

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey Board of Directors' Meeting – June 3, 2008

Present: Mike Arias, William Ballerini, Sibyl Buchanan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Steve Donell, Doug Ehlers, James Ferro, Tom Flintoft, David Gray, Clarence Griffin, Terry Issac, Cyndi Hench, Patricia Lyon, Terry Marcellus, Nora MacLellan, Nancy Niles, John Ruhlen, Kathy Bartlow-Santos, Denny Schneider, Frances Stronks, Mary Taylor, David Voss and John David Webster.

Excused: Stephen Bentley, Don Doyle, Geoff Maleman and John Ramey.

Absent: Robert Dalton and Richard Nelsen.

Item A. Call to Order – Mike Arias, President of the Board, called the meeting to order at 6:40PM

Item B. Pledge of Allegiance – Terry Marcellus

Item C. Approval of Minutes of May 6, 2008 Board meeting – Jim Ferro made a Motion to approve the Minutes as distributed. David Grey seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

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

Raymond Yu – Sunday June 8th West Hollywood will host the 38th annual Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade and Street Festival

Bill Hendricks – Westchester Resident – regarding LMU's expansion plans, stated that the previous Conditional Use Permits must be adhered to.

Ron Marks – Westchester Resident – regarding DWP problems with power grids/water conservation. Why does LMU get to overbuild when this area is overbuilt already and the Q Conditions have not been lived up to by LMU regarding parking, noise, off campus housing, etc. We need to look at these factors when considering the impact on the neighborhood. The NC should not rubberstamp a project for a builder who is not living up to their previous commitments.

Avram Aelony – Westchester Resident – regarding the proposed "drive-thru" Chevron Station and Starbucks at Manchester and La Tijera, there must be some public comment on this because the noise, crime, etc already exist and these issues must be addressed, especially as this project will decrease our property values.

Diane Sher – Westchester Resident – regarding oil fields proposed in the LA area. More investigation must take place.

Gus Siamus – Westchester Resident – regarding LAX expansion taking out local schools and eminent domain it seems odd that so many people are on the board and not in audience. Why has the density increased and not the infrastructure. LAX commission is a hoax.

Mr. Ratkovic – Playa del Rey resident – the Board should all resign. Traffic issues are unbelievable and the Board is not doing anything at all.

Clarence Griffin – LMU representative – LUM actually can transfer its solar electricity to local uses. We use grey water for landscaping use and our landscaping is drought tolerant. Please come to scoping meeting on 6.11 4-9PM at LMU.

Item E. Representative Reports (limit to 3 minutes please):

1. Deanna Stevenson, Interim DONE Project Coordinator – not available.
2. Jim Kennedy, Field Deputy/Councilman Bill Rosendahl – LMU scoping meetings are being planned. A public hearing regarding the Housing Element is planned for 6.12 from 8:30AM – 11:30AM at Van Nuys City Hall
3. Chad Molnar, LAX - Community Liaison – the new weekly office hours in Westchester will be announced soon. Date in July will be set for the second public workshop for LAX Northside. He NASA study of LAX should be available by May 2009. The contract for runway status lights has been awarded.
4. Stephen.Cheung, Area Field Representative/Mayor's Office – the Mayor is asking for assistance in identifying the areas most affected by foreclosures. The Mayor is signing the new City budget tomorrow, June 4, at City Council. It will be available on the City's website.
5. Stephanie Molen, Field Representative - Assemblymember Ted Lieu – a report was given.
6. Rebecca Bernal, Field Representative - Assemblymember Curren Price – a flyer listing June events was distributed.
7. Jessica Duboff, Field Representative/Congresswoman Jane Harman – not available
8. Edgar Saenz, Field Representative/Congresswoman Maxine Waters – the Congresswoman will be hosting town halls to help people who are in danger of foreclosure.

Item F. Presentations: (limited to 5 minutes unless prior approval for additional time given)

1. NCWP Community Event Update and Volunteer assignments (Arias/Taylor/Buchanan) – this event is planned for July 4th at Westchester Park after the parade. Stars of the Neighborhood Awards will be presented. Volunteers are needed for the picnic.

