



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council
Special Board Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, March 29, 2023
Approved April 12, 2023

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (March 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, this duly noticed meeting was held entirely online and telephonically.

Document copies were shown online and available at www.greaterwilshire.org/BDdocs.

I. WELCOMING REMARKS.

A. Call to Order (Conrad Starr)

A duly noticed Meeting of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council ("GWNC") Board of Directors was held online. President Conrad Starr called the meeting to order at 6:32 p. m. and explained procedures.

B. Roll Call (Jennifer DeVore)

The Secretary called the roll. Thirteen of the 18 Board Members or their Alternate(s) were present online at the Roll Call: Tommy Atlee, Patricia Carroll (Treasurer), Cindy Chvatal-Keane, Charles D'Atri (Vice-President), Jennifer DeVore (Secretary), Gary Gilbert, Jesseca Harvey, Tess Paige, Kelly Rielly (Alternate for Scott Appel), Cathy Roberts, Owen Smith, Conrad Starr (President) and John Winther. Brian Curran and John Gresham arrived later. Jeffry Carpenter, Stephanie Lee, Beau Lloyd and Benny Rosenberg were absent and not represented by an Alternate. Raphie Cantor had resigned [see below Item #II. D. 1. a)] New Area 3 Country Club Heights Seat Board Member Selene Betancourt was appointed to the Board during below Item #III. D. 4. a. The GWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is 13 (see the Bylaws link at <https://greaterwilshire.org/bylaws-board-rules>), so the Board could take such votes. Eighteen of the 21 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Three Board Seats were vacant [Area 3 – Country Club Heights; Area 8 -- Melrose; and Area 12 – Western-Wilton; see Item #III. D. 2.; to apply see www.GreaterWilshire.org]. Seven Alternate Seats were vacant. Also attended: at least seven Stakeholders and guests.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #III. D. 1. a.

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.

There were no comments at this time.

Baydsar Tomasian, a District Consultant for State Senator Maria Elena Durazo [cellphone 213-359-4526; <https://sd26.senate.ca.gov>], reported that, on April 20th, there will be Caltrans off-ramp cleanups and encouraged contacting her to get help.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #III. A.

III. SPECIAL BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Motion).

A. Review of current funding/budget (Patti Carroll, GWNC Treasurer).

Ms. Carroll reviewed the above. There was \$21,734 in available funds. She encouraged preserving the possible \$10,000 in rollover funds.

- B. Website and Email Hosting (greaterwilshire.org). EXPLANATION: The GWNC currently hosts its website with Media Temple. Media Temple has stopped accepting new customers and has moved existing customers to GoDaddy. See more at <https://mediatemple.net/community/products/all/8884159911437/>. In 2022, the renewal fee for Media Temple web plus email hosting was \$240. The security certificate was an additional \$75. Hosting is set to auto-renew on April 19, 2023 at a cost of \$300. The mail service is “sunsetting” at a yet-to-be-disclosed time. At the direction of the GWNC President, GWNC’s contracted webmaster, Denise Shiozawa (UmeWorks), has researched other options for website and email hosting (see supporting documents). Note: email and website migration will require hourly time by UmeWorks (\$65/hour) and will involve the participation of GWNC email account holders for any email accounts being carried over. UmeWorks’ recommendation is for GWNC to renew its Media Temple hosting to allow sufficient time for any email migrations, in which case Media Temple (as confirmed on 3/28/23 by chat) will provide a prorated refund for any unused portion of the annual term. All options from UmeWorks’ proposal are listed below for board discussion and action.
1. POSSIBLE MOTION: GWNC will renew its annual website and email hosting with Media Temple (GoDaddy) for up to \$300.

Ms. Shiozawa introduced the above; Mr. Starr gave background information.

Board Member John Gresham arrived online at this time (6:56), making 16 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present online (the GWNC quorum was thirteen.)

Ms. Shiozawa showed slides and described options details. Many questions were asked which she and Mr. Starr answered.

This Item was returned to after Item #III. A.

Board Member Brian Curran had arrived online by this time (6:56), making 17 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present online (the GWNC quorum was thirteen.)

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Mr. Curran): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council will renew its annual website and email hosting with Media Temple (GoDaddy) for up to \$300.

Board Member Cindy Chvatal had left by this time, making 15 Board Members present online (the GWNC Board quorum is thirteen).

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, DeVore, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Paige, Rielly, Roberts, Smith and Winther); zero opposed; one abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Starr). One (Betancourt) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

2. POSSIBLE MOTION: GWNC will purchase a new annual security certificate for Media Temple (GoDaddy) hosting for up to \$75. (expires in June 2023)

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to skip the above.

