

# The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey Board of Directors' Meeting – February 1, 2005 Minutes

**Present:** Robert Acherman, Sibyl Buchanan, Joe Callinan, Dolores Canizales, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Andrea Davis, Steve Donnel, James Ferro, David Gray, Myra Kriwanek, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Efigenia Martinez, Sheila Mickelson, Denny Schneider, John-David Webster, Robert Weldon, William West, Val Velasco, Cozette Vergari, David Voss and Gwen Vuchsas.

**Ex Officio:** Edgar Saenz and Sharon Sandow

**Excused:** Mike Arias, Jeff Elders, Doug Ehlers, Jeff Elder, and Barbara Yamamoto.

**Absent:** Harry Rose.

**Item 1:** The meeting was called to order at 6:55pm by Gwen Vuchsas, President of the Board.

**Item 2:** Tony Ciancimino led the Pledge of Allegiance. Self-introductions were made.

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

- Edgar Saenz – Maxine Waters Office – The Ballona Bluffs have been bought by a “hedge company” who will ultimately develop the property, Catellus no longer owns this property, they do manage it for the new owners.

The FAA has not granted permission to convert the fallow land between Westchester and St. Bernard High Schools to be used for intramural sports.

Ms. Waters has asked that the Public Comment period on the LAX Master Plan be extend by 30 days.

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

**Item 4:** *Motion for Reconsideration of NCWPDR's decision to support the Application of R&B Station Restaurant for Conditional Use Permit subject to a 6-month review* – Jim Ferro made the Motion as stated above. Judith Ciancimino seconded the Motion.

Sibyl Buchanan, Joseph Callinan, Dolores Canizales, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Andrea Davis, David Gray, Myra Kriwanek, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Efigenia Martinez, Sheila Mickelson, Denny Schneider, Val Velasco, Cozette Vergari, David Voss, Robert Weldon and William West voted Yea. John-David Webster abstained from voting. The Motion passed.

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Ron Cargill and Ronald Oliney and Wayne Stephenson, Owners representing the R&B Station; Capt. Incontro, LAPD and Sharon Sandow, CD11 were available to speak on the issue and answer questions. Ms. Sandow said there are land use issues with this location that have not been solved. David Voss presented information not available at the last meeting, including a shooting on premises, no existing of "roving permits" and that the police have not issued and "one day permits." There is not adequate parking.

Capt. Incontro, formerly in charge of issuance of CPU for LAPD, said "The thing that bothers me is that Mr. Lewis characterized me as a friend and that is not true. On Dec. 31, I spoke to him and he said he was the owner and he said he was going to have a party. He has no ABC license and cannot sell alcohol. He has no permit for entertainment either. (café entertainment permit)" Capt. Incontro supports business but this is not a lawful business. The Captain conducted a vice undercover investigation on December 31; two people were arrested. He said that there is no such thing as a roving permit only a "1 day" permit; as of today, ABC has not issued a 1-day permit for this location.

There have been three shootings, two at the location and one in the parking lot across the street allegedly by customers of the R&B; also a burglary from motor vehicle. 1-day permits can only be used in a location zoned and approved for that use and this location has obtained no such zoning.

Robert Dalton made a Motion to send this issue back to PLUC. Robert Acherman seconded the Motion. Robert Acherman, Dolores Canizales, Robert Dalton, Andrea Davis, Sheila Mickelson and Val Velasco voted Yea. Sibyl Buchanan, Joe Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, James Ferro, David Gray, Myra Kriwanek, Geoff Maleman, Efigenia Martinez, Denny Schneider, Cozette Vergari, David Voss, John-David Webster, Robert Weldon and William West voted Nay. Patricia Lyon abstained from voting. The Motion failed.

David Grey a Motion that the NCWPDR reverse its position and withdraw its support and oppose the application for a CUP by the R&B Station because new documentation and information has been presented that shows that the R&B Station misrepresented information that they do not serve alcohol. David Coffin seconded the Motion.

