

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

**Greater Wilshire
Neighborhood Council
Governing Board Members:**

President – Owen Smith
Vice President – James Wolf
Secretary – Jeffrey Carpenter
Treasurer – Patricia Carroll

Area 1 – Brookside – Owen Smith
Area 2 – Citrus Square – Jeffrey
Carpenter
Area 3 – Country Club Heights –
Frances McFall
Area 4 – Fremont Place – Patricia
Lombard
Area 5 - Hancock Park – James
Wolf
Area 6 – La Brea-Hancock – Bill
Funderburk
Area 7 – Larchmont Village –
Fred Mariscal
Area 8 – Melrose – Dorian
Shapiro
Area 9 – Oakwood/Maplewood/St.
Andrews – Jason Peers
Area 10 – Ridgewood-Wilton/St.
Andrews Square – Patricia Carroll
Area 11 – Sycamore Square – Ann
Eggleston
Area 12 – Western-Wilton – Greg
Wittmann
Area 13 – Wilshire Park – John
Gresham
Area 14 – Windsor Square – Jack
Humphreville
Area 15 – Windsor Village – Julie
Stromberg
At-Large – Jane Usher
Business – John Winther
Education – Clinton Oie
Other Non-Profit – Daniel Whitley
Religion – Mike Genewick
Renters – Joseph Hoffman



**GREATER WILSHIRE
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

Board Meeting Agenda
The Ebell of Los Angeles
4400 Wilshire Blvd.
Los Angeles, CA 90005
Wednesday, February 11, 2015
7:00 p.m.

**GREATER WILSHIRE
NEIGHBORHOOD
COUNCIL**

419 N. Larchmont Blvd., #331
Los Angeles, CA 90004

(424) 901-1409

info@greaterwilshire.org

<http://www.greaterwilshire.org>

The Neighborhood Council system enables civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, made up of volunteer stakeholders who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities and bringing government closer to us.

1. WELCOMING REMARKS:

(5 minutes)

- A. Call to order & Flag salute
- B. Board Roll call

2. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS: (10 minutes)
(Representatives from government offices and community-based organizations)

- A. CD4 Update (Ben Seinfeld)
- B. CD5 Update (John Darnell)
- C. LAPD Senior Lead Officers

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

(5 minutes)

Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s jurisdiction (up to 2 minutes per speaker; speakers are requested to fill out speaker cards)

4. **PRESENTATIONS** (15 minutes)

- A. 2014 Neighborhood Purpose Grant Recipient Reports/Updates
 - i. Enrich LA (Shana Baiz)
 - ii. Hollywood/Wilshire YMCA (Kitty Gordillo)
 - iii. *Wilshire Park Elementary School*

5. **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:** (5 minutes)

- A. Review and adoption of January 14, 2014 minutes

6. **BOARD & COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS (including discussion and possible action items, if listed):** (60 minutes)

A. **President**

i. **Board Vacancies** – Still have openings for **Alternate Board Members** for the following seats:

- Area 2 – Citrus Square
- Area 3 – Country Club Heights
- Area 9 – Oakwood/Maplewood/St. Andrews
- Area 12 – Western-Wilton
- Education
- Other Non-Profit
- Religion

ii. **Ethics & Funding Training** reminder. All board members and alternates **must complete ethics training** in order to vote on funding motions before the board. The course is available online at <http://www.fppc.ca.gov/index.php?id=477>

In addition to Ethics training, all board members and alternates are also **REQUIRED** to take a new **funding training course** (about the new system of NC checking accounts that will be launched soon). The course is at <http://empowerla.org/leadership-academy/#Funding> Be sure to submit your completion forms (included in the training) to register your attendance.

Board members and alternates MUST complete both trainings to be eligible to vote on funding-related matters.

The following Board Members and Alternates have NOT completed the trainings noted below and are NOT eligible to vote on financial matters:

- Asch** – Ethics, Funding
- Bartenetti** - Ethics, Funding
- Carpenter** – Ethics (expired November, 2014)
- Carroll** – Ethics (expired January, 2014)

Fox - Funding
McManus - Funding
Mintz - Ethics, Funding
Winther – Ethics, Funding
Wittmann - Ethics (expired July, 2014)

Please Note:

