

NCWP Board Meeting
APPROVED MINUTES
Submitted by Geoff Maleman

Tuesday, April 6, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.
Via Zoom

Present:, Gregg Aniolek, Scott Carni, Michele Cooley-Strickland, Tom Flintoft, Paula Gerez, Ted Grose, George Herrera, Andrew Kamm, Jennifer Kingshott, John Logsdon, Geoff Maleman, Chip Mallek, David Mannix, Dennis Miller, Fred Puza, Julie Ross, Glenda Silva, Zach Siglow, Garrett Smith, Cord Thomas, Heather Tuttle, David Voss, Naomi Waka, Andrew Watkins, Sylvia Wilson

Absent: Brian Lockwood,

Excused:

1. **Call to Order – President Gerez called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.**
2. **Salute the Flag – President Gerez led the flag salute**
3. **Board Member Introductions**
4. **Consent Calendar:** *(The following items will be treated as one item and enacted with one vote unless a Board member or a stakeholder requests that an item be placed on the Discussion Calendar.)*

- 1 Approval of Minutes of previous Board meeting.
2. Receive and file the Treasurer’s Report and MER for February 2021.
3. Motion to accept resignation of Naomi Waka as Treasurer.
4. ~~Motion to move Brian Lockwood from the Residential District 15 Seat and appoint him to the Residential District 13 Seat since he has moved during his tenure.~~
5. ~~Motion to appoint Brian Lockwood as Treasurer.~~
6. ~~Motion to appoint Chip Mallek to the Residential District 15 Seat.~~
7. ~~Motion to appoint Chip Mallek to the Public Safety Committee.~~
8. ~~Motion to oppose the proposal by the City’s Chief Administrative Officer (Rich Llewellyn), to raise the fee for a citizen (or a community group, such as an HOA) to file an appeal of any city land use (or Building & Safety) decision, from the current \$89 to the discriminatory amount of \$16,097. This amount that has no basis in reality will prohibit the majority of stakeholders in the City of Los Angeles from having meaningful access to any city land use appeal procedure. [Council File 09-0969-S3](#) It has been passed by — Bel Air Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council (modified version), Del Rey Neighborhood Council (modified version), Mar Vista Community Council (modified version), Pacific Palisades Community Council, Westside Neighborhood Council, Westwood Neighborhood Council. [Background included here](#)~~

Items struck out initially appeared on the Consent Calendar, but were called special and moved to the Discussion Calendar

M/S Smith/Maleman to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion passes unanimously. Silva abstaining.

5. Presentations

- a. Councilman Mike Bonin spoke re: his recent Motion “Addressing our homelessness crisis requires a wide range of solutions, applied urgently and simultaneously, targeting different populations and focusing a variety of resources, across the City of Los Angeles” and related matters. The Motion is currently pending in the Homelessness and Poverty Committee. [The entire motion can be read here under Council File 21-0350.](#)

Marcia Hanscom spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and in opposition to using local parks and beaches to house the homeless

Annie Shrake spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and in opposition to using local parks to house the homeless

Mark Gardner spoke in opposition to Councilman Bonin's proposal

Wendy Zacuto spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and expressed support for the proposed safe camping program

Jennifer Buscher spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and expressed support for them

Annette Gussmack spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and expressed support for them

Tom Brewster spoke on behalf of the tennis community at Westchester Park re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and expressed safety concerns for seniors, children and those who use the park

Mike Klesic of Playa Property Prep spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said the strategy is wrong and that more focus should be placed on mental health services

Wild Lovely One spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said more focus should be placed on mental health services

Anna M spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and opposed allowing the homeless to camp on the beaches and parks

Amy Hallenbrook spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said many of the people who are homeless are local, not from outside the area

MB Blakey spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she wants to get solutions in place as soon as possible

Kevin McGuire spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said introducing more homeless people to the area will not solve problem and the city should not burden the taxpayers with this solution.

Chad spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and asked how Councilman Bonin prioritizes drug addicted, mentally ill people over hard-working taxpayers

Shelly Barber spoke re: how beautiful park has turned into a garbage dump at Westchester Park, wants to remove the homeless from the park

Lizzie spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and expressed support for them, adding that the homeless are lovely people who need a safe place to live

Fred Smith spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said there is no plan for the homeless people living on Culver Boulevard and more emphasis should be put on mental health services

Sara Kay spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and asked what we can do about the people who continually refuse housing

Matt Lipschutz spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said there is only a Band-Aid solution without security or police

Julie Zaller spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said Westchester Park is not the place for the homeless because kids/seniors need the space for recreation, the pool, the Senior Center, etc.

