**North Westwood Neighborhood Council**

**General Board Meeting**

**March 4th, 2020 from 7:00 to 10:00pm**

**AGENDA**

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

* Call to order at 7:11 pm. May, Hajee, Peters, Lewis, Ahmed, Ranadive, Crummy, Skiles, Clinco, Tarighat, Navab, Helmi, Russel, Trifunovic present. Quorum met.

**2. Announcements 10 minutes)**

* Peters: Transportation and Safety Committee recommended all parking minimums be removed from the North Westwood Village Specific Plan.
* Skiles: Braciszewski cannot attend because of broken tibia, decided to not move forward with Taste of Westwood event. Will recommend that Item 14 will be tabled.

**3. Comments by Public Officials or their representatives**

* Jasmine Shimolian (**Councilmember Koretz**): Koretz hosting grant-writing workshop on March 10th. Koretz wrote letter in support of safe parking at UCLA, willing to assist the university.
* Gibson Nyamura (**DONE**): BONC voted yesterday to create a uniform board member removal and appeal process. In the process of working with the Dept of City Planning on trainings for NC boardmembers. DONE running data literacy program at empowerla.org/data/. Encourages familiarity with BONC policies. Asks board to appoint a census liaison.
* Jamie Kennerk (**Asm. Kamlager**): AB 1950 would reduce probation to less than two years. Healthcare Accessibility Act would require state-licensed practicioners to cover abortion. AB 2470 would allow multifamily dwelling units to split one or more dwelling units to increase housing supply. AB 2600 in the works, would prohibit health facilities from limiting access to necessary medical services based on non-clinical purposes. Researching how adding solar panels to housing can increase electrical supply. Co-sponsoring AB 3121 to study and develop reparations proposals, AB 1965 to expand clinical family planning services to include HPV vaccinations.
* **UCLA**: Yesterday, hosted vote centers at Ackerman and the Hammer Museum. Great turnout but problems on the county’s end. No confirmed cases of coronavirus on campus, will update the community in the event of changes. UCLA Newsroom website will provide up-to-date information on coronavirus.

**4. Multiple Agenda Item Comment Period. (Up to 3 minutes per speaker)**

**5. General Public Comment (Up to 2 minutes per speaker)**

* Doug Mark: Thanks NWWNC for supporting Tommy’s Field at Westwood Park, which will be built.

**6. Presentation from Zuriel Espinosa, LA City Planning Dept, on Outreach Process for Westwood Village Specific Plan Amendment (CF 18-1101) and board discussion and possible resolution on proposed amendment. (20 minutes)**

* Espinosa
  + Council Motion CF18-1101: Emphasis on vacancy rates in westwood Village, requests flexible parking provisions and revised definitions and limitations of food service establishments.
  + Site context: Approximately 60 acres. Bounded by Le Conte, Gayley, Tiverton, and Lindbrook. Plan adopted 1989, amended 1991 and 2004.
  + Specific Plan purpose: Encourage a balanced mix of uses. Preserve architecturally significant buildings. Encourage non-automobile access to the Village. Implemented collectively with the Westwood DRB.
  + Food establishments: separate definitions for restaurants and fast food restaurants. Issue: no definition to adapt to new market trend of fast-casual establishments, not in keeping with changing consumer demands related to food and commercial needs.
  + Dining ratios have issues: enforcement challenging due to certificates of occupancy given at the city level, grandfathered establishments, UC Regents are their own jurisdiction and their own development process inconsistent with the Specific Plan.
  + Parking: Restrictive parking requirements. If a project removes any parking, 50% of such parking spaces shall be replaced in addition tot he number of spaces otherwise required. Off-site parking requires a covenant and agreement.
  + Issue: covenant and agreement vs lease in lieu: Specific Plan is more permissive than the zoning code in that off-site parking an be provided as far as 1000 feet. Covenant and Agreements are difficult to obtain and are limited to the Village given surrounding zoning.
  + Department of City Planning is doing outreach, will compile feedback, draft ordinance.
* Skiles moves that the NWWNC recommend Option 1, the elimination of distinct definitions of “fast-food establishment” and “restaurant” in the WVSP, Trifunovic seconds. Motion carries unanimously.
* Skiles moves that the NWWNC recommend Option 1, the elimination of restaurant and fast-food ratios, caps, and quotas, Peters seconds. Motion carries unanimously.
* Skiles moves that the NWWNC recommend at least Option 2, removing all parking requirements for historic buildings, removing parking replacement requirements, removing Specific Plan Area requirements for hotels, motion picture, nightclub/similar use, and office, and apply general zoning code requirements, and removing parking requirements for change of uses, Tarighat seconds. Motion carries unanimously
* Skiles moves that the NWWNC also recommend the complete elimination of all parking requirements in the WVSP area, Peters seconds. 12 - 1 - 1, motion carries.
* Skiles moves that the NWWC recommend that, should parking requirements remain in the WVSP area, leases be permitted in lieu of Covenant and Agreement within the Specific Plan and the allowable distance for covenanted off-site parking be increased to ¼ mile (1,320 feet), Trifunovic seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**7. Discussion and possible approval of a neighborhood purpose grant to the Westwood Village Improvement Association for $4,998.75 to fund homelessness outreach and Access Day, informing members of the North Westwood community currently experiencing homelessness about the services available to them. (10 minutes)**