Robert Acherman, sibyl Buchanan, Joseph Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, James Ferro, David Gray, Myra Kriwanek, Geoff Maleman, Efigenia Martinez, Denny Schneider, Cozette Vergari, David Voss, John-David Webster, Robert Weldon, and William West voted Yea. Dolores Canizales, Andrea Davis, Patricia Lyon, Sheila Mickelson and Val Velasco abstained from voting. The Motion passed.

**Item 5:** *Approval of Minutes of the 1.11.05 Board Meeting* – Due to a computer effort, no minutes were available. They will be made available at the March, 2005 Board Meeting.

**Item 6:** *Treasurer's Report* –Steve Donell, Interim Treasurer–submitted a Report.

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Deana Stevenson, our Project Coordinator from DONE, was present at the meeting. Steve, Gwen and David Voss had a meeting with Mark Lewis, Elizabeth Macias and Deana Stevenson regarding the Bylaw amendments which have not yet been approved. The Election Bylaw has been approved and we will be able to hold our election on time. Mark Lewis is confused with our bylaw amendment regarding the change of internal boundaries, which carved a Playa Vista (14) seat out of Residential Seat 3 and joined Residential Seats 13 and 14 into one seat, 13. Gwen will make a presentation to Parker Anderson a Commissioner of Neighborhood Council at the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners to clear up any misunderstandings.

Denny Schneider made a Motion that Steve Donell be appointed to Residential Seat 14. Geoff Maleman seconded the Motion. This Motion was called Special under the Brown Act; the Board was unaware of this problem until 1:30PM today.

Robert Acherman, Sibyl Buchanan, Dolores Canizales, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Andrea Davis, James Ferro, David Gray, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Efigenia Martinez, Sheila Mickelson, Denny Schneider, Cozette Vergari, David Voss, John-David Webster and William West voted Yea. Joseph Callinan, Myra Kriwanek and Val Velasco abstained from voting. The Motion passed.

All of the vendors have been paid and the demand warrant for the payment of the CORO Training invoice has been submitted for payment. One invoice from Sodexo is outstanding, when paid, it will leave us with about \$200 in the budget.

Robert Acherman made a Motion to file the Treasurers Report for audit. Denny Schneider seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 7:** *Election Committee Report* – A report was distributed.

**Item 8:** *Motion for Board Mandate to obtain two Election Day volunteers* – Cozette made the Motion as stated above. Robert Dalton seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Board Members were asked to report names of volunteers to Cozette or Efigenia. The shifts will be 3 or 4 hours each either Monday, April 4 or Wednesday, April 6.

**Item 9:** *Membership/Marketing Report* – Sibyl Buchanan – We will be using the "Walking Man Pieces" from last year with some updating. Cozette will speak to Elizabeth regarding Spanish translation and printing by DONE to find out how long will it take.

All Board Members are expected to up for at least one day of outreach to register new stakeholders.

**Item 10:** *Planning and Land Use Report* – Jim Ferro – The LA Cultural Heritage Commission will vote tomorrow on whether the Arizona Garden Apartments deserves historical status tomorrow, February 2.

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Inclusionary zoning the next meeting is Tuesday, February 8.

The Committee considered the SBC request for support of a modification of the CUP at 8530 Airport Boulevard which would reduce the number of parking spaces from 162 to 35, at their last meeting. The Committee recommended that the Board support this proposal.

**Items 11:** *Motion to support SBC's request for modification of CUP at 8530 Airport Boulevard as recommended by the NC Planning and Land Use Committee* – Kevin Tomaki and Marilyn Warren were present on behalf of SBC to answer questions. Jim Ferro made the Motion as stated above. Bill West seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 12:** *Motion to recommend to the purchaser of 8534 Belford to explore opportunities for a change or amendment to current zoning to promote commercial and/or mixed use, consistent with the W/PdR Community Plan as recommended by the NC Planning and Land Use Committee* – Geoff Maleman made the Motion as stated above. David Voss seconded the Motion.

Robert Acherman, Sibyl Buchanan, Dolores Canizales, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Andrea Davis, Steve Donell, James Ferro, David Gray, Myra Kriwanek, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Efigenia Martinez, Sheila Mickelson, Val Velasco, Cozette Vergari, David Voss, John-David Webster and Robert Weldon voted Yea. Joseph Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, Denny Schneider and William West abstained from voting.

