

The Neighborhood Council of Westchester/Playa del Rey Board of Directors' Meeting – August 7, 2007

Present: Mike Arias, Stephen Bentley, Sibyl Buchanan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Steve Donell, Don Doyle, Doug Ehlers, Tom Flintoft, Clarence Griffin, Terry Issac, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Nancy Niles, John Ramey, John Ruhlen, Kathy Bartlow-Santos, Denny Schneider, Frances Stronks, Mary Taylor and David Voss.

Excused: Pam DeArmas, James Ferro, Cyndi Hench, Terry Marcellus, Cozette Vergari and John-David Webster.

Absent: William Ballerini, Robert Dalton, David Gray and Richard W. Nelsen.

Item A: The meeting was called to order at 6:42PM by Mike Arias, President of the Board. The Roll was called. Self introductions were made.

Item B: Steve Donell led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Item C: Motion to approve the Executive Committee recommendation that Cyndi Hench fill the vacant At-Large seat. Judith Ciancimino made the Motion as stated. Denny Schneider seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item D: Approval of Minutes of July 3, 2007 Board meeting. John Ruhlen made the Motion as stated. David Coffin seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

Item E: Public Comment - non-agenda items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker)

Raymond Yu – The 67th Annual Nisei week parade is upcoming; for further information, please visit www.niseiweek.org.

Renate Hild – Westchester Vitalization Corporation – the Wednesday Westchester Farmer's Market requested help in changing the signalization at Lincoln and Loyola. The left-turn signal time has been shortened and the red light has been lengthened this discourages participation.

Heather Lemmon – Westchester Vitalization – Reminded us that the Westchester Certified Farmers' Market is now open on Saturdays from 8AM to 12:30PM at the Promenade at Howard Hughes Center.

Item F: Representative Reports (limit to 3 minutes please):

1. Lisette Covarrubias, DONE Project Coordinator – not available, no report was given.
2. Isaac Lieberman, Field Deputy/Councilman Bill Rosendahl – Thursday, August 9 at 9AM, the Councilman will help activate the new red-light camera at the intersection of Airport and Manchester. Council members Rosendahl and Gruel have called for a safety study of all California bridges. The fight to save the Babe Ruth Little League field is ongoing. A guideline, written by the Empowerment Congress North Area Neighborhood Development Council was distributed; it has been successful in obtaining grants for other.

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3. Chad Molnar, LAX - Community Liaison – not available, no report was given.
4. Stephen Cheung, Area Field Representative/Mayor's Office – not available, no report was given.
5. Sam Liou, Field Representative – Assemblymember Ted Liou – will be hosting a small bus tax seminar on September 6 from 7PM to 9PM at the Alta Vista Community Center in Redondo Beach. A flyer was distributed.
6. Rebecca Bernal, Field Representative - Assemblymember Curren Price – is working with “Westchester Triangle” merchants to help revitalize the area. Assemblymember Price is hosting a Public Safety Forum at Helen Keller Park. Please visit his website for further information.
7. Edgar Saenz, Field Representative – Congresswoman Maxine Waters – not available, no report was given.
8. Jessica Duboff, Field Representative – Congresswoman Jane Harman – not available, no report was given.

Item G: Motions/Action 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 (Donell) – made a Motion to reimburse Mike Arias for the cost of the Board Retreat at LMU – this item was tabled to September meeting.
2. Matters transferred from the Discussion Calendar

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

Susan Horwood – Westchester Resident – spoke in support of Item G, Discussion Calendar Item 1.
June Durr – Westchester Resident - spoke in support of Item G, Discussion Calendar Item 1.
Richard Hofmeister – Westchester Resident – submitted written testimony and photographic exhibits in support of Item G, Discussion Calendar Item 1.
Heather Lemmon – Westchester Resident – donated her 2 minutes to Linda Kokelaar.
Linda Kokelaar – Westchester Resident - spoke in support of Item G, Discussion Calendar Item 1.
Deanna Robinson – Westchester Resident - spoke in support of Item G, Discussion Calendar Item 1.
Douglas Silkin – Westchester Resident - spoke in support of Item G, Discussion Calendar Item 1.

- Clarence Griffin – NC LMU Representative – LMU looked at 8 sites on the campus, none of which were acceptable so they looked at other options. Building a sound wall was considered; the best proposal was to encapsulate the center, however, that would cost \$3,000,000 and no money was available to build a new structure for this purpose. LMU has been working with community but as of this time, no mutual agreement has been reached. No permit has ever been required by Building & Safety.