* *Crummy, Trifunovic, and Clinco stepped outside of the room and recused themselves for this item.*
* Andrew Thomas (WVIA): Grant would fund supplies for outreach services for the year, including for the Access Day event in partnership with the NWWNC. Opportunity to bring social service providers together at Westwood Presbyterian, homeless population invited.
* Russel: Budget Committee determined NPG application was ready for board consideration.
* Skiles: recommends that the WVIA submit an alternate NPG request for only $1,600 to fund only the Access Day
* Skiles moves to postpone the item until such a point later in the meeting as the WVIA is prepared to move forward with a revised NPG proposal, Russel seconds. 11 - 1 opposed - 0 abstentions, motion carries.
* Thomas submits a revised NPG request in the amount of $1,618.75 for tote bags and supplies for Access Day
* Skiles moves that the NWWC approve the WVIA’s NPG request in the amount of $1,618.75, Tarighat seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**8. Discussion and possible approval of a neighborhood purpose grant to the Regents of the University of California Los Angeles for the amount of $5,000 to help fund the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative for Climate Action and Sustainability (LARC’s) public forum in the North Westwood area, bringing together members of the public, public officials, and climate experts to educate the public on climate change policy and advocacy issues. (15 minutes)**

* Russel: Budget Committee couldn’t recommend approval of this grant due to miscommunication about proper signatures
* Gibson Nyamura: recommends tabling the item until next meeting
* Erin Coutts: In order to receive a signature, needs a number in writing from the council to show to LARC budget people. Event is slated for the first week of June, will not happen without council funding.
* Skiles moves to table the item, Peters seconds. Motion carries 12 - 0 - 1 abstention.

**9. Discussion and possible approval of neighborhood purpose grant to the Sprouts of Promise Foundation for $2,446.79 to fund a composting program at the Westwood Village Farmers Market. (15 minutes)**

* Aubrey Yarbrough: Sprouts of Promise is a charitable organization focusing on human health and accessibility of organic food, sister organization to Farmer Mark. Composting organic waste prevents methane emissions from landfills. Applying to fund a compost hub in the Farmer’s Market, staffed by volunteers, open to public. Similar program exists at Los Feliz Farmer’s Market. Rather than hiring an organization to truck waste out, would hire farmers to take compost. Sprouts of Promise putting out $3,020 for staff and volunteer coordinators. Event depends on this NPG. Apartment-dwellers can’t have their own compost in yards.
* Skiles moves that the NWWNC approve an NPG in the amount of $2,446.79 to Sprouts of Hope to fund a compost program at the Westwood Village Farmers Market, Peters seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**10. Discussion and possible approval of a neighborhood purpose grant to “Friends of Westwood Library, A Branch of the Los Angeles Public Library” for $5,000 to provide a computer aide to assist and train members of the public in utilizing the technology available at the Westwood Branch Library. (15 minutes)**

