

**NCWP Board Special Meeting
MINUTES**

Submitted by Geoff Maleman

Tuesday, July 1, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.
*@ CD11 Community Room
7166 Manchester Ave., Los Angeles 90045*

Present: Gregg Aniolek, Nicole Carcel, Paula Gerez, Al Hernandez, Sarah Howard, Jack Hughes, Jennifer Kingshott, John Logsdon, Geoff Maleman, Chip Mallek, Dennis Miller, Kevin O'Brien, Fred Puza, Alexandra Reynolds, Julie Ross, Garrett Smith, Theresa Torrance

Absent: Debra Huston, Jessica Lesley, Greg Melton

Excused: Steve Donell, Thomas Flintoft, Matt Lipschutz, Dan Mohler, David Voss, Casey Yeazel, Julie Zaller

1. **Call to Order – Vincent Autiero, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment at 6:39 p.m.**

2. **Salute the Flag**

3. **Roll Call**

1. Call of the roll and certification of a quorum

4. **Special Orders**

1. Installation of newly-elected Board of Directors (Oath of Office)

2. Election of new Executive Officers:

1. President nominations

M/S Maleman/Kingshott to approve Paula Gerez as the NCWP President. Motion passes unanimously (16-0). (AYES: Aniolek, Gerez, Hernandez, Howard, Hughes, Kingshott, Logsdon, Maleman, Mallek, Miller, O'Brien, Puza, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance. Nays: None. Francis abstaining)

2. Vice President/Vice Chair:

M/S Gerez/Kingshott to approve Steve Donell as the NCWP Vice President.

Donell was not in attendance to accept, so President Gerez announced that this motion will be discussed at the next NCWP meeting.

3. Recording Secretary:

M/S Smith/Torrance to approve Geoff Maleman as the NCWP Recording Secretary. Motion passes unanimously (15-0). (AYES: Aniolek, Hernandez, Howard, Hughes, Kingshott, Logsdon, Maleman, Mallek, Miller, O'Brien, Puza, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance. Nays: None. Francis abstaining)

4. Corresponding Secretary:

M/S Kingshott/Torrance to approve Garrett Smith as the NCWP Corresponding Secretary. Motion passes unanimously (15-0). (AYES: Aniolek, Hernandez, Howard, Hughes, Kingshott, Logsdon, Maleman, Mallek, Miller, O'Brien, Puza, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance. Nays: None. Francis abstaining)

5. Treasurer:

M/S Gerez/Kingshott to approve Theresa Torrance as the NCWP Treasurer. Motion passes unanimously (15-0). (AYES: Aniolek, Hernandez, Howard, Hughes, Kingshott, Logsdon, Maleman, Mallek, Miller, O'Brien, Puza, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance. Nays: None. Francis abstaining)

3. Appointment of Financial Officers of the Board:

1. Neighborhood Council Bank Card Holder: Paula Gerez
2. Second Signer: Theresa Torrance
3. Alternate Signer: None

M/S Gerez/Kingshott to approve the Financial Officers of the Board listed above. Motion passes unanimously (15-0). (AYES: Aniolek, Hernandez, Howard, Hughes, Kingshott, Logsdon, Maleman, Mallek, Miller, O'Brien, Puza, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance. Nays: None. Francis abstaining)

