

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey Board of Directors' Meeting – July 11, 2006

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

Ex Officio: Kathryn Frengs

Excused: Robert Acherman, Doug Ehlers, David Gray, Paul Maynard, David Voss, John-David Webster and William West

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

Item 2: Harry Rose led the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

Reza Akef – Congresswoman Jane Harmon's Rep – represents the congresswoman in the North part of her area-Playa del Rey, Venice, Mar Vista/Palms – his office number is 310.643.3636 and email address is Reza.Akef@mail.house.gov.

John Brady – Mayor's office – the Westside Educational Forum will take place on July 20, from 5 to 7PM at the Westwood United Methodist Church, 10497 Wilshire Boulevard, WLA.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS

Terry Marcellus made a Motion to move Item 15 out of order. Robert Dalton seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 15: Discussion was led by Terry Marcellus to establish an NC Education Committee to work with the Westchester/Playa Education Foundation. President Gwen Vuchsas appointed an Education Committee to be chaired by Terry Marcellus. John Ruhlen made a Motion to approve, Kathy Santos seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 4: *Briefing by Assemblyman Ted Lieu* – Education is fully funded. The Transportation budget is also fully funded. Sacramento is starting to pay attention to global warming and enacting legislation regarding "green" standards and incentives in both building and fuel. Visit Lieu's website to see the issues he is working on assemblymember.Lieu@assembly.ca.gov.

Item 5: *Report/ Kathryn Frengs, Field Deputy, Councilman Bill Rosendahl* - Thank you for the Parade the Councilman had a great time.

- Green Line extension to LAX – he is going to Shanghai to study Mag Lev and other mass transit options.

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- Met with neighbors of Sepulveda project – DOT has backed off the “rush” so there is time to investigate.
- “Jungle” parking – increase in enforcement in the Playa del Rey triangle.
- Speed issues – looking into LAPD speed trailer purchased several years ago by C-PAB – residents want to use it to slow traffic down.
- Aaron Gross and his wife had a baby and Katherine is covering for him while he is out on paternity leave.

Item 6: *Report/Lisette Covsarrubias, DONE Project Coordinator* – City Attorney round table July 13, 5 – 7 @ Iranian Cultural Center on Motor in West Los Angeles, President Vuchsas will attend. 912 Commission - first meeting Thursday, 5 to 7pm, DWP Tom Bradley Building.

Item 7: *Election Committee Report* – Cozette Vergari – reports were distributed – walking man piece is completed and being distributed.

Item 8: *Introduction of Carole White, Independent Election Administrator* – introduced during the pre-meeting.

Item 9: *Motion to Approve the finalized Election Procedures as recommended by the NCWPDR Election Committee* – Cozette Vergari made the Motion as stated. Don Doyle seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 10: *Public Comment – Agenda Items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker)*

AnneMarie Branch-Winic – Neighborhood Watch member/Westchester Resident - lives near high school on 91st Street – asking for help to slow traffic in the area.

Item 11: *Governmental Affairs/City Services Report* – Robert Dalton – restricted parking issue - petitions have been circulated and signed and submitted to Council office. Now up to DOT and Council office.

a) Motion to Support a Restricted Parking District in PDR on 81st St. from 83rd St. to Zayanta as recommended by the NCWPDR Governmental Affairs/City Services Committee. Robert Dalton made the Motion as stated. Geoff Maleman seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously.

b) Robert Dalton recused himself from this discussion/vote re Motion to oppose the proposed LADWP water rate increase as recommended by the NCWPDR Governmental Affairs/City Services Committee. Kathy Santos made the Motion as stated. Cozette Vergari seconded the Motion. Lynne Allen, Sibyl Buchanan, Joseph Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Pam DeArmas, Steve Donnell, Don Doyle, Lisa Farland, James Ferro, Patricia Lyon, Sheila Mickelson, Harry Rose, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Denny Schneider and Cozette Vergari voted Aye. Jeff Elder voted Nay. Mike Arias, Robert Dalton and Geoff Maleman abstained from voting. The Motion carried.