*The following ethics certification will expire in February, 2015 – **Funderburk***
*The following ethics certifications will expire in March, 2015: **Eggleston, Genewick, McFall, Smith***

iii. **Code of Conduct Forms** -- All Board Members and Alternates are required to read the new Neighborhood Council Code of Conduct Policy (see handout or the online version at <http://empowerla.org/code-of-conduct/>). Return paper forms to GWNC Administrator Elizabeth Fuller, or let Ms. Fuller know if you have submitted the online form. (Those who do not submit forms may soon be banned from voting or counting toward a board quorum, even if present.) Forms not yet received from:

Shapiro
Whitley
Asch
Bartenetti
Fox
McManus
Mintz

B. Treasurer (Discussion and Board Action, as indicated) (Carroll/Fuller)

- i. Approval of **Monthly Expenditure Report** (Discussion and Board action)
- ii. Approval of upcoming **individual expenses**, if any (Discussion and Board action).
- iii. Summary and approval of **CD4 Candidate Forum expenses** (budget of \$1,600 previously approved):
 - \$95.38 advertising postcards
 - \$114.98 LAUSD facility rental fee for John Burroughs MS auditorium
 - Approx. \$1,000 to John Burroughs MS (not yet billed) for staff services and sound equipment use
 - Others?
- iv. Update on status of **current year contracts** for Wilshire United Methodist Church, Ebell of Los Angeles and Elizabeth Fuller (as previously approved by the Board)
- v. Presentations of **2014-2015 NPG applications** (*final round of presentations; other applicants -- Friends of 3rd Street School, Wilshire Crest PTA, L.A. Drama Club, Larchmont Charter School, and the Ebell of Los Angeles* –

were heard at the January board meeting)

- a. *Champion Fund (Randi Cohen)*
- b. *Community Policing Unit (Lori Lee)*
- c. *Enrichment Center (Diann Farmer)*
- d. *Hollywood/Wilshire YMCA (Kitty Gordillo)*
- e. *First in Fire (Lyn Cohen)*

- vi. **Scheduling Ad Hoc NPG Review/Award Committee Meeting** (Carroll, Lombard, Stromberg, Gilman, Hoffman, Oliver, McFall) – need to meet before next board meeting to determine awards...and announce award details at March board meeting

C. DWP MOU Liaison (Humphreville)

- i. Discussion of rates and the need for the IEA Survey that is required every five years by the charter, a benchmarking study to determine DWP's efficiency, and whether Ratepayers are going to bear a disproportionate cost of the City's One Water plan.

D. City Budget and NC Budget Advocates (Humphreville) (Discussion and Board Action, as indicated below)

- i. Update on budget issues including the Mayor's initiatives, labor negotiations, the business tax, and improving tax revenues.
- ii. **Requested Motion:** The GWNC requests that Tom LaBonge and all of the other members of the City Council provide voters with information on all of their discretionary accounts for the last five years. Such information would include the sources of all discretionary funds, the amounts per contributor, the beneficiaries and the amounts donated, dates, and other descriptive information that is on the ethics web site.

E. LANCC Report (Humphreville)

- i. Updates from latest LANCC meeting

F. Outreach Committee (Mariscal) (Discussion and possible Board action, as indicated below)

- i. **CD4 candidate forum wrap-up** (Lombard) Summary of February 8 event.
- ii. **Neighborhood "Top 10" priorities lists.** (Hoffman) Update: still need lists from Brookside, Hancock Park, Melrose, and Western-Wilton. Preliminary spreadsheet available on Google Docs at https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0BxH_mJhUJSCvWGVDYjNjZ0pMalU&usp=sharing.
- iii. **Sycamore Square Neighborhood Walk** (Fuller) – Sunday, February 22 at 2 p.m. (starting at NE corner of Sycamore & Olympic). Will publicize via e-

mail and social media before the event.

G. Transportation Committee (Michelle Owen/Julie Stromberg) (Discussion and Board Action, as noted)

i. February 2 Meeting Report (Stromberg):

a. Recommended motion: That the GWNC Board write a letter to LADOT, specifically Jeannie Shen, requesting that they update the survey on Olympic Boulevard.

b. Claire Bowin, City Planner with the Los Angeles Department of City Planning, will speak at either the March or April GWNC Board meeting on the LA Draft Mobility Plan 2035.

c. Transparency of use of AB-1290 Funds and the possibility of using these funds to fix the streets in the Greater Wilshire area.

d. Possible Special Meeting in March

ii. Next regularly-scheduled TC meeting: Monday, April 6

H. Land Use Committee (James Wolf) (Discussion and Board Action, as noted)

i. Application for a tract map to allow development of 5 condominiums at 4806 W. Elmwood

Issue: Developers have been working with the Land Use Committee for several months to address issues of garage ventilation, placement of HVAC units, architectural style and compatibility, etc. The majority of the Committee's requests were addressed in the most recent rounds of design changes presented by the applicants.