3. POSSIBLE MOTION: GWNC will purchase an annual Dreamhost VPS Business Plan for up to \$330. (includes email, includes security certificate.)

Mr. Starr gave information about the above.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. DeVore): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council will purchase an annual Dreamhost VPS Business Plan for up to \$330 (includes email, includes security certificate).

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, DeVore, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Paige, Roberts, Smith and Winther); zero opposed; two abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Rielly and Starr). One (Betancourt) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

4. POSSIBLE MOTION: GWNC will purchase a SiteGround GrowBig Shared Hosting Plan for \$47.88 (promotional rate for first year) (does not include email hosting) (additional years’ hosting estimated at \$350/year).(includes security certificate.).

Mr. Starr gave information about, then requested and it was agreed to skip the above.

5. POSSIBLE MOTION: GWNC will purchase Google Workspace accounts (for email, contact sharing, calendar sharing, Google Drive, and other related services) at \$6/ account for the following email addresses through the end of FY22-23, for a total of up to \$78/month or \$234 for April-June 2023. The annual cost for this option is \$936/year at the current published rate.

- president@
- vicepresident@
- secretary@

- treasurer@
- outreach@
- sustainability@
- qualityoflife@
- transportation@
- resilience@
- landusechair@
- landusesecretary@
- webmaster@
- admin@

Mr. Starr gave information about, then requested and it was agreed to skip the above.

6. POSSIBLE MOTION: GWNC will convert all currently active email addresses not listed here to “forwarders.”

- president@
- vicepresident@
- secretary@
- treasurer@
- outreach@
- sustainability@
- qualityoflife@
- transportation@
- resilience@
- landusechair@
- landusesecretary@
- webmaster@
- admin@

Mr. Starr gave information about, then requested and it was agreed to skip the above.

7. POSSIBLE MOTION: GWNC will allocate an additional \$650 to UmeWorks for email and website migration (up to 10 hours, in addition to previously budgeted amount for regular maintenance).

Mr. Starr gave information, then recommended and it was agreed to delete the phrase “to UmeWorks” from the Motion.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by Ms. DeVore): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council will allocate an additional \$650 for email and website migration (up to 10 hours, in addition to previously budgeted amount for regular maintenance).

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 14 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, DeVore, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Paige, Roberts, Smith and Winther); zero opposed; two abstained

(the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Rielly and Starr). One (Betancourt) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

C. Neighborhood Purposes Grants (NPG)

1. Ad Hoc NPG Committee Report (Julie Stromberg) The GWNC Board voted to award up to \$4000 in grants for the GWNC Spring 2023 NPGs. The GWNC received ten (10) applications for the Spring 2023 NPGs, but only eight were eligible for consideration:
 - Anderson Munger YMCA;
 - Ayudar Foundation;
 - Enrich LA;
 - First-in Fire Foundation;
 - Larchmont Charter;
 - Launch LA;
 - Stories from the Frontline; and
 - Wilshire Crest PTA.

Ms. Carroll and Mr. Winther recused from voting (self-declared as/was declared ineligible to participate in or vote on a Motion(s) in this Item due to a possible or known conflict of interest [they are Anderson Munger YMCA Board Members]) and were muted and put on hold at this time, making 13 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present online and eligible to vote (the GWNC Board quorum was thirteen). Recusing is not the same as abstaining from voting, which is declining to vote “yes” or “no.”

Ms. Roberts reported for the Committee

Board Member Jen DeVore left at this time (7:39), making 12 Board Members present online (one short of the GWNC Board quorum of thirteen).

2. NPG Awards: Committee Recommendations to award NPGs to the following applicants in the indicated corresponding amounts. For some applications, a range is provided for a grand total of \$3,000 to \$4,000 in grants.
 - a) POSSIBLE MOTION: GWNC Board approves granting an NPG to Anderson Munger YMCA in the amount of [\$500 or \$250].

Questions were asked and Ms. Roberts and Mr. Starr answered. Due to no quorum being present, no Motion was made or vote taken. Mr. Starr indicated that this Item will be Agendized for the April Board Meeting.

Ms. Carroll’s and Mr. Winther’s recusals ended and they were unmuted and allowed back in to the meeting at this time, making 14 Board Members present online and eligible to vote (the GWNC Board quorum was thirteen).

