

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey Board of Directors' Meeting – October 4, 2005 Minutes

Present: Robert Acherman, Lynne Allen, Mike Arias, Joe Callinan, Dolores Canizales, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Steve Donell, Doug Ehlers, Jeff Elder, James Ferro, David Gray, Geoff Maleman, Paul Maynard, Sheila Mickelson, Harry Rose, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Cozette Vergari, Gwen Vuchsas, John-David Webster, and Barbara Yamamoto.

Ex Officio: Kathryn Frengs, Courtney Wong and Rusty Hicks.

Excused: Sibyl Buchanan, Pam DeArmas, Don Doyle Doug Ehlers, Patricia Lyon, Denny Schneider and David Voss.

Absent: Bill West

Item 1: The meeting was called to order at 6:43PM by Gwen Vuchsas, President of the Board. The Roll was called.

Item 2: David Gray led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item 3: *Special Presentation* – Robert Weldon, District 4, was presented a Certificate of Appreciation for his contribution to the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey. Rob is moving to North Carolina on October 20, 2005.

Item 4: *Public Comment – non-Agenda Items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker)*

- Tony Ciancimino – Resident of Westchester – thanked the NCWDPR the community picnic and the Stars of the Neighborhood Awards.

- Courtney Wong introduced Rusty Hicks, her replacement as Field Deputy for recently elected Assemblyman Ted Lieu.

- Rusty Hicks – Ted Lieu's office – office still located in the El Segundo and invited everyone to the Torrance Cultural Arts Center for the October 17, swearing in of Assemblyman Ted Lieu. The ceremony starts at 5:30PM.

- Reina Pereira - City of LA Public Works – Notification of IRP Draft 20-year EIR on waste water clarification and disposal via Hyperion Plant. The expansion is due to begin November, 2005. You can check the website for further information www.lacity.org/san/irp or call Reina directly at 323.342.6251.

- Dolores Canizales – LMU Community Affairs Representative – invited everyone to attend the "Just Community for All" forum to be held November 7 to 13 on the LMU campus. The forum will include seminars, music and political art exhibits. For more information go to <http://bellarmine.lmu.edu/bellarminforum/>

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DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Item 5: *Report/ Kathryn Frengs, Field Deputy for Councilman Bill Rosendahl* – Kathryn thanked the NC for the Stars of the Neighborhood picnic and said it was a wonderful event.

- The Councilman will be meeting with administrators at LMU regarding the recent problems with the students living off campus.
- The public may use the Councilman's website, www.councilmanrosendahl.com, to arrange a personal meeting with the Councilman.
- On October 20, the Councilman will be meeting with Playa Vista residents.
- Department of Streets is currently resurfacing 15 miles of streets and 3.5 miles of sidewalks per year per district. The ones resurfaced now were determined by Councilmember Miscikowski prior to her leaving office.
- 1.5 miles of sidewalk are committed to the 50/50 program where the city pays 50% and the homeowners pays 50%.

Item 6: Presentation – Bond Measure "Y" – Tom Flintoft of Rose & Kendall and Glenn Gritzner, Special Assistant to Superintendent of LAUSD, Roy Romer spoke about the LAUSD Bond Measure "Y". The bond will build new schools and repair old schools and will complete a three-decade project aimed at keeping kids off busses, unless they want to be on the bus, and eliminate year-round schools. They need the bond to keep elementary school children off the bus. It will cost every homeowner approximately \$5 per \$100,000 of value per year.

Item 7: *Public Comment – Agenda Items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker)*

- Anton Acherman – Westchester Resident - Item 11 – asked for notification of the Ad Hoc Committee meeting on decertification.

Item 8: *Approval of Minutes 9/06/05 Board Meeting* – Robert Acherman made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 6, 2005 Board Meeting as presented. Kathy Santos seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item 9: *Approval of Treasurer's Report* – Steve Donell distributed the report. The Neilsen Field parking lot improvement project is still outstanding as well as the Westchester Streetscape Improvement project. The \$5,000 donated to us by Councilmember Cindy Miscikowski to repair the Westchester sign has not been paid to the vendor as we are waiting for a City Council motion to approve the NCWPDR spending donated monies.

Harry Rose made a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Robert Dalton seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item 10: *Appointment of NCWPDR 2005 Committee Members* – no appointments were made.

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Item 11: *Appointment of Ad Hoc Committee re research decertification* – Gwen Vuchsas, President of the Board, appointed Geoff Maleman, Chair of the Committee and Robert Dalton, David Voss, Steve Donell, Mike Arias and Kathryn Frengs to the committee.

Items 12: *Appointment Board of Directors Residential Seat No. 4* – no replacement for Robert Weldon has been named.