5. **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 June 3, 2025 Board meeting
2. Receive, approve and file the Treasurer's Report and MER for May 2025
3. Motion to approve initial budget for the NCWP 2025-2026 Fiscal Year Admin Packet.
4. Motion to approve Appointment of Committee Chairs and Members:
 1. Motion to approve the Budget & Finance Committee appointments as follows: Theresa Torrance, Chair, Geoff Maleman and Garrett Smith
 2. Motion to approve the Planning and Land Use Committee appointments as follows: Steve Donell, Chair, Julie Ross, Vice Chair, Kevin O'Brien, Secretary, Tracy Thrower Conyers, Community Member, Cory Birkett, Community Member, Dave Mannix, Community Member
 3. Motion to approve the Public Safety Committee appointments as follows: John Logsdon, Chair, Alexandra Reynolds, Chip Mallek, Theresa Torrance, Jennifer Kingshott, Cyndi Hench, Community Member
 4. Motion to approve the Community Plan Update appointments as follows: Julie Ross, Chair, Chip Mallek, Kevin O'Brien, Sarah Howard, AJ Paz, Community Member, Cory Birkett, Community Member, Tracy Thrower Conyers, Community Member, Stacey Travis, Community Member
 5. Motion to approve the Airport Relations Committee appointments as follows: Julie Ross, Chair, Joshua Francis, LAWA-CD11 Liaison, Jennifer Kingshott, Garrett Smith, David Voss, Jessica Lesley, Dave Mannix, Community Member.
 6. Motion to approve the Government Affairs Committee appointments as follows: Gregg Aniolek as Chair, Thomas Flintoft, Greg Melton, Alex Reynolds and Stacey Travis, Community Member
 7. Appointment of Westside Regional Alliance of Councils Seats to the Board, to be President and alternate to be Theresa Torrance. LUPC to be Tracy Thrower Conyers. HOC to be Alex Reynolds. MTC to be Tracy Thrower Conyers.
 8. Motion to authorize the President to speak on all previously passed NCWP Board positions, including but not limited to media interviews, written editorials to local newspapers, to the Los Angeles City Council, Los Angeles City Mayor, Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors, State and Federal elected representatives.

Highlighted items were called Special and discussed as part of the Discussion Calendar.

M/S Maleman/Torrance to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion passes unanimously (14-0). (AYES: Aniolek, Hernandez, Howard, Hughes, Kingshott, Logsdon, Maleman, Mallek, Miller, O'Brien, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance. Nays: None. Francis and Puza abstaining)

6. **Announcements from Governmental Representative** (limit to 3 minutes please)

Trey Grogan, Councilmember Park's Office/Airport Liaison, spoke re: Westchester Park event that got out of hand; surveillance camera installations at Senior Center/Park; Extended Stay Hotel update; ED1 and the recent Virtual Town Hall meeting; vehicle dwelling updates and pilot program at Playa Vista; impounded RV operations; and new parking signage around Bristol Farms.

Aurelia Freidman of Congressman Ted Lieu's Office spoke re: Youth Advisory Council applications now open; service academy info day will be held on August 23 at Wiseburn; Congressman is opposed to the "Big, Beautiful Bill" and troubled by the recent ICE raids; introduced HR4187 re: hate crime prevention; introduced HRes533 re: refugees and displaced persons (aurelia.friedman@mail.house.gov)

Nicole Carcel of LAWA introduced LAWPD senior lead officer Julio Aparicio who promoted LAWAPD's Cars, Cops & Cups event on July 20 and provided an introduction of Josh Francis, LAWA's new Community Relations Director.

Josh Francis of LAWA provided the following update: (JFRANCIS@lawa.org)

New LAWA Director of Community Relations

Los Angeles World Airports is excited to welcome **Josh Francis** to the team as our new Director of Community Relations. Josh brings nearly a decade of experience in strategic communications, public affairs, and community outreach. Most recently, he served as a Project Manager at Arellano Associates, where he led high-impact public sector engagement campaigns throughout Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties. His work supported major transportation infrastructure projects for agencies such as LA Metro, City of Los Angeles, Metrolink, and the Riverside County Transportation Commission. Josh's expertise includes building community partnerships with key stakeholder organizations, coordinating events, and developing both traditional and digital outreach and marketing strategies to drive community engagement. Before joining Arellano Associates, Josh worked as a reporter for several publications, including the Orange County Register and The Forum in Fargo, North Dakota. He holds a degree in history and journalism from North Dakota State University.

Smarte Carte Retrievals

Thank you to Paula, who shared locations where Smarte Cartes were present. Communication was sent to the Smarte Carte team regarding the carts. All of the locations were scouted, and carts were picked up. Smarte Carte does off airport sweeps twice a day. Typically, one with their truck and one with a packmule. The truck generally handles the longer routes that go deeper into the local neighborhoods and shopping areas. The Packmule route typically handles the closer area hotels, bus stops and local business areas around Century Blvd. If you would like to report carts please call 310-568-8915 or email laxap@smartecarte.com to advise of cart location.

Terminal B: New Construction Barricades

To facilitate construction of the new Chase Sapphire Lounge in Terminal B near Gate 148 and the Gateway Tunnel to the West Gates at Tom Bradley, construction barricades are being installed on Level 4. Once complete, work on the new lounge will take place behind these barricades to minimize disruption to the traveling public. Construction of the Chase Sapphire Lounge is expected to be complete in 2026.