- b) POSSIBLE MOTION: GWNC Board approves granting an NPG to EnrichLA in the amount of \$1,000.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves granting an NPG to EnrichLA in the amount of \$1,000.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Paige, Rielly, Roberts, Smith and Winther); zero opposed; one abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Starr). One (Betancourt) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

- c) **POSSIBLE MOTION:** GWNC Board approves granting an NPG to First-in Fire Foundation in the amount of \$250.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves granting an NPG to First-in Fire Foundation in the amount of \$250.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Paige, Rielly, Roberts, Smith and Winther); zero opposed; one abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Starr). One (Betancourt) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

- d) **POSSIBLE MOTION:** GWNC Board approves granting an NPG to Larchmont Charter in the amount of [\$500 or \$250].

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves granting an NPG to Larchmont Charter in the amount of \$250.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Paige, Rielly, Roberts, Smith and Winther); zero opposed; one abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Starr). One (Betancourt) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

- e) **POSSIBLE MOTION:** GWNC Board approves granting an NPG to Stories from the Frontline in the amount of [\$500 or \$250].

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves granting an NPG to Stories from the Frontline in the amount of \$250.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Roberts said that Stories from the Frontline is a non-profit organization. Mr. Gilbert explained that they work on homelessness, public housing and domestic violence. There will be an April 27th event at the Ebell.

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Paige seconded by Mr. Gilbert): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council revises the amount from \$250 to \$500.

Ms. Carroll was concerned about cuts into the \$10,000 funding rollover and that Stories from the Frontline was not a 501(c)3 non-profit organization.

AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION FAILED by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with five in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey and Paige); seven opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, Rielly, Roberts, Smith and Winther); one abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Starr). One (Betancourt) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Paige, Rielly, Roberts, Smith and Winther); zero opposed; one abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Starr). One (Betancourt) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

f) **POSSIBLE MOTION:** GWNC Board approves granting an NPG to Wilshire Crest PTA in the amount of \$1,000.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Roberts, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves granting an NPG to Wilshire Crest PTA in the amount of \$1,000.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with 12 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Paige, Rielly, Roberts, Smith and Winther); zero opposed; one abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Starr). One (Betancourt) was ineligible to vote due to not having completed one or more of the required trainings and/or not having signed the Code of Conduct.

D. Board Member and Board Alternate Administration

1. Resignations

- a) MOTION: The GWNC accepts the resignation of Raphie Cantor from the Area 8 (Melrose Neighborhood) seat.

Mr. Starr noted the above.

MOTION (by Mr. Smith, seconded by MCD): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council accepts the resignation of Raphie Cantor from the Area 8 (Melrose Neighborhood) seat.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by consent with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Curran, D’Atri, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Paige, Rielly, Roberts, Smith, Starr and Winther); zero opposed; zero abstained.

2. Board Director Vacancies:

- Area 3 – Country Club Heights
- Area 12 - Western-Wilton

Mr. Starr noted the above.

3. Board Alternate Vacancies:

- Area 3 – Country Club Heights
- Area 4 - Fremont Place
- Area 6 - La Brea-Hancock
- Area 8 - Melrose Neighborhood
- Area 9 - Oakwood/Maplewood/St. Andrews
- Area 11 - Sycamore Square
- Area 12 - Western-Wilton
- Area 15 - Windsor Village
- Religion
- Renters

Mr. Starr noted the above.

4. Nominations, Elections and/or Motions to Appoint

- a) Possible Motion: The GWNC appoints Selene Betancourt to the Area 3 Country Club Heights Board Seat. (Nomination first required.)

Ms. Betancourt introduced herself. She rents in Country Club Heights. Mr. Smith nominated Ms. Betancourt. There were no other nominations.

MOTION (by Ms. Chvatal, seconded by Ms. DeVore): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council appoints Selene Betancourt to the Area 3 Country Club Heights Board Seat.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 13 eligible voters present with all 13 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Carroll, Chvatal, D’Atri, DeVore, Gilbert, Harvey, Paige, Rielly, Roberts, Smith, Starr and Winther); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Ms. Betancourt was Seated and Board Member Brian Curran arrived at this time (6:45), making 15 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present (the GWNC quorum at this Meeting was thirteen).

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #II.

IV. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS.

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

V. ADJOURNMENT

A. Upcoming GWNC Board Meeting. The next GWNC General Board Meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, April 12, 2023 at the Ebell of Los Angeles, 743 S Lucerne Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90005.

Mr. Starr noted the above and thanked everyone for attending.

Mr. Starr **ADJOURNED** the Meeting with no opposition at 8:07 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David Levin, Minutes Writer

The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been copied from the Agenda. Possibly edited by the GWNC. The GWNC Board Meeting Minutes page is <http://greaterwilshire.org/board-agendas-minutes>.