Sean O'Brien spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said the homeless issue is not a housing issue, but rather a drug and mental health issues

Colleen Francisco spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said while on the tennis courts she and her child had urine and feces thrown at them

Allan Parsons spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said Bonin has broken promises regarding the homeless issues and endangered community safety

Alfredo Hernandez of Votetripling.org spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he supports his plan

Robert H spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said many of the people who are homeless are not from the State of California

Sara Chapman spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said we need to deal with the homeless people who are already here and this plan does not go far enough in providing safe places.

Pam Schmidt spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said the homeless need respect and we are in this position because we have said no to so many things and said she supports the Councilman's plan.

Lisa Schwab spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said city funds are being misdirected and we need to focus more on crime and drug issues.

Treva Miller spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she supports his plan, but opposes camping in the parks

Russell Stone spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he supports his plan, but would like the homeless out of the park

Scott G spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he opposes the plan and wants to keep the homeless off the beaches and the bike path

Dorothy Stone spoke re:

Eric Laykin of Homeless Help America spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he opposes his plan and added that taxpayers shouldn't bear the burden

Jess Echverry of SOFESA spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she supports his plan, but wants to create programs that move people through the process ... she added that a park should be a park and that boundaries should be set while we help people

Nina's iPad Pro spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he opposes his plan and expressed concerns about safety and security, adding that this is a waste of tax dollars

Justin Gordon's wife spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she opposes his plan because beaches and parks should be reserved for kids, especially low-income people who need a safe place to go

Jana Koppula spoke re: spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she supports his plan

Mary Jean Treese spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she opposes his plan

Alexandria Zech spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she opposes his plan because it is just a short-term fix for a long-term problem and that there is currently no incentive for people to get off the streets.

Thomas Farr spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he opposes the plan to put the homeless in parks and on the beaches.

Writing spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she opposes the plan and said crime is skyrocketing in areas where the homeless are allowed to camp and added that putting the homeless on the beach will ruin the beaches for low-income visitors

Andrew spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he opposes the plan and that lawlessness should be disincentivized

Beth Rubenstein spoke re: spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she opposes the plan because homeless people in the park are not obeying the law and added that Section 8 housing does not work

CJ Cole of Venice Neighborhood Council spoke re: spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she opposes the plan ... she asked why we can't move the homeless to federal land instead of moving them to the beach

Stephanie Popescu spoke re: spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she supports the plan

M. Ahmanise Sanati spoke re: spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she supports the plan

Lorin Michaels spoke re: spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she is concerned about what happens when people choose not to take advantage of housing and how the city will get funding to enforce the laws ... she urged the homeless to be concentrated in industrial areas

Carey spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she supports affordable housing to right the wrongs of redlining and supports safe camping programs

Penny Neroni spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said temporary housing in Venice has created lots of violence, and people exposing themselves and defecating in the neighborhood

Alex Reynolds spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said parks are now unsafe because of the homeless ... adding please protect our community, this is not the answer

Ilan David spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said the neighborhood has become a place no one wants to live and Councilman Bonin is selling out our beaches and taking away what little nature we have left on the Westside

Elizabeth Etienne spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said drug addiction and mental illness are the biggest issues ... housing won't work unless mental illness and drug addiction are addressed

Kathe Bass spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said her concern is more and more drug addictions and related crime. I don't feel safe in Westchester anymore. My neighbors are armed to protect themselves and we can't even go to the park.

Lisa Redmond spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she supports his plan and encouraged the NCWP to write a CIS to support it.

Tyler Ray spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said Prop HHH has generated no positive outcomes

Denise George spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said taxpayers pay the bills and they want results. There are other places to house people instead of the beach. It is unbearable what taxpayers are going through right now and it's not fair.

Debra Xanthos spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she supports the safe camping program, adding that she's concerned about the lack of affordable housing

Beth Holden Garland spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said public spaces are for the public and for children. It has become a war zone. We need better solutions than public spaces

Lucy Han of Friends of the Jungle spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she opposes moving the homeless to our beaches

Ben spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he has never felt unsafe in the encampments, adding that housing is controlled by wealthy landlords.