Item G. Motions/Actions Items: (Public comment on agenda items limited to 2 minutes)

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.*)

1. Motion to approve reimbursement of Board member expenditures (Hench) – Cyndi Hench made a Motion to reimburse Frances Stronks up to \$103 for expenses. Denny Schneider seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.
2. Matters transferred from the Discussion Calendar

Discussion Calendar: *(These items will be discussed and acted upon separately unless a Board member or a stakeholder requests that an item be transferred to the Consent Calendar.)*

1. Motion to approve NCWP budget for fiscal year 2008/2009 (Hench) – a report was distributed. Cyndi Hench made a Motion to approve the 2008/2009 Budget. Denny Schneider seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.
2. Motion to approve funding pursuant to the request from the Westchester BID for tree lighting on Sepulveda Blvd. in the Central Business District in an amount to be determined by the NC Budget and Finance Committee (Ferro) tabled to another meeting.

Item H. Committee Reports:

Standing Committees

1. Airport Relations - David Voss/David Coffin – nothing new to report.
2. Budget & Finance - Cyndi Hench (**Approval of Treasurer's Report**) – a report was distributed. Cyndi Hench made a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. JD Webster seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.
3. Bylaws - David Voss – no report was given.
4. Communications - David Coffin - the website should be updated by a professional; David is accepting bids.
5. Education - Terry Marcellus – a report was given.
6. Elections - David Coffin - all board members will serve until 2010 at which time the City Clerk will take over all NC elections.
7. Governmental Affairs/City Services - John Ramey – no report
8. Membership/Marketing - Sibyl Buchanan – the newsletter was distributed.
9. Planning & Land Use - James Ferro – a report was given. The next meeting will be 6.24 @ 6PM in the Playa Vista Library.
10. Public Safety - Doug Ehlers – resigning as chair in favor of Cyndi Hench. A report was given.

Ad Hoc Committees

1. Lincoln Streetscape - Stephen Bentley – no report was given
2. Sepulveda Streetscape - John Ruhlen – the Westside will be finished in two weeks; the east side remodel will begin on July 1. Dedication of new welcome sign 6.19 @11:30AM; it will include a

plaque for Shirley Pfeil, Miss. Westchester and the originator of the first "Welcome to Westchester" sign. The construction is, hopefully, going to be finished by before Thanksgiving.

3. Community Design Overlay - Bill Ballerini – Lower Playa del Rey – tool to control redevelopment is being discussed in an effort to protect historic PdR. The next meeting will be in July; date and time to be announced.

4. Entrada - Bill Ballerini – a law suit, brought by the Westchester Neighbors, is pending.

City/Neighborhood Council Committees

1. LANC Congress - Robert Dalton/Judith Ciancimino (alt.) – no report was given.

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

3. NC Alliance - Cyndi Hensch – no report was given.

4. Mayor's Budget Day - Denny Schneider/Bill Ballerini (alt.) – the 2008/2009 Budget is being signed tomorrow at City Council, however discussions will continue.

5. City Attorney Legal Liaison - David Voss – no report was given.

6. LADWP MOU - John-David Webster – a report was given.

Item I. President's Discussion Items or Comments

1. Vacant Board seat – received no applications yet.

2. Neighborhood Council Self Assessment (Stronks) – Forms were distributed and the Board and attendees were asked to complete them and return them by the July 1, meeting.

3. Policies and Procedures Handbook status and input – no report – a committee consisting of David Coffin, JD Webster, Cyndi Hensch, Clarence Griffin and Geoff Maleman was formed.

4. Committee assignments – Terry Marcellus Education Committee reported that Laurie Ferro had to resign from the committee. Terry nominated Jan Landon, a teacher at Orville Wright MS and Lisa Marlin as stakeholder members of the committee. Tom Flintoft seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

5. Standing Committee scheduled meetings – some committees are not meeting on a regular basis and the stakeholders want a more standardized meeting schedule. We need to be more accessible to the stakeholders by holding regularly scheduled meetings.

6. Playa del Rey issues – PdR residents feel that we don't adequately represent all of Westchester/Playa, only Westchester. We need to be more informed and active on PdR issues.

Item J. Other Items:

1. Conflict of Interest On-line Training: www.lacityneighborhoods.com and www.done.ethicstraining@lacity.org
2. Neighborhood Empowerment Academy workshops:
www.lacityneighborhoods.com/empowerment_academy.htm

Item K. Announcements:

1. BONC meetings now held on the 1st Tuesday and every 3rd Thursday of every month at 6:00PM.
2. Next NCWP Board meeting: July 1, 2008 at 6:30 p.m.
3. Luna Family Tragedy (Issac) – a fund to assist this family who lost 3 children in an accident has been set up at Bank of America. A flyer was distributed.
4. Other announcements -

Item L. Adjournment 9:15PM