**North Westwood Neighborhood Council**

**General Monthly Meeting**

**April 3rd, 2019 from 7:00 to 10:00pm**

**Weyburn Commons Village View Room**

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

**MiNUTES**

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

Meeting called to order at 7:15 pm

Chantelle Eastman, Christian Green, Kevin Crummy, Ryan Snyder, Michael Skiles, Gabriela Meza, Amir Tarighat, Melissa Tapia, Grayson Peters, Alisha Ranadive, Andrew Lewis, Josh Trifunovic, Wendell Reynolds, Peter Clinco

1. Review and approval of minutes from March meeting *(5 minutes)*
2. Announcements *(10 minutes)*

800 Degrees was reopened*.*

Andrew mentioned we were mentioned for an award at Empower LA.

1. Comments by Public Officials or their representatives including but not limited to: *(15 minutes)*
   1. Councilmember Paul Koretz
   2. Supervisor Sheila Kuehl
   3. Mayor Eric Garcetti
   4. Assembly Member Sydney Kamlager-Dove
   5. Congressman Ted Lieu
   6. Andrew Thomas: Executive director for the Westwood Village Improvement Association. 800 Degrees is back. Grand opening today.

Last meeting support effort for Great Streets. Applied for grant on 4/1. Should get feedback by end of April.

LA City Council approved the creation of the Brocxton Pedestrian Plaza. The association is looking to work with the North Westwood Neighborhood Council to implement event programming in the area. Events committee should consider doing some things there (per Michael).

g. Carmen Healey: Michelle Obama event on UCLA campus on 5/1 for incoming freshman and transfer students only. There will be about 9,000 students coming in. There will be street closures and crowds.

In May, UCLA will move to e-permits on campus. Parking passes will no longer be needed. Visitors will use kiosk.

UCLA turns 100 on 5/23. There will be a centennial event. Campus celebration scheduled for 5/18.

* 1. LAPD Officer Ragsdale: Introduced himself as Community Officer. Asked to be added to the email list. Will be attending meetings moving forward. He’s the direct liaison to the LAPD. Access to different city departments (City Attorney, State, Counsel offices, etc.) and can help to solve issues.
  2. Ami Fields-Meyer: West LA rep from Mayor Garcetti’s office—2 big environmental announcements:

1. By 2035 will recycle all waste water in the city of Los Angeles.

2. Phasing out use of 3 natural gas power plants.

Mayor Garcetti broke ground on LAX tram a couple of weeks ago.

On 4/9 from 11am—2pm, Volunteer LA will host a volunteer activities and huge information fair at City Hall.

End of month long pothole blitz so if you know of one, make sure to call 311 to get them fixed.

Getting to the end of tax season. Free Tax Prep LA 2019 is still available for low-medium income people, who can benefit from free tax services up until 4/15.

Comments from Steve: On 3/9 there was a 10 hour power outage. Spoke about the infrastructure needs, as it is a century old. Counsel needs to be aware of this issue so power outages and other problems don’t continue.

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

Steve: Issue with scheduling of the meetings. Suggests that the Council please use all 30 days in each month to avoid this.

1. Standing Committee Reports *(20 minutes)*
   1. Executive Board (Michael) – recommends staggering of meetings for various reasons, including having the opportunity to get on the agenda for the full counsel meeting, or committee may not be ready to discuss an item and can table the meeting. Transportation and Safety will be moving their meetings to later in the 4th Tuesday of each month. Encourages other committees to consider moving their meetings as well.
   2. Treasurer (Amir) Saving for #7
   3. Budget and Finance Committee (Andrew)
   4. Outreach and Communications Committee (Josh) – met today. Westwood Counsel has IG @westwoodcounsel and FB facebool.com/westwoodcounsel. People should be sending items they want posted to [westwoodcontent@gmail.com](mailto:westwoodcontent@gmail.com). There is a Twitter handle @officialnwwnc. Would like the admin rights to make posts. Want to promote what’s happening around Westwood, particularly the upcoming elections. Will be putting Westwood Counsel booth at farmers market for the next 4-5 weeks leading up to the election. Asking that everyone commit to a timeslot within 3-hour block. Would like to start next Thursday per Andrew’s confirmation. Booth is free of charge per Andrew.

Major problem getting web design company approved by the city due to insurance requirements, workman’s comp, etc. Westwoodcounsel.org is the website. Will review approved web designers from city’s list. This may take another 30 days. Wendell will still manage the website for now. Amir asked if the counsel would be open to a donated website. .

* 1. Planning and Land Use Committee (Michael)

Belmont proposed project on Wilshire will come before the counsel. Major takeaway is they take a very long time to get approvals and getting the neighborhood counsel approval is part of that.

