**North Westwood Neighborhood Council**

**General Board Meeting**

**May 6th, 2020 from 7:00 to 10:00pm**

**MINUTES**

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

* Call to order at 7:07 pm. Peters, Hajee, May, Skiles, Crummy, Ranadive, Tarighat, Lewis, Arciniega, Russel, Trifunovic, Navab, Crummy, Arfin, Ahmed, Clinco, Reynolds present. Quorum met.

**2. Announcements (10 minutes)**

* Furkan Yalcin
  + Instagram account has reached over 1300 followers, over 4000 engagements with our profile over the past month. Two Q+As with Koretz and Kamlager’s offices went well.
* Navab
  + Los Angeles is under the curve, hospitals are well within their capacity.
* Skiles
  + Throughout the latter part of March and all of April, neighborhood councils were not allowed to meet in response to the state stay-at-home order and DONE’s not having built out video-conferencing guidelines. Beginning May 1st, board and committees are able to meet. DONE gave him authority to allocate up to $5,000 for emergency COVID-19 response. He allocated $2,000 to the BID, composed of $1,000 for homeless outreach and $1,000 for free meals to UCLA healthcare workers provided by Westwood restaurants. Additionally allocated $1,000 to the UCLA CPO Food Closet for Ralph’s gift cards for students experiencing food insecurity and $1,000 to the Westwood Rec Center emergency homeless shelter.
* Ahmed
  + In March, Arciniega, Ahmed, Russel, and Lewis coordinated the first use of emergency funds for groceries purchases distributed to people experiencing homelessness in Westwood Park by Street Watch LA.

**3. Comments by Public Officials or their representatives: *(15 minutes)***

* Gibson Nyamura (DONE)
  + Recommends turning off chat and Q+A functions, consider setting up automatic recording and screen sharing agenda for future meetings. June 5th is the deadline for bylaw amendments. Dr. Rodriguez still needs to complete code of conduct training.
* Janet Turner (Rep. Lieu)
  + Lieu’s office is open remotely, can call main office number which forwards to employees’ cell phones. Stimulus checks have been mailed, will arrive within several weeks. CARES provides emergency homeless assistance grants, rental assistance, state and local government funding for a broad array of community needs, four month moratorium on evictions and foreclosures on federal properties. Congressman has asked House leadership to include $100 billion for emergency rental assistance funds, $11.5 billion in emergency solution grants to expand shelters and rapid rehousing, more funding for housing and treating homeless veterans.
* Jasmine Shimolian (Councilmember Koretz)
  + Koretz’s office available by email and phone. Westwood Rec used as emergency shelter for 108 people receiving mental health services and meals, 41 trailers for high-risk people. Sunset Boulevard will be resurfaced between Lauring and Marymount in a couple of weeks. Rent moratorium prevents evictions for non-payment of rent, but must pay rent owed within 12 months of the moratorium’s expiration. Office working to reach out to seniors in CD5, about 2,500 seniors in Westwood. Requests volunteers to assist.
* Tanaz Golshan (Mayor Garcetti)
  + City and county starting to reopen this Friday: florists, clothing stores, sporting goods stores, and toy stores for curbside pickup ; trails, golf courses, car dealerships with social distancing and masks. Today, City Council banned rent increases in RSO units for up to one year after the termination of the emergency order. LA Represents, new coalition of top law firms in coalition with City Attorney, providing pro bono services for renters, domestic violence survivors, low-income residents and workers. 36 testing sites open in the city, open for all including symptomatic and asymptomatic. Mayor’s office considering commandeering hotels to house homeless people but wary of litigation.
* Jamie Kennerk (Assemblymember Kamlager)
  + Assemblymember working to address childcare needs with governor, requesting health measures from CDCR. Chair of LA County delegation, wrote letter to governor requesting that LA County’s needs be centered in state recovery. AB 1993 coming up in committee tomorrow, extends eligibility for unemployment insurance to parents and spouses. AB 1950 amends penal code to limit adult probation to maximum of 1 year for misdemeanors, 2 years for felonies. AB 2054 establishes crises act pilot program, promoting community-based responses to emergency situations. ACA 5 passed out of community, would repeal Prop 209.

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

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

* Ashraf Beshay
  + Works with UC Student Association. UCLA campus will receive $20 million for financial assistance for students under CARES Act. Funds will be dispersed over the next few months.

