



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council  
General Board Meeting Minutes, Wednesday, November 8, 2023  
Approved December 13, 2023

Document copies were available in person and at [www.greaterwilshire.org/BDdocs](http://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 at the Ebell of Los Angeles, 743 S. Lucerne Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90005. President Conrad Starr called the meeting to order at 6:30 p. m. He explained procedures and reminded Board Members about the conflict of Interest procedure with the City Attorney.

B. Flag Salute

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

C. Roll Call (Jennifer DeVore)

The Secretary called the roll. Fifteen of the 20 Board Members or their Alternate were present at the Roll Call: MJ Anderson (Alternate for Tommy Atlee); Scott Appel, Selene Betancourt, Jeffry Carpenter, Cindy Chvatal-Keane, Romi Cortier, Jennifer DeVore (Secretary), Andy Galan, Gary Gilbert, John Gresham, Jesseca Harvey, Alex Nava, Sixto Sicilia, Owen Smith and Conrad Starr (President). Patricia Carroll (Treasurer), Brian Curran, Charles D'Atri (Vice-President) and Julie Kim arrived later. Benny Rosenberg was absent and not represented by an Alternate. The GWNC Board 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. Twenty of the 21 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). One Board Seat(s) was vacant [Area 4 - Fremont Place; see Item #V. A. 3.; to apply see [www.GreaterWilshire.org](http://www.GreaterWilshire.org)]. Twelve Alternate Seats were vacant [see Item #V. A. 4.; to apply see [www.GreaterWilshire.org](http://www.GreaterWilshire.org)]. Also attended: approximately 41 Stakeholders and guests.

*Board Members Charles D’Atri and Julie Kim arrived at this time (6:37), making 17 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present (the GWNC quorum was thirteen). The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #II. G.*

## **II. GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. Fifth Council District (Michelle Flores - [michelle.flores@lacity.org](mailto:michelle.flores@lacity.org))  
Michelle Flores, a Field Deputy for L.A. City District Five Councilmember Katy Yaroslavsky [ofc. 213-473-7005; [Michelle.Flores@LACity.org](mailto:Michelle.Flores@LACity.org); <https://councildistrict5.LACity.gov>], was not present; there was no report.
- B. Thirteenth Council District (Karla Martinez - [karla.g.martinez@LACity.org](mailto:karla.g.martinez@LACity.org))  
Karla Martinez, a Field Deputy for L.A. City District 13 Councilmember Hugo Soto-Martinez [213-473-7013; <https://cd13.LACity.org>], was not present; there was no report.
- C. LAPD Olympic & Wilshire Divisions (SLOs Cho, Pelayo, Rodriguez)  
Hebel Rodriguez, an LAPD Wilshire Division Senior Lead Officer [office 213-473-0476; cell/text phone 213-793-0715; [35738@LAPD.Online](mailto:35738@LAPD.Online); <https://www.LAPDOnline.org/lapd-contact/west-bureau/wilshire-community-police-station>], reported that he’s covering SLO Dave Cordova’s area. Officer Rodriguez gave crime statistics. He explained that “when [a criminal(s)] use force or fear or threat, then it’s a robbery, not a burglary.” There’s a trend of stealing vehicles to steal the catalytic converters at different locations. He reminded not to leave valuables in a vehicle or in a shopping cart.
- D. LA Metro (Ned Racine - [racinen@metro.net](mailto:racinen@metro.net))  
Ned Racine, Metro Principal Construction Relations Officer [cell 213-418-5993, [RacineN@metro.net](mailto:RacineN@metro.net); 24-hour information 213-922-6934; Bus Rapid Transit 24-hour hotline 213-922-2500+1; [PurpleLineExt@metro.net](mailto:PurpleLineExt@metro.net); [www.facebook.com/PurpleLineExt](http://www.facebook.com/PurpleLineExt); [www.Twitter.com/PurpleLineExt](http://www.Twitter.com/PurpleLineExt); [www.metro.net/PurpleLineExt](http://www.metro.net/PurpleLineExt)], was not present; there was no report.
- E. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (John Darnell - [john.darnell@LACity.org](mailto:john.darnell@LACity.org))  
John Darnell, a Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate of the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) [213-978-1551; [John.Darnell@LACity.org](mailto:John.Darnell@LACity.org); [www.EmpowerLA.org](http://www.EmpowerLA.org)], reported that the City Council authorized following SB 411 as long as 2/3 of a Board supports that in a Community Impact Statement. He stated that “we’re in the process of correcting” several inaccuracies on the GWNC map, which he described. They are working with the City Council to make the corrections. He “apologize[d] for not correcting that before.” Mr. Starr noted additional addresses that will be corrected.
- F. Third Supervisorial District (Field Deputy Savannah Portillo Heap - [SHeap@bos.LACounty.gov](mailto:SHeap@bos.LACounty.gov))  
Savannah Portillo Heap, a Field Deputy for L.A. County District Three Supervisor Lindsey Horvath (213-440-0927; <https://lindseyhorvath.LACounty.gov>), was not present; there was no report.