Four or five story project proposed for 950 Hilgard will be a 12 unit apartment and will be coming before this counsel next month. Land Use committee recommended by a vote of 6-2 that this counsel support and at the June meeting form a committee to work towards the people’s plan to reach out to a broad assortment of stakeholders to see what they want to see in Westwood.

Comments:

Steve: Spoke re 950 Hilgard project. It is 12 units, 4 stories in back and 4 stories in front. Only approval needed is design review. They will not be coming to the meeting in June. Michael will clarify any issues the counsel needs to weigh in on.

* 1. The Transportation and Safety Committee (Ryan & Amir) Amir: met last night. Officer Ragsdale introduced himself. Ryan said someone from the city and a couple of the scooter companies came. Spoke about scooter parking. City is coming in 2 months to talk about scooter parking areas. Talked about removing the need to push the button to get the “walk” signal in Westwood Village. Met with Janet from Congressman Lieu’s office re: bike lane access from Westwood to Brentwood and in the process of developing a plan for this
  2. Elections Committee (Alisha) Bus shelter campaign was approved by the city. Will run for a month starting in April. Rotating between 5 different intersections. Kenross and Veteran; Westwood and Ohio; Westwood and Wilshire plus 2 others (not mentioned). Working on ways to advertise the election. Agree to have people on the ground to get people to hand out info for the vote. Will participate in the farmers’ market booth. Will have people at Ralph’s and Target. Will work with the outreach committee re: Google sheet. Joey is looking into forming a student group to help out to post info on campus. Westwood Forward cannot help with this, as it is not a student group. Needs to have a group specifically formed around the idea of outreach for the elections but he will confirm. Joey says students are only allowed to do flyers on Bruin Walk.
  3. Community Activities and Projects Committee (Christian) Update on events. 4/12 is first event. Then 5/10 and 5/4. Highlighting businesses and restaurants within the committee. 5/4 is the Far Out Fest partnering with the Westwood Village Association. The Brocxton on 4/12 at 8pm is first event.

Interactive map showing discounts. Community engagement to have people start at one place but visit the others.

* 1. Ad Hoc Committee on Homelessness (Chantelle) Focused on any efforts and she will come to pick up all items to be donated. Would like everyone to keep a copy of the flyer on themselves. Would like all to focus on securing volunteering. Erin needs one gallon plastic bags and regular size items for the donations.
  2. WRAC (Westside Regional Alliance of Councils) (Andrew) 2 spots for WRAC up date. Proposed motions at 3/20 meeting. Update from Blue Ribbon panel and various rep offices. LAPD is conducting a community outreach survey via neighborhood counsels. More details at #8

1. Update on general finances, and review and approval of monthly expense reports *(Amir, 10 minutes)* Monthly expenditure report for February:

Spent $2,268.75. Two were for event space expenditures.

One was a $500 reimbursement to Josh for Facebook ads before the counsel forum.

Also spent $273 for Westwood Copies for flyer elections.

Amir made motion to approve the monthly expenditure report for February 2019. Gabriella 2nd the motion.

Vote: 15 votes in favor.; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions. Motion unanimously carries.

Requests for expenses. Daily Bruin ads running up to the election totaling $675.00.

Amir made a Motion to approve this expense of $675 to UCLA Student Union. Ryan 2nd the motion.

Vote: 15 in favor 0 abstentions, 0 opposed. Motion carries unanimously

Request 1000 election flyers for $208 or 2500 election flyers for $262.80. Decided to go with 2500 flyers.

Amir made Motion to approve $262.80 to Westwood Copies for the election flyers. Ryan 2nd.

Vote: 15 in favor; 0 abstentions, 0 opposed. Motion unanimously carried.

Invoice to UCLA parking for $150, which will cover 10 parking spaces in Lot 4 from 11am—7:00pm during the elections.

Amir made Motion to pay $150 to UCLA parking. Josh 2nd.

Vote: 14 in favor; 0 opposed;1 abstention (Ryan). Motion carried.

Request for $200 for FB ads from election committee to promote the election.

Amir made Motion to approve request for $200 for Facebook ads to promote the election. Gabriella 2nd.

Vote: 15 in favor; 0 abstentions; 0 opposed. Motion unanimously carries.

Grayson suggests one be used as a Facebook event.

Request for $360 to Westwood Copies for 50 yard signs from election committee.

Amir made Motion to approve $360 to Westwood Copies for 50 yard signs. Christian 2nd. Vote: 15 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions. Motion unanimously carries.

Yard signs will go in the village—has some intersections in mind but not confirmed.

Invoice from UCLA Student Union Event Services for $52. Request is to pay for table cloths from December meeting, which was incomplete and did not include the costs of the tablecloths. Amir suggests moving the meetings to another venue for the next term.

Amir made a Motion to approve $52 to UCLA Student Union for the December meeting. Christian 2nd.

