

# The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey Board of Directors' Meeting – August 1, 2006

**Present:** Robert Acherman, Mike Arias, Sibyl Buchanan, Joe Callinan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Robert Dalton, Pam DeArmas, Steve Donell, Don Doyle, Doug Ehlers, Lisa Farland, James Ferro, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Terry Marcellus, Paul Maynard, Shelia Mickelson, Harry Rose, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Denny Schneider, Cozette Vergari, Gwen Vuchsas, John-David Webster, Lisa Wellik and William West.

**Ex Officio:** Kathryn Frengs

**Excused:** Lynne Allen, Jeff Elder, David Gray and David Voss.

**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:** Robert Acherman led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Item 3:** *Public Comment – non-Agenda Items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker)* No speaker cards were received.

## **DISCUSSION/ACTION ITEMS**

**Item 4:** *Report/ Kathryn Frengs, Field Deputy for Councilman Bill Rosendahl -*

- The Councilman is back from China where he was researching the Mag Lev and other transportation modes.

- The Council office is trying to place a Motion on the Council agenda regarding Permit Parking in the area, prior to the August 18 recess. Kathryn will report on this issue at the September Board meeting.

**Item 5:** *Report/Lisette Covarrubias, DONE Project Coordinator –*

- DONE is still refining and enhancing the Empowerment Academy; a survey was distributed and we were asked complete and return by the end of the meeting.

A representative of Congresswoman Jane Harmon distributed a flyer on the Veterans Health Benefits, Services and Advocacy Fair scheduled for August 12 at the West Los Angeles Municipal Building.

**Item 6:** Presentation by Paragon Development near Manchester and Gulana, Playa del Rey – Brian Catalde, President, and Rick Conrad represented the independent, privately owned firm that purchased and planned to develop the former Gas Company lots located at 7857 W. Manchester. Their plans call for an apartment building of 23 to 31 units and 2-level, 78-space subterranean parking lot. The area is zoned R3 in the front and R4 in the back and Paragon is seeking a zone change to R3 for the entire area. A hearing is planned for 9:30am on August 2 at City of Los Angeles Department of Planning, 200 N. Spring Street.

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**Item 7:** Briefing Report – WLA Planning Commission Hearing, on Adult Cabaret, 6905 Centinela – the hearing is scheduled for August 16, at 4:30PM in the WLA Parking Enforcement Facility. Someone will be there to speak on behalf of Neighborhood Council.

**Item 8:** Election Committee Report – Chair Cozette Vergari asked that all Board members take 8 or 9 election signs to place in the community after Labor Day

Vergari also made a request that all Board members at the September meeting should have the names of at least three volunteers to work during the election for a total of six two-hour shifts during the hours of 11am to 9pm. Only Board Members who are not running for re-election may volunteer to work.

**Item 9:** Neighborhood Watch Ad Hoc Committee Report – Pat Lyon – only one person attended the meeting. More participation is needed in order to develop a policy/procedure regarding the distribution of Neighborhood Watch signs. JD Webster, Don Doyle and R. Acherman joined the committee.

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

*Item 6* - Karen Kanter – Playa del Rey resident welcomed Paragon Communities, Inc. She stated that the neighborhood will be effected by dust and asked Paragon to provide a mitigation plan.

- Marion Banning – Playa del Rey resident, concerned that traffic will funnel onto 83<sup>rd</sup> Street and will cause many accidents and asked that particular attention be paid to traffic safety.

- Sharon O'Rourke – Gas Co. stated that in all of the Gas Co lots in W/PdR, there were only 12 wells. All of the wells have been sealed according to regulations and anyone developing these lots will have to abide by LA City regulations.

*Item 11* – Nora MacLellan – complained about the NC procedures in registering stakeholders.

**Item 11:** Membership/Marketing Committee Report – Chair Sibyl Buchanan distributed registration forms and brochures.

a) Sibyl Buchanan made a Motion to approve an expenditure of up to \$1,000 for Printing and \$4,000 for the distribution of an updated Neighborhood Council brochure. Denny Schneider seconded the Motion. Steve Donell made a Friendly Amendment to code the expenditure as Outreach in the budget. The Amendment was accepted. The Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 12:** Budget and Finance Committee Report

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a) Approval of Treasurer's Report – a report was distributed by Steve Donell. Bill West made a Motion to accept the Treasurer's Report. John-David Webster seconded the Motion. Robert Acherman made a Friendly Amendment to add "file for audit" to the Motion. The Amendment was accepted. The Motion passed unanimously.

b) Motion to Approve Reimbursement to Board members for NCWPDR expenditures. There were no requests for expenditures.

**Item 13:** Approval of Minutes of 7.11.06 Board Meeting – Denny Schneider made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the 7.11.06 Board Meeting. Harry Rose seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

**Item 14:** Appointment of NCWPDR Committee members – Board members Cozette Vergari, Patricia Lyon, David Coffin, Joe Callinan, Sibyl Buchanan, Denny Schneider, and community members Laurie Ferro, Jeanne Breunig, Ken Kohan, John Wessels and Gail Levy were appointed to the Education Committee.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

**Item 15:** City Attorney Roundtable Discussion – Gwen Vuchsas attended and gave a report.

**Item 16:** Councilman Rosendahl's Empowerment Committee – Gwen Vuchsas – information was just distributed to Committee Chairs. It is in the early planning stages. Gwen will keep us informed.

**Announcements:**

We need a representative to the Congress of Neighborhood Councils. Robert Acherman volunteered.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 8:30PM

**Next Meeting:** September 5 – 6:30PM

**Location:** Westchester Community Room

**Submitted by:** Judith Ciancimino