LUC Recommended Motion: That the GWNC support the application for a tract map to allow the development of 5 condominiums at 4806 W. Elmwood.

ii. Application for a CUB to allow full line liquor service (with a later closing time) at the Ebell of Los Angeles (743 S. Lucerne Blvd.)

Issue: Club had a previous license that was allowed to expire. Applicants are seeking to restore the license, with new service hours of 9 a.m. to 1 a.m. (old hours were 7:30 a.m. to midnight). There is no new construction or other modifications requested in the application. The liquor service and later hours will help support the Club's major business as an event venue.

[Note: Because two LUC members who are also Ebell board members recused themselves from the discussion, there was no LUC quorum to vote on this item. Committee members present for the discussion generally supported the application, but also asked that the applicants contact the

Windsor Village Association, to seek its approval before the GWNC Board weighs in.]

iii. Application for a CUB to allow sales of beer and wine at the Vernetti (formerly Girasole) restaurant at 225 N. Larchmont Blvd.

Issue: Applicants are seeking a license to sell beer and wine for on-site consumption only, with service from 7 a.m. to 11 p.m. daily. The new owners have also increased the square footage for the business, by expanding into an adjoining store front...but they have complied with the local [Q] conditions (regarding maximum street frontage for restaurant space) by using the expansion area for bathrooms and retail space instead of restaurant seating.

LUC Recommended Motion: That the GWNC Board support the application for wine and beer sales at the Vernetti restaurant at 225 N. Larchmont Blvd.

[Note: the following items are presented for information only; no action is requested or required at this time.]

iv. Neighborhood complaints regarding possible parking violations at La Brea Bakery (460-468 S. La Brea).

Issue: The business was recently granted a CUB for wine and beer sales, which included provisions regarding parking spaces provided on a residential property to the rear of the restaurant. Neighbors have noticed that the restaurant and other adjacent businesses are still parking cars in the prohibited area. Because the CUB has already been approved, however, the LUC recommended that the neighbors now work with the City Council office and other appropriate city departments to properly enforce the provisions of the CUB.

v. Neighborhood complaints regarding noise and use of parking areas as playgrounds at Yeshiva Rav Isacsohn/Torath Emeth Academy (555 N. La Brea).

Issue: A neighbor who lives behind the school building at Clinton and La Brea has documented excessive daily noise coming from play areas (which are actually parking lots) at the school building. She has complained to the school, and was told at one point that some children would be moved to a new classroom building...but very few were actually moved and the noise problems continue. A lawyer for the school explained that the particular building in question is located by right on a lot that allows school uses without special permits, so there is no CUP for the building (so no particular CUP provisions regarding recreation or parking areas). He also said that another new building, which will be built on an adjoining lot in the near future, will become a recreation area for many of the children now using the parking lot. To discuss other possible near-term remedies, the lawyer offered to put the neighbor directly in touch with school officials.

vi. Development of a 4-unit Small Lot Subdivision project at 5016 Rosewood Ave.

Issue: Developers presented initial plans for a 4-unit Small Lot Subdivision project at this address. The buildings will be three stories, with a mezzanine level. They will have lower heights on the front, street-facing sides of the buildings, with the tallest sections toward the rear. The units will be “upside down,” with sleeping rooms on the lower levels and living space on the upper levels. There will be no roof decks. The developers reported that they have met with leaders of the Larchmont Village Neighborhood Association, and will come back to the LUC after working to address some of the LVNA concerns regarding neighborhood context and other issues. No city hearing date has been scheduled yet.

vii. Application for a CUB renewal with later closing time at The Larchmont restaurant, 5750 W. Melrose Ave.

Issue: Applicants are seeking a renewal of their existing CUB for sales of a full line of alcoholic beverages. The only change in privileges requested is a 12 a.m. closing time instead of the current 11 p.m. closing. Members of the LUC had no objections to the application, but asked that the applicants collect approval signatures from their nearest residential neighbors before returning to the LUC for a vote. No city hearing date has been scheduled yet.

viii. Application for Historic Cultural Monument status for the Wilshire Professional Building at 3875 W. Wilshire Blvd.

