**North Westwood Neighborhood Council**

**General Monthly Meeting**

**January 9th, 2018 from 7:00 to 10:00pm**

**UCLA Weyburn Commons Village View Room**

**4Th Floor, 11020 Weyburn Dr. Los Angeles CA 90024**

**MINUTES**

**Public Speakers**

Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when that item is being considered and are limited to 1 minute. Comments from the public on other matters, not appearing on the agenda but within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction, will be heard during the General Public Comment period and shall be limited to 2 minutes. Total public comment for each meeting is limited to 5 minutes per speaker. (Time estimates are only approximations as times will vary depending on duration of public comment, board member discussion, and other factors.

**Americans with Disabilities Act**

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**Public Access of Records**

In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at 1424 Westwood Blvd, at our website: https://empowerla.org/nwwnc/ or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact northwestwoodcouncil@gmail.com.

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**January 9th, 2018 from 7:00 to 10:00pm**

**AGENDA**

1. Call-to-order and roll call *(2 minutes)*

Peter Klinco, Katia May, Paul Kurek, Ashraf Beshay, Amir Tarighat, Alex Helmi, Michael Skiles, Christine Green, Wren Reynolds, Gabriel Meza, Melissa Tapia, Andrew Lewis, Grayson Peters, Ryan Snyder, Alisha Ranadive, Josh Trifunovic (Chantelle Eastman arrived from WNNC meeting at Agenda item #9). 15 members of 19 total, quorum met.

1. Review and approval of outstanding minutes for November and December *(5 minutes)*

Michael Skiles moves to approve minutes

No discussion

All vote to approve minutes for 15-0-0

Christian D. Green and Wren Reynolds arrive after roll call

1. Announcements *(10 minutes)*

* Josh Trifunovic to the public
* Have patience, we’re a new council learning on the job
* Please be supportive, help us
* Michael Skiles
* Encourages community to participate in this year’s homelessness count
* Sign-up information will be on the Facebook page

1. Comments by Public Officials *(15 minutes)*

* Carmen Healy, assistant director of UCLA Community and Local Government Relations,
* This Saturday, neighborhood cleanup in the North Village, Strathmore + Gayley @ 1 pm
* Advertises UCLA blood + platelet center
* Sunday 1/28, Women Run LA 5K on campus
* Brief discussion of best point of contact for the UCLA CLGR office, how to best reserve meeting rooms, board members having difficulty getting responses
* Gibson Nyambura from DONE
* Wants to better explain the funding process, will send the funding manual via email
* No neighborhood purpose grants can go to religious organizations, private schools
  + Can only fund free and public events
* Conflict of interest
  + Ask the NC President to speak to the City Attorney if there is a potential conflict of interest regarding any NC funding of other organizations
    - Don’t reach out to the City Attorney individually, let the President be the intermediary
* Serial communication is forbidden
  + Try to only communicate in official NC meetings to avoid Brown Act violations
* Committee meetings
  + Advised to set agendas a week in advance to reserve time for any necessary corrections
* Publish all consistent meeting times and locations online so stakeholders are aware of upcoming meetings
* Advised to use designated public email addresses in the event of public records requests
* Reminded the board of community impact statements (CIS) as a way to provide public input on City Council actions
* Angie from Assemblymember Sydney Kalmager-Dove’s office
* Passed out invitation to the Assemblymember’s swearing-in celebration at 10 AM on 1/26 at the Skylight Studio, 2000 Avenue of the Stars, Century City CA
* Michael moves to table #4, passes unanimously

1. General Public Comment *(10 minutes; 2 minutes per speaker)*

* Joseph Lopez
* State ambassador of Westcal, a 501c3 nonprofit
* Announced intent to apply for a neighborhood purpose grant
* Believe they can help with homelessness, helping students with career paths, tracking students’ success
* Roxanne Stern from the North Village
* In the future, wants the council to do the following:
  + enforce dumping laws in the N. Village which landlords are ignoring
  + Reducing traffic on Strathmore Dr and Weyburn alley
  + Suggests that fraternities be asked to adopt a block
  + Investigate a stop sign at Veteran + Strathmore
* Unnamed member of the public
* Homelessness is a rising crisis in LA
* What’s our plan to deal with it in Westwood?
* Michael encouraged him to reach out to Chantelle, chair of the ad-hoc homelessness committee