**6. Overview and possible approval of the purchase of $658.94 worth of groceries from Ralphs under NWWNC COVID-19 Emergency Authority, distributed to stakeholders of the NWWNC experiencing homelessness to allow them to receive basic supplies while limiting social contact during the COVID-19 emergency. (8 minutes)**

* Skiles moves to approve the purchase of $658.94 of groceries from Ralphs under NWWNC COVID-19 Emergency Authority, distributed to stakeholders of the NWWNC experiencing homelessness to allow them to receive basic supplies while limiting social contact during the COVID-19 emergency., Crummy seconds.
  + Russel: nonperishable food products and hygiene items were purchased
  + Motion carries unanimously

**7. Overview and possible approval of the payment of $1,000 to the Los Angeles Parks Foundation under the NWWNC COVID-19 Emergency Authority, used for the purchase of supplies by the Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department for those living at the Westwood Recreation Center temporary shelter. (8 minutes)**

* Russel: the LA Parks Foundation is a nonprofit which accepts donations on behalf of Parks Department, this donation went to clothing and hygiene products for the Westwood Rec Center.
* Skiles moves to approve the payment of $1,000 to the Los Angeles Parks Foundation under the NWWNC COVID-19 Emergency Authority, used for the purchase of supplies by the Los Angeles Recreation and Parks Department for those living at the Westwood Recreation Center temporary shelter, Peters seconds.
  + Motion carries unanimously

**8. Overview and possible approval of the payment of $1,000 to the Westwood Village Improvement Association under the NWWNC COVID-19 Emergency Authority, used for the purchase of discounted meals from local Westwood restaurants and distributed for free to front-line healthcare workers at UCLA Ronald Reagan. (8 minutes)**

* Skiles moves to approve the payment of $1,000 to the Westwood Village Improvement Association under the NWWNC COVID-19 Emergency Authority, used for the purchase of discounted meals from local Westwood restaurants and distributed for free to front-line healthcare workers at UCLA Ronald Reagan, Peters seconds.
* Crummy and Clinco recused themselves. Motion carries unanimously with 2 abstentions

**9. Discussion and possible approval of February Monthly Expenditure Report. (3 minutes)**

* Russel moves to approve the February Monthly Expenditure Report, Skiles seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**10. Discussion and possible approval of March Monthly Expenditure Report. (3 minutes)**

* Russel moves to approve the March Monthly Expenditure Report, Skiles seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**11. Discussion of previous Neighborhood Purpose Grants awarded for events in the 2019- 2020 fiscal year ending July 30 which were cancelled due to the COVID-19 crisis, and possible vote on best practices for how to proceed in investigating and requesting refunds for organizations no longer holding events but which took funds from the NWWNC and inviting further NPG applications. (10 minutes)**

* Skiles: Because of the pandemic, many NPGs including Far Out Fest will be cancelled. After refunds, the council will have approximately $23,000 to distribute to eligible 501(c)3 nonprofits.

**12. Discussion and possible appointment of Alternate Signer. (4 minutes)**

* Russel: Won’t be in Westwood during the summer, the council should designate an alternate signer.
* Tarighat: offers to be alternate signer.
* Skiles moves to appoint Tarighat as alternate signer, Peters seconds.
  + Motion carries unanimously.

**13. Discussion and possible appointment of Second Cardholder. (4 minutes)**

* Russel: is current bankholder but will be absent for July and August, when board members may want to pay for printing or other services. Recommends appointment of a second cardholder.
* Skiles moves to appoint Ahmed, Arfin seconds.
  + Motion carries unanimously.

**14. Review and approval of minutes from 03.04.20 board meeting. (4 minutes*)***

* Skiles moves to approve the 03.04.20 board meeting minutes, Arfin seconds. Motion carries unanimously.

**15. Discussion regarding Hostile Architecture and policing of community members experiencing homelessness and possible council resolution. (15 minutes)**

* Skiles: read statement of support from Braciszewski, who could not attend the meeting.
* Lewis: requests that the item be tabled. Motion still being worked on, will be ready next month.
* Lewis moves to table, Trifunovic seconds.
  + Trifunovic: prefers that the item be delayed so that it can be discussed in person with the community
  + Crummy: move it to next meeting and put it early on the agenda
  + Tarighat: suggests more frequent board meetings, i.e. two a month, one devoted to ministerial house-keeping and one devoted to policy issues
  + Public comment
    - Steve Sann: Board of Public Works has jurisdiction over benches which were placed with City Council approval.
  + Motion carries unanimously with 2 abstentions.

**16. Discussion and possible resolution requesting that Los Angeles Department of Transportation establish a "slow streets" program in Westwood for the duration of the city's stay-at-home order, to promote more walkable streets at a time when there’s less traffic and more need to get exercise while maintaining social distancing. (15 minutes)**

* Peters: suggests the council recommend the creation of a “safe streets” or “slow streets” program somewhere in Westwood to encourage social distancing of pedestrians
* Crummy: Very few people on Village sidewalks, social distancing isn’t a problem

**17. Updates from Community Health and Homelessness Committee (10 minutes)**

* Ahmed: sweeps and bulky item seizures have temporarily paused. CHH Committee will begin meeting on Zoom.

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

* Lewis: attended an informal WRAC check-in over Google Hangouts. No votes taken.

**19. Adjournment at 9:42 pm.**