Vote: 14 in favor; 0 opposed; Andrew abstained. Motion carried.

Invoice for 4/3 meeting for $150 for UCLA Conference Services.

Amir made Motion to approve. Ryan Snyder 2nd.

Vote: 15 in favor; 0 opposed; 0 abstentions. Motion unanimously carried.

Invoice for March 4 meeting for $150 for UCLA Catering and Conference Services. Amir made Motion to approve. Ryan 2nd.

Noted that the invoice is also for the February meeting, charging $0 for the February meeting.

Vote: 15 in favor; 0 abstentions; 0 opposed. Motion unanimously carries.

Event committee invoices do not need to be voted on because they were approved in budget for last meeting.

Comments/Questions:

Steve asked about NPG money. Steve asked about outreach efforts to let people know they can apply. Andrew is over the budget committee and explained the process. Application is on city website for all to apply. There are some groups that have applied. In the interim will work to get it to specific groups. Amir added that the application must be in before the next meeting and ideally these groups will come. Meeting is 5/1. Amir says they are working through the approval process. Andrew further explained: There is a form that explains what can be funded with Neighborhood Purpose Grants. He will find the link to city website and send to the info email. Paul can post it to FB. Community Improvement Projects has less requirements, such as beautification projects.

1. Presentation/Review of March Westside Regional Alliance of Councils Meeting *(Andrew, 15 Minutes)*

WRAC update. Met on 3/20. Update from LAPD Captain Victor Devallos. Richard Brady of Matrix Consulting is conducting a study of LAPD and addressing neighborhood counsels. Study will make recommendations to improve LAPD services in each area.

Rob Wilcox of he LA City Attorneys office did a report on the recommendation of the Blue Ribbon panel, created by board of supervisors. Public Safety commission. Tasked with conduction an analysis of criminal justice reforms. Ensuring those in the county are provided meaningful rehabilitative services and promote public safety. Presented findings. 33 recommendations, which Andrew will email out.

WRAC had 2 motions that they did not take an action on but wanted brought back to neighborhood counsels. 1. Opposing the legalization of video advertisements mounted on taxis and for hire vehicle, including Uber, Lyft and other for hire vehicles. WRAC proposed opposing this motion, which is currently a City Counsel motion File 19-0104. Too much distraction on the road. 2. Supporting that all agencies (city, state and federal) set up studyoptions to reduce the impact of flood costs, which are largely taken on by tax payers.

1. Action: Motion to Support the Transportation and Safety Committee’s Preferred Sepulveda Corridor Transit Alternative *(Ryan, 20 minutes)*

No motion made by Trans and Safety committee. Postponed to end of agenda. Without object move this item to last item. Without objection Michael moved this item to the last item.

1. Discussion and possible action: Approve up to $1,500 for operational costs for the Wednesday, April 24, 2019 Connect Day at the Westwood Recreation Center servicing our homeless constituents. This event is organized by the Los Angeles County, City, and Mayor’s office to service folks on the cusp of or currently experiencing homelessness in the surrounding area, including constituents located within the North Westwood NC boundaries. *(Chantelle, 15 minutes)*

Chantelle put forward the motion to approval of up to $1500 for operational costs for 4/24 Connect Day event. If $1500 is approved tonight, she will continue to chat with Erin to see where there are gaps and additional funds. Michael 2nd the motion.

Amir says there is enough money in the budget but is skeptical that payments can be issued based on city policy. Any invoice must be individually approved and may fall under a separate set of guidelines. Erin Schneider, a field deputy for Los Angeles County supervisor Sheila Kuehl, said the event aims to help those facing homelessness in the area access legal, medical and housing services. Erin intends to use the donation for things that are not easily donated. Any funds left over can be used for other homelessness prevention organizations.]

Comments:

Steve: Many things being donated for the event. $1500 is coming from other Westwood counsel. Brentwood and West LA are not donating as of now. Asked that the money not be used for things that can be easily donated.

Suggested Westwood Village Rotary Club as a 501c3 to be a fiscal sponsor. Call President to discuss/request.

No further public comment or board discussion.

Chantelle made new a motion to amend language to approve up to $1500 for operational costs to co-sponsor the Wednesday, April 24, 2019 Connect Day at the Westwood Recreational Center servicing our homeless constituents.”

This new motion was 2nd by Gabriella.

Vote: 15 voted in favor. 0 opposed’ 0 abstentions. Motion unanimously carried.