1. Standing Committee Reports *(20 minutes)*
   1. Executive Committee
   * Skiles: did not meet
   1. Budget and Finance Committee
   * Lewis: Voted on a budget for the neighborhood council which is agendized for today
   1. Outreach and Communications Committee
   * Trifunovic: discussed admission of Furkan Yalcin to the committee, decided to table the vote until next month
     + Unanimously voted 5-0 that the budget for the initial website design should be up to $5000, though want to spend less, up to $350/mo for maintenance
   1. Planning and Land Use Committee
   * Skiles: committee did not meet this month, may meet next month
   1. The Transportation and Safety Committee
      * Tarighat: one of our jobs is to put out public safety info
        + LAPD is investigating fatal vehicle-pedestrian collision in Westwood, driver detained
          - Investigation pending, LAPD asks for witnesses to come forward
      * Snyder: committee discussed bicycle/bike share/scooter parking
        + Looking at the first/last mile study being done for the Purple Line
        + Want to expand parking opportunities, create some order especially regarding scooter parking
        + Also talked about placemaking, passed 8-0 motion supporting a parklet on Glendon Ave. that the BID will present on later
        + Gayley Ave. bike lanes, other improvements discussed
   2. Elections Committee
   * Ranadive: went over approved election timeline
   * Election will be Thursday May 16th, candidate registration will be Jan 31 - March 4
   * Discussed print + online advertising, asking for budget of $2885
   * Special meeting will be held last week of January
   1. Community Activities and Projects Committee
      * Green: 4 upcoming events
        + New monthly event, March 8 kick-off
          - Highlighting local businesses, met with the BID
        + March 8, April 12, May 11th (mini-block party)
      * Kurek: promoted 1/17 film premiere of LA Metro Project @ UCLA film school
        + Free + public event about imagining LA as a city which prioritizes  public transportation over car culture
   * Public comment:
     + Steve Sann
       - CAP committee wasn’t properly publicized
       - Until the website is up and running, consider using an email list to publicize
       - City prohibits use of NC funds for alcohol, problematic to advertise individual businesses w/o letting others bid fairly
       - Don’t only deal with the BID, plenty of businesses S. of Wilshire
         * Don’t favor the Village
       - Hammer Museum would be a good event location
     + Furkan Yalcin
       - Also was unaware that there was a CAP meeting today, is on the committee
     + Snyder: transport committee will meet at Kerckhoff 316, every first Tuesday at 6:30 PM
   * Skiles motions to move items 7 and 10 until after 11, have to set budget first, Snyder seconds, passes unanimously
2. Setting Time/Place/Budget for Future Board and Committee Meetings *(20 minutes)*

* (picked back up after agenda item 11)
* Skiles: meetings will remain on first Wednesdays, next meeting on February 6th, at the Weyburn Village View Room

1. Nomination and Confirmation of Committee members *(10 minutes)*

* Non-present
  + UCLA professor Juan Matute for the transport + safety committee
  + Ajwang Rading, UCLA law student, for the land use committee
  + Skiles moves to make these two confirmations, Tapia seconds, no discussion or comment
  + All vote yes except 1 abstention (don’t know the #s), confirmations made at 8:05 pm
* Present
  + Luca Robielle for outreach + comms committee
    - Recent Westwood resident, works for the LA 2020 Olympic + Paralympic organizing committee
      * Political communications professional, passionate about public service
  + Mara Braciszewski for CAP
    - Community relations director for GSA
    - Wants Westwood to be culturally relevant
    - Wants to do a comprehensive needs analysis of Westwood
  + Michael moves to confirm the two present nominees, seconded
    - Immediate vote, unanimously carries
* Furkan Yalcin for comms + outreach
  + Nomination was tabled, still before our committee
  + Furkan says he has experience with social media content, marketing + branding
  + Skiles: Gabriella withdrew her objection to his appointment, wants to step down from outreach + comms committee to focus on her other spots
  + Skiles moves to appoint Furkan, Snyder seconds
  + Meza leaves the room, recuses herself
  + Brief discussion, Furkan says he wants to serve on both committees, is a Westwood native + cares about the community
  + Trifunovic expresses concerns about his character
  + Reynolds emphasizes that the incident was related to outreach
  + Clinco prefers that we let the committee make the recommendation before we make a decision
  + Skiles: Meza disliked the committee discussion, was misinterpreted as giving an ultimatum, wants the best for the council
  + Trifunovic: the matter still isn’t settled, we should table
  + Snyder: kick it back to the committee, ask for a recommendation
* Snyder moves to table Furkan’s confirmation pending the outreach committee’s recommendation, Trifunovic seconds
* Tarighat suggests we should vote now, we can always bring it back up
* Clinco + Trifunovic disagree
* Peters suggests we respect Meza’s wishes now, just vote on his confirmation to stop wasting time
* Vote to table the appointment pending committee recommendation
  + 4 yes - 8 no -3 abstentions
  + Motion fails
* Vote to confirm Furkan
  + Public comment
    - Mara
      * Meeting needs to progress
  + 8 yes - 3 opposed - 5 abstentions
    - Furkan confirmed at 8:41 pm

