



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council Environmental & Sustainability Committee
September 13, 2016
Approved by the Committee on March 14, 2017

1. WELCOMING REMARKS:

A. Call to order

A duly noticed meeting of the Environmental & Sustainability Committee of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (“GWNC”) was held on Tuesday, September 13, 2016, at Los Angeles Tennis Club Café, 5851 Clinton St., Los Angeles, CA. Chairwoman Julie Stromberg called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Two of the four Committee Members were present at the Roll Call: Cathy Roberts and Julie Stromberg. William Funderburk arrived later. Barbara Savage was absent. The GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee quorum (the minimum number of Committee Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is three, so at this time the Committee could only take public comments and could not have any official discussions, and could not make any Motions or take any votes. Four Committee Seats were filled (by election or appointment). [To apply see www.GWNC.org and <http://greaterwilshire.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/GreaterWilshireBylawsApproved2014.pdf>.] Also attending: eight Stakeholders and Guests.

C. Welcome and Approval/Seating of New Committee Members.

Stakeholder Dan Kegel indicated his interest in joining the Committee.

[This Agenda Item was continued after Item #4.]

MOTION (by Ms. Stromberg, seconded by Ms. Roberts): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council Environmental & Sustainability Committee appoints Stakeholder Dan Kegel as a Committee Member.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

2. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments at this time.

3. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS (Discussion and Action)

A. Review and adoption of June 14, 2016 Meeting Minutes.

Ms. Stromberg requested and it was agreed to TABLE this Item.

4. PRESENTATIONS

A. Climate Change and LA: What it is, and what LA can and should do about it. (Dan Kegel; B.S. '86, Caltech) Mr. Kegel will provide a primer on Climate Change with a specific discussion on what Angelenos can do to make an impact.

Mr. Kegel (https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1HY_dM7N4XAC-ODLYXZ05YdeYQa7p5dLhg5t4Y7Mtego/edit#slide=id.g1650dcb0b6_0_48) showed slides and presented. The “first estimate of global warming” was in 1896. Scientists noted by 1955 that the Earth’s carbon dioxide was increasing. In 1988 the U.S. Senate warned about global warming. August 2016 “was the hottest August in 136 years of modern record-keeping” in the world. He explained the accelerating number of “extreme heat” days. Human-made factors such as pollution and structures can trap and increase heat. Solutions include planting trees; white roofs (they reflect heat); fulfilling the City’s goal to reduce its urban temperature; cutting greenhouse gas emissions (efficient equipment and materials such as LED lights can reduce power usage); electrification (such as of vehicles); renewable energy (such as solar panels and/or sign up for the DWP’s Green Power Program [https://www.ladwp.com/ladwp/faces/ladwp/commercial/c-gogreen/c-gg-signupforgreenpower.jsessionid=b0bCXftT7z0k3SGn4GLggQh6bdXbwSy4lhTf9nYSStLvKnGpRKJf4!1415322922?_adf.ctrl-state=jkkkfwzuj_4&_afLoop=292881168113492&_afWindowMode=0&_afWindowId=null#%40%3F_afWindowId%3Dnull%26_afLoop%3D292881168113492%26_afWindowMode%3D0%26_adf.ctrl-state%3D10bw0pza7_4]); and demanding action by elected officials and/or joining an environmental organization (such as Citizens Climate Lobby) [<http://citizensclimatelobby.org>]. He noted City and State legislative action already taken. There was discussion of car-buying trends.

Committee Member Bill Funderburk arrived at this time (8:21), making a quorum of three Members present. Now the Committee could take binding votes on Agendized Items.

There was discussion of what individuals, organizations and government have done and can do. Mr. Funderburk noted that “demand management” helped reduce power usage during recent heat waves. Stakeholder John Kaliski noted that land use policies have not evolved as fast as technologies. There was extensive discussion about political realities affecting programs, costs and impacts, and technical and political solutions. Ms. Roberts announced an October 5th-7th GreenBuild Conference [<https://greenbuildexpo.com>] at the L.A. Convention Center.

