it's authority to impose this edict.
3. Bylaws - David Voss – no report
4. Communications - David Coffin – The NCWPDR phone and voicemail are up and running again; the number is on the website and we will website will have new message tomorrow.
5. Education - Terry Marcellus – gave a report.
6. Elections - Cozette Vergari – March will be the first meeting of 2007.
7. Governmental Affairs/City Services - John-David Webster – meetings will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the month at 6PM at the Westchester Christian Church.
8. Membership/Marketing - Sibyl Buchanan – the Committee would like to institute a quarterly or half-year newsletter with contributions by Committee Chairs and Board Members.

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9. Planning & Land Use - James Ferro – meetings are the second Tuesday of the month.

10. Public Safety - Doug Ehlers – meetings will be the third Wednesday of the month.

### Ad Hoc Committees

1. Lincoln Streetscape - Stephen Bentley – has not yet met.
2. Sepulveda Streetscape - John Ruhlen – not available

### City/Neighborhood Council Committees

1. LANC Congress - Robert Dalton/Judith Ciancimino (alt.) – Discussion of Mayor's desire to push his program through; AB1381 is unconstitutional. They discussed the latest edicts from Lisa Sarno, Interim head of DONE.

2. City Planning Task Force - David Gray; James Ferro (alt.) – no report.

3. NC Alliance – No report was given.

4. Mayor's Budget Day - Denny Schneider/Bill Ballerini (alt.) – no report.

5. City Attorney Legal Liaison - David Voss – Discussion of standardize phrases to use when writing bylaws. Very little progress was made.

6. LADWP Fall Budget Workshop - John-David Webster – attended the workshop, it was not very informative.

7. NC 912 Commission - Robert Dalton – Council File Number Amendment – committee voted for a 2-year trial.

### M. Discussion Items:

1. Conflict of Interest On-line Training: [www.lacityneighborhoods.com](http://www.lacityneighborhoods.com) and [www.done.ethicstraining@lacity.org](mailto:www.done.ethicstraining@lacity.org) – some old board members have not yet complied all new members must comply.

2. New DONE Executive search report - Robert Dalton – the committee and Larry Frank, Deputy Mayor, interviewed six applicants two weeks ago three were advanced to an interview with the Mayor.

3. Vacant LMU Seat -- suggested changes to future selection process – all vacancies will be published and any stakeholder who qualifies submits request/qualifications to President of the Board and will be assessed by the President and, if appropriate, they will be presented at the next Board meeting. Clarence Griffin Director of Community Affairs at LMU is appropriate for the job, however, the new process will be observed.

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4. Open discussion of other items of interest/concern for 2007 and committee charts of work. Discussed earlier in this meeting.

5. Committee meeting minutes and distribution thereof – with agenda every month.

6. New procedure for micro-minutes of Board meeting for immediate publication – a recap of the Board meeting will be posted on the website soon after the meeting takes place. The Minutes cannot be posted until they are approved at the next Board meeting.

**N. Announcements:**

1. BONC meetings are now held on the 1st Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. and every 3rd Thursday at 6:00 p.m. of each month.

2. City Hall parking passes – You have to contact the Councilman's office for passes.

3. Next NCWPDR Board meeting: March 6, 2007 at 6:30 p.m. **at the Senior Center.**

4. President's comments – Mike Arias apologized for Robert Acherman's comments regarding David Voss at last Board meeting.

**O. Adjournment**

**Meeting Adjourned:** 9:15 PM

**Next Meeting:** March 6 – 6:30PM

**Location:** Senior Center - Westchester

**Submitted by:** Judith Ciancimino