Chris Russell spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he supports new housing and added that it's critical to add enforcement and protection wherever housing and shelters are located.

evagreene spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said the city and county are broke and agreements with developers should be cancelled and seek better solutions. Beware of Councilman Bonin and Mayor Garcetti's promises.

Gwen Vuchsas spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said we have a shortage of police officers and the community is not safe without a plan and patrols.

Joel Markman spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said he opposes the plan

Dana Gray spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said the city has squandered the millions and millions of dollars taxpayers have raised to address homeless issues.

Carol Reynes spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and said she opposes the safe camping program because promises have not been kept in Venice where new encampments have sprung up around the Bridge Housing

The board asked questions of Councilman Mike Bonin

Chip Mallek spoke re: Councilman Bonin's proposed homeless solutions and asked about the cooperation of adjacent cities in addressing the homeless issue.

6. Announcements from Government Representatives

- a. LAX Liaison for Councilman Mike Bonin: **Geoff Thompson** geoff.thompson@lacity.org spoke re: the ATMP project DEIR and the Neighborhood Council's request for additional information and said that information will be forthcoming soon.

7. Announcements/Committee Reports from Board Members

Logsdon (Public Safety) said SLOs spoke at the last meeting and gave a crime and street racing update. The committee will meet again in May.

Waka (Election) announced the committee plans to hold a candidate forum and a blitz of outreach to let people know about the candidates. **Vote-By-Mail Application Period:** April 9, 2021 to June 1, 2021 Mailed ballots must be postmarked by Election Day (June 8) and received by the City Clerk's Election Division within 10 business days thereafter (June 18); **Election Day:** June 8, 2021 (Ballot Drop Off Day) and added that all ballots will be cast by mail only and stakeholders will have to request ballots in order to vote.

Puza (LMU) spoke re: campus is closed to the public but will slowly be reopening with the hope of being fully open in the fall. He added that Commencement in May will be virtual, so no on-campus celebration.

8. Discussion Calendar and Related Public Comment

4. Motion to move Brian Lockwood from the Residential District 15 Seat and appoint him to the Residential District 13 Seat since he has moved during his tenure.

(called Special by Thomas)

M/S Cooley-Strickland/Grose to approve the motion. Motion passes unanimously. Puza and Silva abstaining.

5. Motion to appoint Brian Lockwood as Treasurer.

(called Special by Thomas)

M/S Kingshott/Grose to approve the motion. Motion passes unanimously. Puza and Silva abstaining.

6. Motion to appoint Chip Mallek to the Residential District 15 Seat.

(called Special by Thomas)

M/S Maleman/Grose to approve the motion. Motion passes 16-2 (AYES: Aniolek, Carni, Cooley-Strickland, Flintoft, Grose, Herrera, Kingshott, Logsdon, Maleman, Mannix, Miller, Ross, Siglow, Smith, Thomas, Watkins. NAYS: Tuttle, Wilson). Puza, Silva Waka abstaining.

7. Motion to appoint Chip Mallek to the Public Safety Committee.

(called Special by Thomas)

M/S Cooley-Strickland/Kingshott to approve the motion. Motion passes 16-1 (AYES: Aniolek, Carni, Cooley-Strickland, Flintoft, Grose, Herrera, Kingshott, Logsdon, Maleman, Mannix, Miller, Ross, Siglow, Smith, Thomas, Watkins. NAYS: Tuttle). Puza, Silva, Waka, Wilson abstaining.

8. Motion to oppose the proposal by the City's Chief Administrative Officer (Rich Llewellyn), to raise the fee for a citizen (or a community group, such as an HOA) to file an appeal of any city land use (or Building & Safety) decision, from the current \$89 to the discriminatory amount of \$16,097. This amount that has no basis in reality will prohibit the majority of stakeholders in the City of Los Angeles from having meaningful access to any city land use appeal procedure. [Council File 09-0969-S3](#) It has been passed by – Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council (modified version), Del Rey Neighborhood Council (modified version),

Mar Vista Community Council (modified version), Pacific Palisades Community Council, Westside Neighborhood Council, Westwood Neighborhood Council.
[Background included here](#)

(called Special by Aniolek)

M/S Aniolek/Miller to approve the motion. Motion passes unanimously. Puza and Silva abstaining.

9. **Public Comment** (*non-agenda items*)

Dana Gray spoke to thank the NCWP for the meeting

10. **Adjourn – President Gerez adjourned the meeting at 10:26 p.m.**

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 4, 2021 – 6:30 p.m.