Summer Holiday Travel

LAX is preparing for the busy summer travel period, projected to kick off this holiday weekend. The airport is expecting sustained periods of increased passenger and vehicle traffic from July 4th to Labor Day. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) projects over 18.5 million travelers will pass through the nation's airport security checkpoints from July 1-7, with Sunday, July 6 expected to be the peak travel day with approximately 2.9 million passengers nationwide.

Plan Ahead Before Traveling

Check the status of a flight before arriving at the airport. If the reservation allows, utilize online check-in options. Meeting someone? Check the status and arrival terminal of the flight before heading to the airport. LAX provides real-time traffic and parking information at Parking and traffic updates are available 24/7 via the automated **@FlyLAXstats X** (formerly Twitter) feed. Curbside pickup and drop off is permitted on the Upper/Departures and Lower/Arrivals levels. All parking structures are free for the first 15 minutes. Two cell phone waiting lots are open and provide a space for drivers to wait in their vehicles until passengers are ready to be picked up from the terminal curb. This helps reduce traffic volume around the Central Terminal Area. The lots are located at 96th Street & Alverstone Avenue, and 96th Street & Vicksburg Avenue. Transit, taxi, rideshare and other ground transportation information can be found at flylax.com.

Community Relations partnership with LAX Order Now System

Enjoy 25% off LAX Order Now (foodservice at lax) with code LAXCMTY25. This code is good all year and can be used during multiple visits (laxordernow.com).

LAX Celebrates Local High School Students

LAWA Community Relations hosted the 2025 LAX Kiwanis Scholarship Luncheon at the Flight Path Museum. The LAX Kiwanis Club was founded in 1954 and has awarded over 1 Million dollars in scholarships thanks to their annual golf tournament. The well-deserving high school seniors, along with renewal applicants were recognized. The scholarship opportunity not only provides financial assistance, but also the chance for students to engage with community and civic leaders. Like the Kiwanis Club, LAWA is committed to improving and supporting our neighborhoods while connecting communities. Thank you to the LAX Kiwanis members, LAWA Deputy Executive Director of External Affairs Vanessa Rodriguez and Trey Grogan with Los Angeles City Councilmember Park for joining the celebration. Congratulations to all of the scholarship winners on this extraordinary achievement.

Westchester 4th of July Parade

The LAWA Community Relations team, Airport Police and world-renowned PUPs look forward to seeing you on Friday!

National Night Out 2025

See you at Pacific Division's event on Tuesday, August 5th. If you happen to be flying that day stop by Terminal 1 (Southwest) between Gates 17 and 18 for a fun-filled NNO event.

7. Announcements from Board Members

Carcel (LAWA) spoke introducing the new director of Community Relations, Joshua Francis, who took over her appointed LAWA seat on the NCWP.

Puza (LMU) spoke re: the university hosting the LA Rams Training Camp; Shakespeare on the Bluff; Movie Night; Afternoon of Wellness 3-5pm at Emerson Avenue Community Garden; and LMU sign replacement project (the geyser will remain the same). Event info can be found at www.lmu.edu/summer

Kingshott spoke re: annual Playa Vista Yard Sale will be held at Concert Park Saturday, October 4

Gerez announced NCWP is seeking a new member for the LMU Neighborhood Advisory Committee

8. Presentations

1. Star of the Neighborhood

1. Congratulations to community volunteer Stephan Baum-Harvey, who has been named the 2025 NCWP Star of the Neighborhood and will be honored during the

