



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council General Meeting
November 11, 2015
MINUTES
Approved by the Committee 1/13/16

I. WELCOMING REMARKS (Owen Smith)

A. Call to order & Flag salute (Owen Smith)

A duly noticed Meeting of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (“GWNC”) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, November 11, 2015, at the Ebell of Los Angeles, 743 S. Lucerne Blvd., Los Angeles. President Owen Smith called the meeting to order at 7:01 p. m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Joseph Hoffman.

B. Board Roll call (Jeff Carpenter)

Secretary Jeffry Carpenter called the roll. Nine of the 19 Board Members or their Alternates were present at the Roll Call, which is not a quorum: Jeffry Carpenter, Philip Farha (Alternate for Jeff McManus), John Gresham, Joseph Hoffman, Fred Mariscal, Barbara Savage (Alternate for William Funderburk), Owen Smith, Julie Stromberg and Greg Wittmann. Four Board Members arrived later: Patricia Carroll, Jack Humphreville, Patricia Lombard and Eric Oliver (Alternate for Ann Eggleston). Five Board Members were absent and not represented by an Alternate: Michael Genewick, Frances McFall, Jane Usher, John Winther and James Wolf. New Board Member Patrick MacKellan was appointed in Item #V. B. The GWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is 3/5 of the 19 currently filled Board Seats, or 11 Members present (see <http://www.greaterwilshire.org/site/files/GreaterWilshireApprovedReorderedBylawAmendments051712Updated102612.pdf>), so at this time the Board could only take public comments and could not have any official discussions, and could not make any Motions or take any votes. Nineteen of the 21 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Two Board Seats were vacant (Area 9 – Oakwood/Maplewood/St. Andrews, and Education) (and some Alternate Seats were vacant; see below). Also attending: 23 Stakeholders and guests.

II. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS:

(Representatives from government offices and community-based organizations)

Two community theatre representatives encouraged attending their production of “The Secret Garden.”

Board Members Jack Humphreville arrived at 7:05 and Patti Carroll arrived at 7:07, making a quorum of 11 Members (or their Alternate(s)) present. Now the Board could take binding votes on Agendized Items.

A. CD4 Update (Nikki Ezhari)

Nikki Ezhari, Field Deputy for L.A. City District Four Councilman David Ryu (213) 473-7004; (213) 485-3337; nikki.ezhari@lacity.org; [http:// http://davidryu.lacity.org/](http://davidryu.lacity.org/)), could not attend and there was no report at this time.

B. CD5 Update (John Darnell)

- Re-surfacing of Sycamore Avenue between 3rd Street and Willoughby Avenue planned (Areas 2 and 8). From Oakwood to 3rd Street planned for December.
- “No left turn” signage for westbound drivers on Willoughby has been installed at Highland (Area 8); this is hoped to improve general safety at the intersection for pedestrians and drivers by eliminating the turning queue.
- The Council Office commends the L.A. City Attorney's Dispute Resolution Program. More details are at: <http://www.lacity.org/mediate>; email to: mediate@lacity.org
- Councilmember Koretz has requested that Department of Public Works and the Bureau of Street Services report on the health of the City’s trees and develop a sustainability plan; Council File Number is 15-0467; link is <https://cityclerk.lacity.org/lacityclerkconnect/index.cfm?fa=ccfi.viewrecord&cfnumber=15-0467>

John Darnell, Field Deputy for L.A. City District Five Councilman Paul Koretz (310-289-0353; John.Darnell@LACity.org; www.lacity.org/council/cd5), could not attend and there was no report at this time.

C. LAPD Senior Lead Officers

Hebel Rodriguez, LAPD Wilshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 213.473.0476; mobile/text phone 213.793.0715; 35738@LAPD.LACity.org; www.LAPDWilshire.com), reminded, especially because of the holidays, to “be hypervigilant . . . don’t leave any valuables in your car.” Catalytic converters are being stolen, especially from Hondas and Toyotas. Some muffler shops sell “a locking device.”