Item 13: *Motion to approve dates for 2006 NCWPDR Election as recommended by NCWPDR Election Committee* – Geoff Maleman made a motion to hold the 2006 NCWPDR Election on Monday, April 3 and Wednesday, April 5, 2006. Judith Ciancimino seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item 14: *Motion to approve Draft 2006 Election Procedures as recommended by NCWPDR Election Committee* – Cozette Vergari made a motion to approve the Draft 2006 Election Procedures to DONE for approval (10.04.05 Draft (revision 1)). Judith Ciancimino seconded the Motion. Geoff Maleman made a Friendly Amendment that the Education Seat be added to those up for reelection in 2006. The Friendly Amendment was accepted. The Motion passed unanimously.

Robert Acherman made an Election Procedures Amendment that no person shall offer any item or value to vote for or not vote for any candidate including but not limited to cash, food or drink. Sheila Mickelson seconded the Amendment. Robert Acherman, Lynne Allen, Sheila Mickelson and Harry Rose votes Yea. Mike Arias, Joe Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Steve Donell, Jeff Elder, James Ferro, David Gray, Geoff Maleman, Paul Maynard, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Cozette Vergari, John-David Webster and Barbara Yamamoto voted Nay. The Motion failed.

Item 15: *Motion to authorize letter of support for the Senior Urban Living Concepts regarding U.S. Postal property as recommended by NCWPDR Planning and Land Use Committee* – Jim Ferro made the Motion as stated. Kathy Santos seconded the Motion. Lynne Allen, Mike Arias, Joe Callinan, Judith Ciancimino David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Steve Donell, Jeff Elder, James Ferro, David Gray, Geoff Maleman, Paul Maynard, Sheila Mickelson, Harry Rose, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Cozette Vergari, John-David Webster and Barbara Yamamoto voted Yea. Robert Acherman abstained from voting. The Motion passed.

Item 16: *Motion to approve letter to City of Los Angeles in support of The Body Clinic's request for parking variance and conditional use permit at its new location at 11825 Major Street, Playa Vista/Culver City (zip 90230)* – Geoff Maleman made the Motion as stated. Judith seconded the Motion. Geoff Maleman made a Friendly Amendment to add "Community" before "Awards," change "our" to "Chamber's" Outstanding Merchant award and add "Conditional Use Permit" after "Parking Variance" in the body of the letter. The Friendly Amendment was accepted. The Motion passed unanimously.

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Item 17: *Motion to approve letter to Bed Bath & Beyond requesting a presentation before the Neighborhood Council and in support of Westchester Streetscape's efforts* – Jim Ferro made the Motion as stated. Kathy Santos seconded the Motion. Robert Acherman, Lynne Allen, Mike Arias, Joe Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Steve Donell, Jeff Elder, James Ferro, David Gray, Geoff Maleman, Paul Maynard, Sheila Mickelson, Harry Rose, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Cozette Vergari, John-David Webster and Barbara Yamamoto voted Yea. Robert Dalton abstained from voting. The Motion passed.

- Geoff Maleman – Community Grant Program – Action item called Special under the Brown Act – A application was received on Monday, October 3, from PART Education Foundation. It must be received by the City by October 27. The application calls for the creation of “Learning Gardens” on six local school campuses. This project also calls for the removal of acres of asphalt on those same campuses. The project calls for many volunteer hours; the authors still need 67 more volunteers. Geoff Maleman made the Motion that we support the project and volunteer hours to the project. Mike Arias seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

- Funds for Streetscape – Action Item call Special under the Brown Act - It was suggested that we modify our budget to reduce last year's budget and increase this year's budget to accommodate funding and broaden the use of the money as defined in last year's Motion regarding the \$25,000 funding of Westchester Streetscape Improvement Project. This budget modification would reduce \$23,751.76 from last year's budget and add an equal amount to this year's budget to be used to create “showcase” landscape work on strip lots along Sepulveda Boulevard. Mike Arias made the Motion as stated. Cozette seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item 18: *Picnic Report* – Pat Lyon was unavailable; this item was tabled to the next meeting.

Item 19: *NC Alliance Report* – Sheila Mickelson attended the Citywide Alliance meeting and distributed a report. She indicated that there will be a Commission formed to review Neighborhood Counsels under the City Charter. Steve Donell expressed an interest in serving on the Committee. Councilman Rosendahl is the Chair of the Committee that oversees DONE.

Announcements:

- Next meeting of PLUC is next Wednesday Covenant Fellowship Hall at 6:30PM. The focus of the meeting will be Smart Codes, a new approach to zoning.

Meeting Adjourned: 9:15PM

Next Meeting: November 1 – 6:30PM

Location: Westchester Community Room

Submitted by: Judith Ciancimino

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