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1. Motion to recommend that LMU work with neighbors to resolve impacts of the LMU recycling center (Ehlers) – Doug Ehlers made a Motion to “recommend that LMU work with the residential homeowner groups in resolving the negative impacts caused by the LMU Recycling and Waste Processing Facilities in order to address the health and safety issues of air and noise pollution, objectionable odors, rodent and insect infestation, unsightly and unsanitary conditions that are a health hazard and not compatible to residential neighborhoods in R-1 Zones” Kathy Santos seconded the Motion.

David Voss made a Friendly Amendment that the Amendment be edited to “recommend that LMU *continue to* work with the residential homeowner groups in resolving the negative impacts caused by the LMU Recycling and Waste Processing Facilities in order to address the health and safety issues.” The FA was accepted by the Maker and Second.

Sibyl Buchanan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Steve Donell, Don Doyle, Doug Ehlers, Tom Flintoft, Terry Issac, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Nancy Niles, John Ramey, John Ruhlen, Denny Schneider, Frances Stronks, Mary Taylor and David Voss voted Yea. Stephen Bentley and Kathy Santos voted Nay. With a vote of 17 Yeas and 2 Nays, the Motion passed.

2. Motion to approve various committee mission statements (Stronks) – a matrix off the NC Committee statements was distributed. Geoff Maleman made a Motion to approve the statements as submitted with one change to the Elections Committee statement. The first word should be corrected from “Insure” to “Ensure.” David Coffin seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

3. Motion to approve the expenditure of approximately \$3,000 for promotional items with the NCWPDR logo to be used at stakeholder registration booths (Buchanan) as “give away” item. Sibyl Buchanan made the Motion as stated. Mary Taylor seconded the Motion. Steve Donell made a Friendly Amendment to change the Motion to “Motion to approve the expenditure of approximately \$3,000 for promotion items with the NCWPDR logo to be used as appropriate. The FA was accepted by the Maker and Second. The Motion passed unanimously.

4. Motion to approve the expenditure of \$1,690.91 to pay for additional unanticipated printing costs (2 additional pages) from the first newsletter (Buchanan) Sibyl Buchanan made the Motion as state. Steven Bently seconded the Motion. Steve Donell made a Friendly Amendment that the Motion be changed to “Motion to approve the expenditure of \$1,669.91 to Presipo Printing to pay for additional, unanticipated, printing costs from the first newsletter. The FA was accepted by the Maker and the Second. The Motion passed unanimously.

5. Motion to approve the expenditure of approximately \$7,500 for general outreach efforts, for advertising in the local media and for printing of additional brochures, etc. (Buchanan) David Voss made the Motion as stated. Geoff Maleman seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

6. Motion to approve the expenditure of approximately \$16,000 for two newsletter publications. For each publication 20,000 newsletters will be distributed to residences and an additional 500 will be kept on hand for various outreach opportunities (Buchanan) Sibyl Buchanan made the Motion as stated. Mary Taylor seconded the Motion.

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Stephen Bentley, Sibyl Buchanan, Judith Ciancimino, David Coffin, Steve Donell, Don Doyle, Tom Flintoft, Clarence Griffin, Terry Issac, Patricia Lyon, Geoff Maleman, Nancy Niles, John Ramey, John Ruhlen, Kathy Santos, Denny Schneider, Frances Stronks, Mary Taylor and David Voss voted Yea. Doug Ehlers voted Nay. With a vote of 19 Yeas and 1 Nay, the Motion passed.

7. Motion to approve approximately \$6,000 for distribution of the two newsletters referenced in item 6 above by walking man and placed in plastic bags and hung on doorknobs or gates, whenever possible (Buchanan) After Board discussion, the Motion was withdrawn.

8. Motion to approve a modification of the NCWPDR Outreach budget sub line items as needed to accommodate the four motions of the Membership/ Marketing committee and the expenditures set forth therein (Donell) Steve Donell made the Motion as stated. Geoff Maleman seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

9. Motion to appoint additional committee members – no requests were submitted.

10. Motion to formally appoint members to the CDO (Community Design Overlay) Ad-hoc Committee – the names of Karen Kanter, Pat Lyon, Stephen Bentley, John Ruhlen and James Ferro were submitted. Geoff Maleman made a Motion to approve the new Committee members. Frances Stronks seconded the Motion. Geoff Maleman made a Friendly Amendment to add the name of Heather Lemmon to the Committee. The FA was accepted by the Maker and Second. The Motion passed unanimously.