D. Other local government representatives

E. LA Department of Sanitation

- The Storm Water Management program is offering free canisters and rolls of dog waste bags to help reduce contaminated water runoff. More information is at: <http://www.lastormwater.org/take-action/practice-good-housekeeping/tips-forpet-owners/request-free-dog-waste-bag/>

III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Stakeholder Merle Goodman said she was attacked by a bus driver in September 2014.

Board Member Patricia Lombard arrived at this time, making 12 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present (the GWNC quorum is 11).

IV. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS:

A. Review and adoption of October 14, 2015 Minutes (Jeff Carpenter)

MOTION (by Mr. Humphreville, seconded by Mr. Hoffman): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its October 14, 2015 General Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED without any opposition.

B. Status of Administrator hiring (Jeff Carpenter)

Mr. Carpenter indicated that he, Liz Fuller, Mr. Hoffman and Ms. Carroll are interviewing candidates.

Board Member Eric Oliver (Alternate for Ann Eggleston) arrived at this time, making 13 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present (the GWNC quorum is 11).

V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

(including discussion and possible Board action, as noted) (Owen Smith):

A. Appointment of Ad Hoc Election Committee

- Confirmation of permanent Election Committee chair/chairpersons

Mr. Carpenter said that he had to decline the nomination to chair the Committee when he returned from out of the country in late October. In his stead, Assistant Secretary Greg Wittmann had asked Alternate Board Member Colette Amin, who had previously indicated a willingness to lead the Committee, to step in. Mr. Smith volunteered to be a Co-Chair.

MOTION (by Mr. Humphreville, seconded by Mr. Mariscal): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council appoints Alternate Board Member Colette Amin as Chair of its Election Committee, with Board Member Owen Smith as Committee Co-Chair and Board Member Greg Wittmann as a Committee Member.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with nine in favor; four opposed (Carroll, Hoffman, Lombard and Stromberg); zero abstained.

- Nomination/appointment of Election Committee Members

See the above Motion in which Board Member Greg Wittman was appointed.

Jay Handal, Director of Neighborhood Councils Elections for the City Clerk (Jay@EmpowerLA.org; 310-466-0645), introduced Ivan Spiegel, Independent Election Administrator (IEA). He encouraged having “three candidates for every Seat.” Candidate filing is January 17 – March 2nd, 2016; the Election is May 1st 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The Board directed Ms. Amin to enter on its 2016 Election Stipulation Worksheet that the voting location preferences are 1) the Barking Lot on Larchmont; 2) Third St. School; and 3) Fire Station 29 on Wilshire Blvd.

MOTION (by Mr. Humphreville, seconded by Mr. Mariscal): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves its 2016 Election Stipulation Worksheet as completed.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

The Board directed that Election materials be available in English, Spanish and Korean. Mr. Handal added that there will be a Poll Manager, an Assistant Manager and at least two Poll workers, paid for by the City.

MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Mariscal): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council will not provide any language translations at the poll.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Gresham believed translation would not be necessary; Ms. Lombard believed it would. Mr. Handal clarified that the GWNC can have volunteers assist with the Election, however, Candidates and Candidates’ families are not allowed to assist.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no opposition.

MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Carroll): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council Election will be May 1, 2016 from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no opposition.

MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. Carroll): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council Election voting location preferences are 1) the Barking Lot on Larchmont; 2) Third St. School; and 3) Fire Station 29 on Wilshire Blvd.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no opposition.

MOTION (by Ms. Lombard, seconded by Mr. Hoffman): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council will recruit translators from the community to help with its May 1, 2016 Election.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no opposition.

MOTION (by Mr. Carpenter, seconded by Mr. Gresham): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves its 2016 Election Stipulation Worksheet as amended.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no opposition.

- B. Introduction, Approval, Installation of New Non-Profit Representative Board Member-- Patrick MacKellan (Patricia Carroll) (5 min.) Neighborhood Council Oath of Office “I pledge to represent the Greater Wilshire NC with dignity, integrity and pride. I will encourage other points of view, even when they differ from my own. I will respect, value and consider everyone’s opinion. I will find the good in my neighborhood and praise it and promote it. To my neighbors, and to neighborhoods throughout the City of Los Angeles, I pledge to do this to the best of my ability.”