Chantelle arrived

1. Discussion and possible action to endorse Fair Workweek La Campaign. (15 minutes)

* Edgar Ortiz, LA Alliance for a New Economy gave a presentation
  + Supports 147,000 retail workers in LA, many of whom suffer from unpredictable schedules
  + Asking NWWNC to support a City policy by signing onto an endorsement letter
  + The policy would mandate that any retail company with more than 300 stores provide workers with 2 weeks advance notice of schedules, require that employers no longer provide their employees with split shifts, require that part-time workers requesting extra hours be offered those hours before another employee is hired
  + Skiles moves that the council express its preliminary enthusiasm for the fair work week LA campaign, Snyder seconds
  + Public comment from a business owner
    - Workers don’t always show up when they’re scheduled, this policy wouldn’t allow businesses to adjust in the event of workers unable to show up because of illness etc.
    - Have a conversation with business owners, she’d love to hire workers who want a consistent schedule
  + Tarighat: how will this affect the decline of brick-and-mortar retail?
    - Response: actually, retail isn’t dying, just slimming, and this policy would strengthen this and reduce worker turnout

* + Vote: 18 support - 1 oppose (Green) - 0 abstentions -> motion expressing initial enthusiasm passes

1. Approval of expenses and reimbursements for selection, outreach, and first, second, and third neighborhood council meeting in Weyburn Commons Village View Room and Ackerman Union *(5 minutes)*

* Amir moves to authorize $500 payment for the last meeting space, Snyder seconds
  + Motion carries unanimously
* Discussion of authorization $500 reimbursement for Facebook advertisements purchased by Joshua Baum
  + Amir puts forth a motion to approve a $500 expense for Facebook ads for outreach from the formation committee
    - Helmi seconds
  + Motion unanimously carries
* Tarighat introduces a special motion to approve reimbursement of Joshua Baum
  + Snyder seconds
  + Motion unanimously carries
* Skiles moves that the council approve that the neighborhood council pay the outstanding invoice to ASUCLA to $900 and the present invoice to UCLA of $900
  + Snyder seconds
  + Motion unanimously carries

1. Discussion and possible action to approve the Neighborhood Council’s budget.

* Skiles yield the floor to Amir Tarighat
  + Explains prior budgetary issues, we now need to come up with a general allocation budget
* Amir Tarighat moves to approve the following budget for the neighborhood council and to authorize him to submit the administrative summary packet of this budget to the City Clerk:
  + Neighborhood purpose grants: $7,000
  + Community improvement projects: $4,300
  + General operational budget total: $30,700
    - Community events and projects: $12,000
    - Transportation committee: $2,000
    - Elections committee: $4,000
    - Meeting space $4,500
    - Outreach committee: 6,000
    - Notes taker: $1,200
    - Miscellaneous line item for committees: $1,000
  + Total budget: $42,000
  + Lewis seconds
  + Discussion
    - Eastman: the WWNC puts more into neighborhood purpose grants and this only allows for 1, maybe two grants since the max is usually $5,000. Our board now oversees two of the grant receivers from the WWNC including the UCLA Food Closet that provides food to students in need, and the BID for their homeless outreach hygiene kits.
    - Tarighat: we’re a new council with one-time capital expenditures, need to spend more developing our infrastructure ex. Website
    - Skiles: operating costs of a council which represents N. Westwood is more expensive that operating a council in S. Westwood
  + Vote to approve the motion 17-1-0 (Eastman opposes), the budget is approved at 9:21 pm

1. Discussion and approval of expenses concerning the development and operation of a website and email domain for the North Westwood Neighborhood Council *(15 minutes)*

* Skiles yields the floor to Trifunovic
  + Trifunovic: potential website addresses are nwnc.org, northwestwood.org
  + Tarighat: purchased westwoodcouncil.com and westwoodcouncil.org before the election, offers them for free to the council
  + Trifunovic moves to approve westwoodcouncil.com as the council’s official domain name
    - Green seconds
    - Chantelle recommends a .org address because other neighborhood councils have .org addresses
    - Skiles moves to amend Trifunovic’s motion to approve westwoodcouncil.*org* with westwoodcouncil.*com* as a redirect
      * Snyder seconds
      * Skiles’s amendment to the motion
      * The amendment passes unanimously
  + Consideration of the motion to adopt westwoodcouncil.org as the official domain name and westwoodcouncil.com as a redirect
    - Public comment
      * Roxanne Stern: the proposed address would be confused with the Westwood Neighborhood Council
    - Eastman moves to call a question, Clinco seconds
      * The question  passes 17-1-0
  + Motion to approve the two domains, westwoodcouncil.org and westwoodcouncil.com. carries 17-1-0
* Tarighat moves to open a namecheap.com account and deposit $100 so that the domains can be transferred
  + Skiles seconds
  + Motion unanimously carries
* Reynolds suggests allowing the funding in the namecheap.com account be used to create a coming soon page and a redirect.
* Skiles moves to postpone this item until the end of the agenda
  + The motion unanimously carries