Item 12: *Membership/Marketing Committee Report* – Sibyl Buchanan

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- a) Fire Station Grand Opening 6.24.06 – NC had a table and registered about 40 stakeholders.
- b) Distribution of NCWPDR Brochure – Sibyl passed out the new brochure and will schedule walking man distribution to the neighborhood. About 20,000 have been printed. She will place a Motion on the August Agenda.

Item 13: *Budget and Finance Committee Report* – Steve Donell – stated that all funding requests must come to the Budget & Finance Committee before the Board.

- a) Motion to Approve stakeholder request for purchase of Neighborhood Watch signs. Robert Dalton made the Motion to allocate up to \$1,000 to purchase Neighborhood Watch signs. Sibyl Buchanan seconded the Motion. Denny Schneider made a friendly amendment to add “and install” to the Motion. The FA was accepted. Motion passed unanimously.
- b) Motion to Approve funding request for CowaNature Center – previously voted on, not funded last fiscal year. Steve Donell made a Motion that we allocate up to \$10,000 to the CowaNature Center. Denny Schneider seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- c) Motion to Approve the purchase of tables and chairs for NCWPDR. Steve Donell made a Motion to allocate up to \$1,000 for the purchase of tables and chairs for the NCWPDR. Denny Schneider seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.
- d) Approval of Treasurer's Report – a report was distributed via email - Geoff Maleman made a Motion to accept the Treasurers Report. Patricia Lyon seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously.
- e) Motion to Approve Reimbursement to Board members for NCWPDR expenditures – Lynne Allen \$175 for table cloths for NC picnic. Steve Donell made the Motion. Geoff Maleman seconded the Motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Item 14: *Approval of Minutes of the 6.6.06 Board Meeting* – Robert Dalton made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the 6.6.06 Board Meeting. Harry Rose seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item 15: *Appointment of NCWPDR Committees, Chairs and members* – Sheila Mickelson discussed the need to work with Westchester Streetscape Improvement Association. President Gwen Vuchsas appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to work with WSIA on Sepulveda beautification to be chaired by Sheila Mickelson. Robert Dalton made the Motion to approve, Joe Callinan seconded, Motion passed unanimously. President Vuchsas appointed John Ruhlen, Mike Arias, Pat Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Lisa Wellik, Lisa Farland, Sibyl Buchanan, David Coffin to the committee. Robert Dalton made a Motion to Approve the committee appointments. Joe Callinan seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

President Gwen Vuchsas appointed Terry Issac to the Planning & Land Use Committee. Judith Ciancimino made a Motion to approve, Sibyl seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

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Item 16: *Congress of Neighborhoods Report* – Cozette Vergari – attended the monthly meeting. The purpose is still unclear and there still seems to be more NC's uncertain.

Item 17: *Motion for Resolution: "We, the NCWPDR, endorse the Motion (file No. 04-1935-Zine/Garcetti) before the City Council to place a moratorium on the implementation of the NC Citywide Election Procedures."* - Cozette made the Motion as stated. Denny Schneider seconded the Motion. Lynne Allen, Mike Arias, Sibyl Buchanan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Pam DeArmas, Jeff Elder, Lisa Farland James Ferro, Patricia Lyon, Terry Marcellus, Paul Maynard, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Denny Schneider, Cozette Vergari and Lisa Wellik voted Aye. Robert Dalton, Don Doyle, Geoff Maleman, Sheila Mickelson and Harry Rose voted Nay. Joseph Callinan abstained from voting. Motion carried.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Item 18: *NC Congress Day 6.17.06* – Robert Dalton, Lisa Wellik, Denny Schneider and Doug Ehlers attended and gave a brief report.

Item 19: *Councilman Rosendahl's Empowerment Committee* – Chairs have not met and set up committees.

Item 20: *City Attorney Roundtable Discussion* – President Gwen Vuchsas will attend.

Meeting Adjourned: 8:25PM

Next Meeting: August 1 – 6:30PM

Location: Westchester Community Room

Submitted by: Judith Ciancimino