MOTION (by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Ms. Lombard): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council appoints Stakeholder Patrick MacKellan to its Non-Profit Representative Board Member Seat.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no opposition.

New Board Member Patrick MacKellan read aloud the Oath of Office and was Seated with the Board at this time, making 14 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present (the GWNC quorum is 11).

- C. Board Vacancies. Seats vacated by elected Board Members before the end of their term open for volunteer nominations: Area 9 – Oakwood/Maplewood/St. Andrews; and Education.

Mr. Smith noted the above.

- D. Alternate Board Members still needed for: Area 3 – Country Club Heights; Area 4 – Fremont Place; Area 9 – Oakwood/Maplewood/St. Andrews; Education; Other Non-Profit; and Religion.

Mr. Smith noted the above.

- E. 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: [A list in the Agenda shows which Board Members and Alternates need to complete trainings.]

Mr. Smith noted the above.

- F. 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/>). Currently, Business Alternate Peggy Bartenetti is the only GWNC Board Member or Alternate who has not turned in the required form.

Mr. Smith noted the above.

[The Agenda showed Item #VI before Item #V.]

VI. TREASURER'S REPORT (Discussion and Board Action, as noted)

- A. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report for September 2015 (Discussion and Board action) (Patti Carroll)

10/1 KYCC - Wilton Island Maintenance - \$75

10/5 Public Storage October- \$104.00

10/16 Larchmont Chronicle October - \$340.00

10/19 Banners Co (large GWNC banner) - \$85.10

10/20 Sign World (banner stand - \$119.46

10/27 United Methodist Church LUC rent July August Sept - \$75

10/29 United Methodist Church Transportation Meeting rent - \$25

Copies were distributed of the GWNC Monthly Expenditure Report for October and a UnionBank checking statement; Ms. Carroll reviewed them and recent expenses.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gresham, seconded by Mr. Hoffman): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for September 2015.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Carpenter, Gresham, Hoffman, Lombard, Mariscal, Oliver, Savage, Smith, Stromberg and Wittmann); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Carroll, Mr. Farha, Mr. Humphreville and Mr. MacKellan were ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

- B. Approval of Individual Expenses Listed in the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) – (Discussion and Board action). (Patti Carroll)

Ms. Carroll reviewed the expenses.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Ms. Savage): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves the individual expenditures it made in October 2015.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Carpenter, Gresham, Hoffman, Lombard, Mariscal, Oliver, Savage, Smith, Stromberg and Wittmann); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Carroll, Mr. Farha, Mr. Humphreville and Mr. MacKellan were ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

C. Pre-Approval of Upcoming Expenses (Discussion and Board Action) (Patti Carroll)

- Public Storage November - \$104.00
- Larchmont Chronicle November - \$340.00
- Ebell Rent November - \$300
- UMC Land Use Meeting Space - \$25.00
- Approval for banners, handouts, etc. for Yoga in the Park Up to - \$175
- Approval of Minutes Writing Lloyds - \$193.05

Ms. Carroll reviewed the expenses.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Ms. Savage): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council pre-approves the following upcoming expenditures: Public Storage November - \$104.00; Larchmont Chronicle November - \$340.00; Ebell Rent November - \$300; UMC Land Use Meeting Space - \$25.00; banners, handouts, etc. for Yoga in the Park Up to - \$175; and Minutes Writing Lloyds - \$193.05.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 10 eligible voters present with all 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Carpenter, Gresham, Hoffman, Lombard, Mariscal, Oliver, Savage, Smith, Stromberg and Wittmann); zero opposed; zero abstained. Ms. Carroll, Mr. Farha, Mr. Humphreville and Mr. MacKellan were ineligible to vote due to not having current Ethics Training and/or Funding Training.