**Item 13:** *Governmental Affairs Report – CD11 Candidate Forum* – The 1.31.05 event was well attended and interesting. The Candidates handled themselves very well. The event was sponsored by the Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey, Westchester/LAX Marina del Rey Chamber of Commerce, Westchester Vitalization Corporation and Loyola Marymount University. Dolores Canizales, representing the NC, Chamber of Commerce and LMU was very instrumental in the planning and success of the event.

**Item 14:** *Public Comment – Agenda Items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker)* – no cards were received.

**Item 15:** *Presentation – LAWA Police re possible merger issue with LAPD* – Scott Mann and Officer Marshall McClain, representing the Airport Police, were available to answer questions. A proposed City Council Motion to remove Section 636 from the City Charter may be placed on the May ballot. This would remove the impediment from the City Charter to the blending of the two police forces; it would not place the Airport Police under the jurisdiction of LAPD. The City Council and possibly the Board of Airport Commissioners would then vote on this proposal. This ballot measure must be submitted by February 11, in order to be placed on the May ballot.

LAX Police are specially trained to guard the Airport and are dedicated to that task solely. If there is an emergency anywhere else in the city, the AP Police do not respond, their mission is to guard the Airport.

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**Item 16:** *Motion to Approve letters as recommended by the Airport Relations Committee: To LAX Landside Operations re FlyAway Program; Mayor Hahn and City Council opposing integration of LAX Police and LAPD; other Neighborhood Councils asking to join NCWPDR's opposition of Police Departments integration; Commendation to B. Parks, A. Villaraigosa and J. Weiss for opposition to LAX Master Plan; to FAA asking for additional 30 days to submit comments to Final LAX Master Plan EIS; to FAA providing comments to Final LAX Master Plan EIS; Statement of Principles regarding NCWPDR's participation in LAX Master Plan Stakeholder Meetings.* Robert Acherman made a grammatical correction on one of the letters. Geoff Maleman made the Motion as stated above. Denny Schneider seconded the Motion.

David Coffin made a Friendly Amendment to remove the Commendation letter to a separate vote. David and Denny accepted the Friendly Amendment.

Robert Acherman, Sibyl Buchanan, Joseph Callinan, Dolores Canizales, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Andrea Davis, Steve Donell, James Ferro, David Gray, Geoff Maleman, Efigenia Martinez, Denny Schneider, John-David Webster, Robert Weldon and William West voted Yea. The Motion passed unanimously.

David Coffin feels that it is inappropriate to send a letter of commendation to Mayoral candidates for a position they have taken in an election year. David Coffin Motion to revisit sending the "*Commendation to B. Parks, A. Villaraigosa and J. Weiss for opposition to LAX Master Plan*" referred to in the original Motion, until after the primary election. David Grey seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

### **Presidents Report:**

**Item 17:** *NC/DWP Partnership Update* – New GM Ron Deaton, who replaced Jerry Giwi as point person representing DWP, has slowed down the process. He does not think the Memo Of Understanding should be for 10 years; he suggested 2 years. Mr. Deaton wants the MOU reviewed by the DWP staff and advisors to determine if the MOU is a good thing for DWP. The next meeting should be in March or April.

**Item 18:** *Neighborhood Council Alliance Meeting Report* – Robert Dalton – A report was distributed.

**Item 19:** *Safety Measure Community Meeting 1.13.05* – Gwen moderated this meeting which was held at the Westchester Presbyterian Church. It was a very enlightening meeting and had the best attendance of any of these meetings in the City.

### **Non-agenda Items:**

- NC received a letter from Westchester Streetscape Association asking for financial assistance to fund the compilation process of the products from their three public workshops. They need approximately \$15,000 to \$20,000. This item will be agendaized on a future agenda.

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- LA DOT will be presenting the results of a study regarding the implementing of new Dash lines through the area. One of the six meeting will be at 11214 W. Exposition on Thursday, February 10 at 6:30PM. Judith will represent the NC.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 10:15 PM

**Next Meeting:** March 1 – 6:30PM

**Location:** LUM – University Hall, Room

**Submitted by:** Judith Ciancimino