annual Westchester Fourth of July Parade. The purpose of the award is to identify and honor those unsung heroes of our community who quietly, persistently and without fanfare voluntarily perform good deeds that serve the needs of their neighbors and/or the community, and Stephen certainly fits the bill! Stephan Baum-Harvey is a lifelong resident of Westchester and a dedicated community volunteer, deeply invested in the safety and well-being of the Westchester/Playa area. A graduate of WISH Academy High School in Westchester, Stephan is currently pursuing a Master of Business Administration (MBA) at Loyola Marymount University. Stephan has contributed countless hours to a variety of non-profit organizations, with a strong focus on public safety, neighborhood engagement, and campus safety. He has worked with volunteer teams to implement new technologies for real-time incident alerting, and actively works to provide real-time incident alerts to the public and local neighborhood watch groups, helping keep residents informed and prepared. Stephan's involvement in campus safety initiatives includes supporting projects to improve emergency readiness and create safer environments for students and staff. He was recently honored with the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for his ongoing commitment and service. Beyond his public safety efforts, Stephan is a local photographer who documents emergency personnel, local responders, and volunteers, regularly capturing community events and highlighting the positive impact they have on the community. He is also an experienced software developer, consistently exploring and adopting new technologies to improve emergency communications, public safety, and community outreach. Stephan remains passionate about leveraging both technology and collaboration to build a stronger, safer Westchester/Playa. He looks forward to continuing his work alongside fellow volunteers, developing innovative solutions, and making a meaningful difference in the community for years to come.

2. Congratulations to the other local residents who were nominated by their neighbors for this annual award:
 1. Jessica Trainham
When she's not lighting up the screen on General Hospital, Jessica operates a local home organizing business for citizens of Playa del Rey and beyond. She volunteers her services for free for elderly and young mothers in Cross Creek. She also donates her clients' unwanted items to foster youth and is often seen cleaning Toes Beach and Cross Creek litter.
 2. Alison White
Alison is a Star of the Neighborhood because she generously gives of herself to so many of the community here. She helped start the current Neighborhood Watch chat that she and her neighbors use to monitor crime in their neighborhood. She works directly with the police and community to do community patrols, as well. Alison also works to beautify the community with projects that add value to our neighborhood, has supported Palisades families in their move here, and does a lot of volunteer work in the community with her daughter, Peyton. Alison also is a regular sponsor of events at the Westchester Family YMCA that benefit the entire community.
 3. Tina Vanderjag
Tina serves as the director of garden management at the Emerson Community Garden, a one-acre portion of the campus of Orville Wright Middle School that has been turned into a sustainable, organic food garden and green space shared by the school and the public at large for the purposes of education and community building. She also served on the Board of directors of Westchester Mental Health Guild and volunteers at Airport Marina Counseling Service, a community mental health clinic provides affordable mental health services as well as quality training to therapists. To top it all off, Tina's house is known as one of the best Christmas light displays in town!

4. Cory Birkett (one of last year's winners)
As a longtime member of the Community Plan Update Ad Hoc committee of the Neighborhood Council, Cory has given untold hours of service to protect residential zoning for our neighborhoods. "Fighting to protect Westchester's character as predominantly single-family neighborhoods is arguably the biggest issue facing Westchester and its Neighborhood Council," said her nominator." Cory is undeniably a leader in this fight and continues to provide critical research and analysis. She most certainly deserves recognition for her efforts to improve and enhance our community.
5. Maria Reilly
Maria regularly knits blankets for babies in the hospital as part of the Westchester-Playa Community Welcome blanket project at the library. This program helps new immigrants and refugees and recently had a display at LAX. Maria often invites people to participate with her in neighborhood happenings from the Knights of Columbus Fish Frys on Manchester and volleyball at the rec center to musicals at St. Anastasia. She can be found walking everywhere in the neighborhood and is a true asset to have in the community raising her family and involved in so many facets of Westchester!

9. Discussion Calendar and related public comment

1. Motion to re-approve NPG from Airport Marina Counseling Services (AMCS) in the amount of \$2,000 for print advertising from June 3, 2025 meeting that missed the FY 2024-2025 deadline.

Maleman announced that he had a conflict of interest regarding this item. He left the room and did not participate in the discussion or the vote.

M/S Miller/Kingshott to approve the motion. Motion passes unanimously (13-0). (AYES: Aniolek, Hernandez, Howard, Hughes, Kingshott, Logsdon, Mallek, Miller, O'Brien, Reynolds, Ross, Smith, Torrance. Nays: None. Francis and Puza abstaining)

10. **Public Comment** – non-agenda items *(limited to 1 minute per speaker unless otherwise declared by the President or presiding director. Public comment on agenda items will be called as each agenda item is brought forward.)*

Nico Rutterman of Venice Neighborhood Council spoke re: his campaign for Sen. Ben Allen's seat.

11. **Adjourn** – President Gerez adjourned the meeting at 7:59 p.m.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 5, 2025 – 6:30 p.m.