D. Update on Budget and Miscellaneous Items (Patti Carroll)

Ms. Carroll explained that “we have two bank accounts over at DONE” including \$4,393.83 “in the old account that’s being closed out” and \$11,266.48 in the new account. The total budget will be \$42,000. Mr. Funderburk believed that some Board Members may have a conflict of interest regarding a neighborhood publication. He encouraged the Board to advocate in multiple local publications. Mr. Mariscal did “strongly encourage to advertise in the Ledger.” He will bring publication information to the Committee.

[The Agenda showed Item #V after Item #VI.]

V. CITY BUDGET and NC BUDGET ADVOCATES (Jack Humphreville) (Discussion and possible Board action)

[This was the second Item #5 on the Agenda.] Mr. Humphreville reported that the City wants to hire 20,000 more workers; it would cost an estimated \$125 million, greatly increasing the City’s budget deficit.

A. Update on LADWP Rate Increase

Mr. Humphreville reported that the DWP wants a 30% increase over five years, starting April 1, 2016.

B. Report on LANCC Meeting on November 7.

Mr. Humphreville reported that LANCC [the Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils Coalition; LANCC@EmpowerLA.org; www.LANCC.org] will further consider the street vending issue [Council File #13-1493 City of Los Angeles Street Vending Policy].

[There was no Item #VII.]

VIII. OUTREACH COMMITTEE (Discussion and possible Board action, as noted)

A. Update on Yoga in the Park (Colette Amin)

Ms. Amin reported that an instructor is there. She encouraged “all types” to attend. Another class is being added.

B. Report on DONE Election Workshop Meeting (Colette Amin)

Copies were distributed of sample election documents. See above Item #V. A.

C. Request for Citizen Recognition Award Candidates (Fred Mariscal) – Please contact Outreach Committee Members with suggestions for future awards.

Mr. Mariscal noted the above.

IX. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE (Julie Stromberg) (Discussion and Board Action, as noted)

A. Report on GWNC Transportation Committee-Council District 4 Street and Sidewalk Repairs Database Program (Julie Stromberg)

The GWNC Transportation Committee is compiling data on streets and sidewalks in the Greater Wilshire Area within Council District 4 for Councilman David Ryu’s Office (CD 4). Submissions are due on Friday, November 20, 2015, at 5:00 p.m. All submissions should be sent to transportation@greaterwilshire.org. Submissions must include location of the repair site and general description. Photographs of the requested repairs are strongly encouraged. GWNC Transportation Committee Member Julie Stromberg is coordinating the project.

Ms. Stromberg noted the above.

B. Report and Update on LA Mobility Plan 2035 (Julie Stromberg)

Report on status of LA Mobility Plan 2035 and related amendments involving areas within the GWNC.

Ms. Stromberg reported that several City Council Members want to revise the Plan.

C. Next Meeting Will be on Monday, November 30, 2015

Ms. Stromberg noted the above.

- D. Discussion, Planning, and Motion on Metro Decking at La Brea for the Purple Line Extension Project. (Representatives from Metro and Skanska Traylor Shea (STS)). Discussion regarding and voting on two possible options for street closures during decking work at La Brea and Wilshire Blvd. for the Purple Line Extension Project. Construction will consist of a concrete deck, curb to curb, on Wilshire Blvd., between Orange Drive and Detroit Street. The decking process will involve street closures, related detours, and various construction work schedules.
- Motion 1: Move to support 7 week full closure of Wilshire, from Highland and La Brea, with the following schedule: 7 days a week, 7am-11pm above deck, 11pm-7am below deck, and 15 Nights of work; and 6 additional weekend closures from La Brea to Detroit, 9pm Friday thru 6am Monday, work continuous.
 - Motion 2: Move to support approximately 22 weekend closures, broken down by area closures, with the following schedule: 9pm Friday thru 6am Monday, work continuous, and 66 Nights of work.