Issue: The Art Deco Society has submitted an application to declare the Wilshire Professional Building, a 13-story medical office building built in 1929, a city landmark. No vote was taken at the LUC meeting, because it was determined that the property (on the north side of Wilshire at St. Andrews Place) is just outside GWNC boundaries, which end at Wilton for that section of Wilshire Blvd.

ix. Application for a CUB renewal and parking variance for the Xiomara restaurant at 6101 Melrose Ave.

Issue: Restaurant is seeking a renewal of its existing CUB for the sales of a full line of alcoholic beverages, which includes renewal of a variance to continue to allow the required parking to be provided off site within 750 feet, secured via a lease agreement with a property next door in lieu of a covenant, as well as limited live entertainment (solo guitarist). The one change requested in the new permit is longer hours, from 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. daily (old hours were 11 a.m. to 2 a.m.). Committee members had no specific objections to the requests, but asked that – because the printed application still showed the old hours – the applicants return to a future meeting with a fully updated application before a vote is taken. There was

also some discussion regarding the possible cumulative impacts of a growing number of liquor licenses in the area. No city hearing date has been scheduled yet.

x. Possible agenda items for upcoming LUC meetings (no action at this time):

- a. Construction of a 162-unit, 7-story apartment complex at **700 S. Manhattan Pl.**
- b. Development of a parking lot into 22 townhouse units over subterranean parking at **612 S. Norton** and **4055 Wilshire Blvd.**
- c. Construction of a 4-story, 11-unit apartment complex, with Density Bonus and two on-menu incentives at **5036 Rosewood Ave.**
- d. Construction of a 4-story, 22-unit apartment complex with Density Bonus at **5022-5026 Rosewood Ave.**
- e. Change of Use to convert the old Scottish Rite Temple to a private, non-profit museum at **4357 W. Wilshire Blvd.**
- f. Construction of an unmanned wireless telecommunications facility atop an apartment building at **407 S. Gramercy**
- g. Density bonus project at **801-813 N. Hudson**
- h. Construction of a new 6,000 square foot retail space at **101 N. La Brea**
- i. CUB application to allow sales of a full line of alcoholic beverages at an existing restaurant space on the 7th floor at **4680 W. Wilshire** (Farmer's Insurance building)
- j. Construction of new 5-story, 44-unit condominium building at **850 S. Crenshaw Blvd.**
- k. Construction of 169 apartments at **904-932 N. La Brea Ave.**
- l. CUB application to allow sales of wine and beer at the **Burger Lounge** restaurant, **217 N. Larchmont Blvd.**
- m. Construction of a 9-unit apartment building in the Wilshire Park HPOZ, at **963 S. Wilton Pl.**
- n. Review of city policy on **hiring outside counsel for Land Use and CEQA cases**

7. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS (5 minutes)

A. **Homeless camp at Bank of America's Rosewood/La Brea office** (Carpenter)

B. **Next meeting, Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 p.m.**

8. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (5 minutes)

9. ADJOURNMENT

Time allocations for agenda items are approximate and may be shortened or lengthened at the discretion of the Chairperson.

Items in italics were unconfirmed at publication time and may be postponed until a future meeting.

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Committee on any agenda item before the Committee takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board’s jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS – GWNC agendas are posted for public review in the following locations:

- Our website (<http://www.greaterwilshire.org>)
- Our Facebook page (<http://www.facebook.com/greaterwilshireneighborhoodcouncil>)
- Our Twitter feed (<http://www.twitter.com/greaterwilshire>)
- NextDoor.com
- The community bulletin board at the Bricks & Scones Café, 403 N. Larchmont Blvd., 90004
- Via e-mail (send a subscription request to admin@greaterwilshire.org)
- Via the L.A. City Early Notification System at <http://www.lacity.org/government/subscriptions/neighborhoodcouncils/index.htm>

THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT -- As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the GWNC Secretary at (424) 901-1409, toll-free at 311, or e-mail info@greaterwilshire.org.

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 our website at <http://www.greaterwilshire.org> 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 info@greaterwilshire.org or (424) 901-1409.

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS – For information on the GWNC’s process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the GWNC Bylaws. The bylaws are available at our Board meetings and on our website at <http://www.greaterwilshire.org>

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE AVISAR AL CONCEJO VECINAL 3 DIAS DE TRABAJO (72 HORAS) ANTES DEL EVENTO. POR FAVOR CONTACTE AL SECRETARIO DE LA MESA, AL [\(424\) 901-1409](tel:4249011409) O INFO@GREATERWILSHIRE.ORG