* Sam Yebri: Friends of Westwood Library 501c(3) serves 230,000 people every year. Libraries are community hubs for technology, services, learning. Westwood Branch Library has 45 desktop computers, free wifi, and a computer aide working 20 hours a week. Computer aide is hired through LAPL, their responsibilities include troubleshooting, helping patrons set up email addresses and use government websites, downloading ebooks, preparing and submitting resumes. Patrons benefitting are seniors, unsheltered, immigrants. Deep, broad, and year-long community impact. Incredible return on investment - funds someone working every day in the community. Requests $5,000 toward the $20,000 annual budget for the computer aide. Remainder is fundraised through book sales and other events. Would offer NWWNC signage at a 50th anniversary event and permanent signage on the donor wall.
* Skiles: Friends of Westwood Library posted inappropriate political messaging online opposing the NC subdivision, open to reconciliation but requests removal of those posts.
* Yebri commits to removing political posts from the FOWL website.
* Public Comment
  + Steve Sann: On the FOWL board, did not create the political posts. Reconciliation ongoing, helped WestCal find a free location for a NWWNC-funded event. Asks the council to approve the NPG.
* Tarighat moves to approve an NPG for Friends of Westwood Library in the amount of $5,000 to provide a computer aide, Skiles seconds.
  + Motion carries unanimously.

**11. Discussion and possible resolution concerning LA Metro’s recommendations for first mile/last mile improvements for the Purple (D) line. (15 minutes)**

**12. Discussion and possible vote to recommend to removal or mitigation of minimum parking space requirements in the North Westwood Village Specific Plan (15 minutes).**

* Peters: Transportation and Safety and Land Use C
* Peters moves that the NWWNC request that Councilmember Paul Koretz take steps to remove all parking minimums from the North Westwood Village Specific Plan, Skiles seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**13. Discussion and possible approval of Weyburn Terrace Village View Room rental for March and April in an amount of $150 each to UCLA Conferences and Catering. (3 min)**

* Skiles moves to pay UCLA $150 per meeting for March and April, Trifunovic seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**14. Discussion and possible approval of co-sponsored event with Farmer Mark to hold a Taste of Westwood. (15 minutes)**

* Yarbrough: Heard board members’ concerns about timeframe, lack of representation of south-of-Wilshire restaurants, restaurants receiving compensation. Wants the event to benefit from the upcoming pedestrian plaza.
* Skiles: wants to see a revised version of the event succeed in the future

**15. Discussion and possible approval of printing expenses for meeting agendas and agenda items to Westwood Copies for February and March committee meeting and general meeting printing expenses. (3 minutes)**

* Russel moves to approve printing expenses in the amount of $9.17 to Westwood Copies, Skiles seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**16. Discussion and possible approval of January 2020 Monthly Expenditure Report. (3 min)**

* Skiles moves to approve the January 2020 MER, Peters seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**17. Discussion and possible approval of new Alternate Signer and Second Cardholder. (3 min)**

**18. Discussion of Neighborhood Improvement Project ideas (10 minutes)**

**19. Discussion of possible future outreach strategies for Neighborhood Purpose Grants and Neighborhood Improvement projects, if needed. (10 minutes).**

**20. Review and approval of minutes from 02.05.20 board meeting. (5 minutes)**

* Skiles moves to approve the February 5th meeting minutes, Lewis seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**21. Nomination and confirmation of standing committee members. (5 minutes)**

* Skiles nominates Kendall Kauffman to the Transportation and Safety Committee. Skiles moves to confirm the nomination, Russel seconds. Motion unanimously carries.

**22. Discussion regarding Hostile Architecture in North Westwood and possible council resolution. (15 minutes)**

* Skiles: Land Use Committee recommended this item be tabled.
* Skiles moves to table, Trifunovic seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**23. Review of recent Westside Regional Alliance of Councils Meetings (5 Minutes)**

**24. Adjournment at 10:32 pm**