11. Motion to approve letter of support for other community improvement projects – no requests were received.

Item H: Committee Reports:

Standing Committees

1. Airport Relations - David Voss – the Committee discussed writing a newsletter about airport issues. This committee will be working with the Communications Committee on this project.

2. Budget & Finance - Steve Donell (**Approval of Treasurer's Report**) – a report was distributed. As of July 31, there was \$80,213 in assets. He is awaiting new forms from DONE and will schedule new Committee meeting after they are received. Sibyl Buchanan made a Motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Geoff Maleman seconded the Motion. The Motion passed unanimously.

3. Bylaws - David Voss – the Committee did not meet in July. The next meet is scheduled for 8.16.07.

4. Communications - David Coffin – no report was given.

5. Education – Denny Schneider for Terry Marcellus – there is a growing movement to force issues with respect to improving our schools; the UTA is holding a demonstration this Saturday, August 11, at Lincoln and Manchester. Bright Star is going forward with their plans to place a high school at Wright Middle School. The LMU Partnership is still in the planning stages; the next meet will be on Saturday, 8.11 from 9AM to 11am at LMU.

6. Elections - Cozette Vergari – was not available. Mike Arias reported that he and Cozette have scheduled a meeting with the President of del Rey NC to resolve border issues. If the issues cannot be resolved the next step is to ask DONE for a resolution.

7. Governmental Affairs/City Services - John Ramey – drafted a Mission statement at July meeting.

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8. Membership/Marketing - Sibyl Buchanan – last weekend Mary Taylor and Sibyl Buchanan staffed booths at Playa Vista events. Sibyl asked for volunteers to staff a booth at the AMCS "Jet to Jetty" event.
9. Planning & Land Use - James Ferro – not available, no report was given.
10. Public Safety - Doug Ehlers – Kathy Santos is investigating solar street lighting for areas in Westchester with no street lighting; the cost is approximately \$5,000.

Ad Hoc Committees

1. Lincoln Streetscape - Stephen Bentley – Landscape plans call for the same trees on both sides of the Lincoln. Decron representatives met with representatives of Lincoln Streetscape and CalTrans in an effort to coordinate all the projects currently happening on Lincoln.
2. Sepulveda Streetscape - John Ruhlen – there was a groundbreaking on 7.26 for the BID, which became final same day. A meeting is scheduled for 8.18 10AM in the Community Room of the Municipal Building regarding the CDO the schedule for construction on Sepulveda.

City/Neighborhood Council Committees

1. LANC Congress - Robert Dalton/Judith Ciancimino (alt.) – not available, no report was given.
2. City Planning Task Force - David Gray; James Ferro (alt.) – not available, no report was given.
3. NC Alliance - _____/_____
4. Mayor's Budget Day - Denny Schneider/Bill Ballerini (alt.) the next meeting is scheduled for Thursday 8.9 6:30PM.
5. City Attorney Legal Liaison - David Voss – nothing to report.
6. LADWP MOU - John-David Webster – not available, no report was given.
7. NC 912 Commission - Robert Dalton – not available – Executive Committee, headed by David Coffin, will gather comments to make to the Commission on their report.

Item I. President's Discussion Items or Comments

1. Establishment of Policies and Procedures Handbook
2. Community event - open discussion
3. Board to approve committee missions/scope of work – all remaining committees should send them in time for next meeting.
4. Agenda posting locations – research ongoing – Washington Mutual Bank (formerly Commercial Capitol Bank) will no longer allow the posting of agenda on their windows. We are still seeking more high traffic, posting locations; suggestions are welcome.
5. 2007-2008 Community Beautification Grant Applications –

Item J. Other Items:

1. Report on ML Crockett Library project (Lyon) – on August 23, at 11AM, the Library Commission will meet at the Westchester Library. Naming the meeting room on behalf of MLC will be on the agenda. David Voss asked that the City Council remove the discussion from Library Commission and send it to City Council to name the entire library after MLC because the process was begun prior to the changing of rules regarding naming the building, not just room. The public was encouraged to attend the meeting and comment.

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

Item K. Announcements:

1. BONC meetings are now held on the 1st Tuesday at 6:30 p.m. and every 3rd Thursday of the month at 6:00 p.m.
2. Next NCWPDR Board meeting: September 4, 2007 at 6:30 p.m.
3. Please attend NCRC Workshops if possible
4. Other announcements

8.23 – Marion Blakley, the head of the FAA will be at the LAX Marriott to speak regarding airport expansion. The public is encourage to attend.

Item L. Adjournment – the meeting was adjourned at 8:55PM.

Submitted by: Judith A. Ciancimino