1. Board commitment to participate in a hygiene kit, clothing, shoes, blanket, reusable bags, etc. drive by engaging our North Westwood community for the Wednesday, April 24, 2019 Connect Day at the Westwood Recreation Center servicing our homeless constituents *(Chantelle, 15 minutes)*

Asking for commitment. Asked for group to donate all reusable bags that they don’t want. Chantelle offered to pick up from wherever is convenient. Men’s clothing is of particular need. Melissa can commit. Polled the room to see who can commit to having her pick up, who can drop off items*.*

1. Board members commitment to participate as volunteers on Wednesday, April 24, 2019 at the Connect Day at the Westwood Recreation Center servicing our homeless constituents *(Chantelle, 15 minutes)* Ideal time window is 9am until 2pm, and anywhere within those hours. Polled the room for people who can commit to volunteer.
2. Approval of Expenses for February, March, and April council meetings at Weyburn Commons. *(10 minutes*). Covered earlier by Amir.
3. Approval of “Far Out Fest,” May 11, 2019 Event and Budget. (10 minutes)

The Council voted to approve sponsorship of Far Out Fest. Christian explained this will be a partnership with Far Out Fest and Westwood City Counsel. Council’s budget is $6100. Council logo will be on the flyer. It is a free event, targeting 800 attendees. Stated event is on May 4 from 2pm – 12 am. Merchandise will be given away, not sold.

Comments:

Steve raised issue re: items that have a life beyond one year there may be certain rules to follow. Amir says counsel is not approved to own property and recommends not to buy anything that could be considered a capital purchase.

Christian made motion to approve to sponsor Far Out Fest on May 4th for the amount of $6,100. Peter Clinco 2nd the motion.

Vote: 15 votes in favor. 0 opposed. 0 abstentions. Motion unanimously carried.

1. Discussion and possible position on Senate Bill 50 (Wiener) Planning and zoning: housing development: equitable communities incentive *(20 minutes) (May result in CIS with respect to resolution on the matter Council File: 19-0002-S38)* <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billTextClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB50>

Land Use committee voted 6-2 to recommended this counsel approve the measure and authorize the president to submit a CIS approval with respect to the related Council file noted in this Agenda. The council voted to endorse Senate Bill 50, a housing bill providing incentives for developers to construct low income or extremely low income housing near Metro train stations. Michael said the bill would waive height restrictions and minimum parking requirements for new buildings within a quarter mile radius of any Metro train stop. The bill has anti gentrification incentives and anti-displacement protections. There is also a transit rich incentive (having a bus stop that operates from 6am—10pm 5 days a week). Jobs rich incentive (areas where people will be commuting to i.e. UCLA). Encouraging people to walk—to school, work, metro—and can be considered a jobs rich area. Some members of the council raised concerns about the inadequacy of the bill and potential gentrification effects despite the presence of anti-gentrification clauses in the bill. Senate voted 9-1 in support of the bill.

Comment from the Public:

Steve: Does not like the way the bill was presented. Should have handouts of printed material because the legislation is very complicated. Believes change is happening. Spoke up in defense of there being change in Westwood.

Ernesto: Agrees with most of the views. Legislation is complex. Reality is we are in a housing crisis. Any proposal, bill, project that aims to improve housing opportunities in the Westwood neighborhood should be endorsed.

Mara: Support SB50 (More Homes Act) – Allows for higher density zoning. Reduces the minimum parking requirement, where luxury apartments have high rates to pay for the parking. Also helps provide more affordable housing for students.

Michael made a Motion that NWNC officially endorse Senate Bill 50 because of the promise to ameliorate the serious housing shortage in a way that promotes equity and sustainability in public transit. Josh 2nd

After further discussion, Michael vacated previous motion and put forth Motion to support SB50 on account of tackling the affordability crisis in a way that promotes equity, sustainability and affordability in public transit and authorizing the President to submit a CIS to that effect with respect to Council File 19-0002-S38. Gabriella 2nd.

Vote: 11 in favor; 3 opposed; 1 abstention. Motion carries.

1. Discussion and possible position on Senate Bill 58 (Wiener): Pilot program of allowing select cities to authorize and regulate the sale of alcoholic beverages between 2 and 4am. (20 minutes) (May result in CIS with respect to resolution on the matter Council File: 19- 0002-S39) <https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201920200SB58>

Currently it is a misdemeanor to serve or purchase alcohol after 2am. Allows cities to have some say in which businesses can continue to serve alcohol 2:00 am—4:00 am. This is a bill that is similar to one submitted in 2017. General consensus is to support the bill.

Comments: Steve gave information about being mindful of community members who are in recovery, as well as the part alcohol plays in sexual assault against women. Bill will also not bring additional revenue to the community. Mara agrees with a more liberal drinking policy and supports SB58.

Ryan makes motion to support SB58 and Christian 2nd.

Chantelle feels vote is rushed and there hasn’t been outreach for community opinion and makes a Motion to table the vote. There is no 2nd.

Vote 12 in favor; 1 opposed; 2 abstentions. Motion carries.

Michael moves that the Council authorize its President to file the CIS reflecting the decision to support SB 58wth respect to Council File 19-002-S39

1. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:41pm