5. OLD BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Discussion, Planning, and Possible Motion on GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee-California Greenworks, Inc. Parkway Challenge (Julie Stromberg). Discussion of launch of Parkway Challenge program and key features in the program’s pilot sustainable and resilient parkway. In partnership with California Greenworks, Inc., the GWNC Sustainability Committee is devising an outreach program to educate stakeholders on the proper care of trees in parkways with emphasis on the importance of sustainable landscaping. The program will include a “pilot” residential parkway remodeled based on a professional design consistent with the principles of sustainable landscape design.

Stakeholders will be encouraged to nominate a parkway for the project design phase. Parkway must be residential and within the Greater Wilshire as well as Council District 4 boundaries.

Ms. Stromberg invited submissions for this “part two of the program.” Mr. Kaliski and Ms. Roberts volunteered to help.

MOTION (by Ms. Stromberg, seconded by Mr. Funderburk): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council Environmental & Sustainability Committee will form a Parkway Project Subcommittee with Julie Stromberg, Cathy Roberts and John Kaliski as Members.

MOTION PASSED; zero opposed; zero abstained.

- B. Report on GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee Summer 2016 Drought-Tolerant Landscaping Garden Tour. (Julie Stromberg/Barbara Savage/Cathy Roberts). Report on Committee’s first tour of residential drought-tolerant landscapes of homes in the Greater Wilshire area, which was held on Sunday, June 26, 2016.
Ms. Stromberg reported that “about 400 people attend[ed]” from as far as Palm Springs.

6. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. Discussion, Planning, and Possible Motion on GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee Fall 2016/Winter 2017 Rain Barrel Distribution Program. (Julie Stromberg).
No discussion was had, or Motion made or vote taken.
- B. Discussion, Planning, and Possible Motion on GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee Position on LA City Council Vote Regarding Move Toward 100% Clean Energy. (Julie Stromberg). On September 16, 2016, the LA City Council will vote on the following: (1) LADWP to develop a research and implementation plan to transition its portfolio to 100% renewable energy; and (2) that this research partnership should utilize the resources and develop in partnership with the efforts of the U.S. Department of Energy and its support of Mission Innovation and the Breakthrough Energy Coalition. See Council File No. 16-0243.
No discussion was had, or Motion made or vote taken.
- C. Request for Nominations of “Green” Businesses in the Greater Wilshire Area. (Julie Stromberg)
No discussion was had, or Motion made or vote taken.
- D. Discussion, Planning, and Motion GWNC Sustainability Committee Event. (Julie Stromberg). Brainstorm ideas for a Committee program on a topic of interest to stakeholders. Consider Committee outreach measures.
No discussion was had, or Motion made or vote taken.
- E. Discussion, Planning, and Motion GWNC Sustainability Committee Park Clean-Up Event. (Julie Stromberg). Brainstorm Committee clean-up event at a local park part of Committee’s community beautification efforts.
No discussion was had, or Motion made or vote taken.

7. **COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS** (Including Discussion and Possible Action)
A. Avalon Green Alleys (Los Angeles Department of Sanitation Project) (Julie Stromberg)
No discussion was had, or Motion made or vote taken.

8. **COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Next meeting, Tuesday, December, 13, 2016, 7:00 p.m., Location TBD.
No discussion was had.
- B. Green Festival Expo, LA Convention Center, September 16-18, 2016.
No discussion was had.
- C. 2017 Theodore Payne Native Plant Garden Tour seeks native gardens. Online applications available at: nativeplantgardentour.org/apply. The application period ends October 1, 2016.
No discussion was had.

9. **REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. The Sustainable City pLAn and Tracking the City of Los Angeles' Progress Toward Reaching pLAn Goals.
No discussion was had.
- B. Community Clean-Up Days
No discussion was had.
- C. LADWP Stormwater Capture Master Plan, Enhanced Watershed Master Plan, and Proposed Alternative to LADWP's Rebate Approach (for example, a Tiered Rebate Approach)
No discussion was had.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Stromberg declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 9:11 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. Possibly edited by GWNC. The GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee Minutes page is

<http://www.greaterwilshire.org/site/site/site/site/site/site/?q=node/583>.