1. Presentation by the Westwood Village Business Improvement Association and Discussion and possible action taking a position on proposed Glendon Avenue Parklet *(20 minutes)*

* Skiles: The transportation + safety committee unanimously moved to recommend that the council move to support the BID’s application for a parklet on Glendon Ave.
* Representative of the BID explains what a parklet is, asks for the council’s support of the application
* May and Skiles raise concerns about the parklet appearing to only be available to Ministry of Coffee customers
* Snyder: parklets bring life, traffic to the streets
* Skiles: supports the application, it’s the first step in Westwood placemaking
* Skiles moves that the council support the BID’s application for a parklet
  + Discussion
    - Meza raises concerns about hostile architecture in parklets, ex. dividers on benches to prevent homeless individuals from sleeping on them
    - Trifunovic raises concern about loss of parking spots
  + Public comment
    - One of the owners of Ministry of Coffee
      * There is a parking garage right next door, would like to create a space that people can enjoy
        + Could potentially put bird parking on the parklet
    - Chantelle moves to call to question, Meza seconds
      * Carries 16-0-2, (2 abstentions)
  + Motion to support the parklet carries 16-2-0

Skiles moves to table items **14 and 15,** Snyder seconds

* Eastman gives an announcement
  + resigned from WWNC,
  + there is a homeless count on Wednesday, 1/23 at 10 pm - 12 am
    - Volunteers can RSVP at theycountwillyou.org/westwood\_count
* Public comment
  + Mentally ill homeless need special assistance but refuse help. Is there anything in the city to protect them and others? Reported incidents of people feeling unsafe.
    - May: LAPD has a Mobile Mental Health unit
    - Chantelle: there’s a bridge housing proposal, open house at the West LA Amory on 1/29 6:30-7:30 pm. Please feel free to reach out to Chantelle at ceastmanwestwood@gmail.com as chair of the Ad Hoc Homeless Committee to talk more and attend a committee meeting.
* Motion to table items 14 and 15 unanimously carries

1. Discussion of resolution to adjust the food use classifications and parking requirements outlined in the Westwood Village Specific Plan to make them less restrictive (See attached resolution) *(20 minutes) (Tabled)*
2. Discussion and possible action on CIS by board in support of the proposed Bridge Housing at Chabad House located at 741 Gayley Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90024 (Council file: 18-0841-S1) *(10 minutes) (Tabled)*
3. Discussion and possible action on Stand LA campaign against oil drilling in Los Angeles communities.

* Presentation by Ethan Fencer, volunteer with Stand LA, a coalition of community groups whose members live near active oil sites in LA
  + Stand LA asking the city require 2500 ft buffer zones between active drill sites and sensitive areas like hospitals, senior living facilities
  + Oil sites release toxins, damage the health of surrounding communities
  + Stand LA requesting the council to sign a provided CIS statement asking the city to prohibit oil drilling within 2500 ft of sensitive land uses including homes, schools, early childhood centers, senior centers,hospitals and medical clinics, parks, etc.
* Public comment
  + Question
    - Where is the research from, who supports Stand LA?
      * Response: Communities for a Better ENvironment, Esperanza Community Housing Corporation, Holman United Methodist Church, etc.
* Skiles moves that the council pass the provided resolution in support of Stand LA and authorize the President to follow the stated CIS in favor of the campaign
  + Beshay seconds

Motion unanimously carries

**12. (postponed)**

* Tarighat moves to spend $4.88 a month for three months to pay for namecheap.com to host the council’s domain
* Skiles seconds
* Motion unanimously carries

1. Adjournment

* General Meeting adjourned at 10:27 p.m.

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1. **Special meeting called to order at 10:27 pm**

**2.  No public comment**

**3. Second signer**

* Beshay moves to authorize Andrew Lewis as a second signer for Council expenditures
  + Skiles seconds
  + Motion unanimously carries
* Skiles moves that Tarighat shall be the council’s bank card holder
  + Lewis seconds
  + Motion unanimously carries

Skiles moves to adjourn the special meeting

* Peters seconds
* Motion carries unanimously

Adjourned at 10:28 p.m.