Ms. Stromberg reported that L.A. City District Four Councilman David Ryu (213) 473-7004; <http://www.davidERYu.com/contact>; <http://CD4.LACity.org>) wants more analysis before a choice is made from the above. He will have a community meeting in January. Mr. Gresham said almost all the Wilshire vendors he spoke with want the weekend-only closures. Kasey Shuda, Metro Construction Relations Manager, said other areas prefer “full closures” to “shorten the duration” of the work. Ms. Savage, of the LaBrea-Hancock Park Homeowners Association, reported that they voted to support the seven-week closure, then rescinded that support “in deference to the entire area.” Ms. Stromberg indicated that many in the community are against the seven-week closure. Later, she read aloud a November 6, 2015 letter from the Association’s Cindy Chvatal-Keane indicating that the Association is opposed to the closures without more information. Also, Mr. Oliver read aloud a similar letter from the Sycamore Square Neighborhood Association.

X. SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE (Julie Stromberg, Barbara Savage) (Discussion and Board Action, as noted)

- A. Report and Status on the Sustainability Committee. Update on upcoming Committee projects.

Ms. Stromberg reported.

- B. Date and Location of Next Sustainability Committee Meeting. The GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee will meet on Tuesday, December 1, 2015, at 7:00 p.m., in the Youth Chapel Room of the Wilshire Methodist Church, 4350 Wilshire Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90005

Ms. Stromberg noted the above.

XI. NEW BUSINESS (matters not previously identified for future consideration and action)

There were no other Board Member comments or new business at this time.

XII. LAND USE COMMITTEE (Barbara Savage) (Discussion and Board Action, as noted)

A. 640 N LaBrea (Orangetheory)

Issue: A CUP is requested for a mini shopping mall exception for Orangetheory, a crossfit training facility. Orangetheory is asking for their hours of operation to start from 5:00am instead of 7:00am.

LUC Recommended Motion: No recommendation or motion. LUC heard the applicant's presentation, but could not take action because there was no quorum. Therefore the applicant is seeking the support of the GWNC Board because the hearing is between this GWNC meeting and the next LUC meeting on November 24.

Ms. Savage noted the above.

MOTION (by Mr. Gresham, seconded by Mr. Hoffman): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council TABLES this Item.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no opposition.

B. 7015 Melrose (Tsuru Sushi/ Modern Dinery Inc., David Weissglass representative for David Kim)

Issue: Tsuru Sushi is applying for an expedited CUP to allow for the sale of full line of alcohol for on-site consumption.

LUC Recommended Motion: No recommendation or motion. The LUC did not hear this case because the MLU came after the last LUC meeting. Because the applicant wanted to expedite the application, he is coming directly to the Board for review.

Copies were distributed of the CUP application and related documents. Ms. Savage noted the above. Mr. Weissglass described the 4,239 square-foot, 65-seat project near Sycamore. They had been serving alcohol for around one month. They are requesting operating hours of 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 a.m. daily. They are “providing more parking than is necessary,” 32 spaces. A valet service uses the 7000 Melrose lot. Mr. Farha was concerned that the lot is being used by multiple businesses. Mr. Carpenter requested for the Committee to Agendize this.

MOTION (by Mr. Farha, seconded by Mr. Carpenter): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council supports the request for a Conditional Use Permit to allow for the sale of full line of alcohol for on-site consumption at 7015 Melrose.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with no opposition.

[The following items are included for information only. No presentation is scheduled or Board action requested or required at this time.]

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

1. 7000-7024 W Melrose Ave (On Menu).

A request for a section 12.21.1 incentive density bonus for an increase in the allowable floor area by 32.5% from FAR 1.5 to 1.988 FAR (50,535 sf to 66,959 sf). Proposed project consists of a two story residential structure with 40 dwelling units and a roof

deck over one level of 7500 sf of commercial and on-grade parking over 3 levels of subterranean parking. The project is being developed in conjunction with the maintenance of existing 2-story commercial building on the corner of Melrose and LaBrea and will be lot-tied. Currently used as a valet parking lot and 2 story commercial building. Proposed to be mixed use.

Ms. Savage noted the above.

XIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

XIV. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

XV. ADJOURNMENT

A. Next meeting, Wednesday, December 9, 2015, 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Smith declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David Levin, Minutes Writer

The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda. Edited by GWNC. The GWNC Minutes page is <http://www.greaterwilshire.org/site/site/?q=node/581>.