#### G. Other Government Representatives

L.A. City Fire Dept. Battalion 18 Chief Block (Battalion18@LAFD.org) reported that Santa Ana winds are causing more brush area fires, which can cause power outages. He reminded to stock up on batteries and other emergency supplies. He cautioned that, if you're using alternative power, carbon monoxide is odorless and colorless. Treat a downed power line as energized – and also adjacent water; call the DWP and the Fire Dept.

*Board Members Patti Carroll (6:40) and Brian Curran (6:42) arrived at this time, making 19 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present (the GWNC quorum was thirteen). The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #II. E.*

Joshua Marin-Mora, a representative for State 51st District Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur [323-436-5184; <https://a51.asmdc.org>], described their work and that the Assemblymember was appointed to the State's Retail Theft Committee. He noted recent legislation. Tentatively, the Assemblymember will attend the next GWNC Board Meeting.

State 25th District Senator Anthony Portantino (818-409-0400; <https://sd25.senate.ca.gov>), reported that he is the “author of SB 411 (for “remote meetings”) . . . [for which he] worked closely with Neighborhood Councils . . . During the pandemic, when we had online meetings, more people participated.” He described his legislative work, including for mental health services. All California first-graders will be screened for dyslexia. He sponsored “lock your gun” legislation. He wants 21 to be the California gun ownership minimum age. More autism treatments will be covered.

### **III. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Resident Sam Uretsky gave a 200 N. Plymouth update. He, City Councilmember Soto-Martinez, Senior Lead Officer Pelayo and others had a productive meeting. The property was cited for “overly high masonry walls.”

### **IV. REPORTS BY ALLIANCE REPRESENTATIVES AND NC LIAISONS**

#### A. LADWP (Jack Humphreville)

Mr. Humphreville was not present; there was no report.

#### B. Budget Representative (Jack Humphreville)

Mr. Humphreville was not present; there was no Budget Advocates [<http://BudgetAdvocates.org> or <http://ncbala.com>] report. Mr. Starr noted that a Budget Representative opportunity is available.

#### C. LA Neighborhood Councils Coalition (LANCC) (Jennifer DeVore)

Ms. DeVore indicated that there was no LANCC [the Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils Coalition; [LANCC@EmpowerLA.org](mailto:LANCC@EmpowerLA.org); [www.LANCC.org](http://www.LANCC.org)] report. See [www.greaterwilshire.org/BDdocs..](http://www.greaterwilshire.org/BDdocs..)

D. Other Liaisons or Representatives

Mr. Starr reported that a Public Works Liaison candidate will attend the next meeting.

V. **ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS** (Discussion and Possible Action).

A. Board Member and Board Alternate Administration

1. Resignation: Julie Stromberg, Area 1 Alternate

**MOTION** (by Mr. D'Atri, seconded by Ms. Harvey): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council accepts the resignation of Julie Stromberg, Area 1 Alternate.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by consent; zero opposed; zero abstained.

*Board Member Tommy Atlee arrived at this time (7:05), replacing his Alternate MJ Anderson, keeping 19 Board Members present (the GWNC Board quorum was thirteen).*

2. Removals by DONE due to more than 60 days' expired Code of Conduct training: Benny Rosenberg (Religion Director), Bob Reeves (Area 10 Alt), Kelly Rielly (Education Alt).

Mr. Starr noted the above and that Suzana Kim, who was the Alternate for Benny Rosenberg, now became a Board Member. Ms. Chvatal reported that Mr. Rosenberg completed his Code of Conduct and will ask next month to be re-appointed.

3. Board Director Vacancies: Area 4 - Fremont Place (fillable 11/22/23)

Mr. Starr noted the above. There were no candidates at this time.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #V. A. 6.*

4. Board Alternate Vacancies: Area 1 - Brookside (fillable 12/20/23), Area 2 - Citrus Square; Area 3 - Country Club Heights; Area 4 - Fremont Place; Area 9 - Oakwood/Maplewood/St. Andrews; Area 10 - Ridgewood-Wilton/St. Andrews Square (fillable 12/20/23); Area 11 - Sycamore Square; Area 12 - Western-Wilton; Area 13 - Wilshire Park; Business; Education (fillable 12/20/23); Religion (fillable 12/20/23)

Mr. Starr noted the above.

5. Nominations, Elections and/or Motions to Appoint

There were none.

6. Oath of Office

"I pledge to represent the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council 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.”

Edward Ruiz, who was appointed at the October 11<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting to the Area 8 Melrose Alternate Seat, said aloud the above Oath.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #II. C.*

B. Board Training Requirements: Courses and instructions can be found at <http://empowerla.org/boardmembers/>. Please check [EmpowerLA.org/GWNC](http://EmpowerLA.org/GWNC) for your training expirations and email [secretary@greaterwilshire.org](mailto:secretary@greaterwilshire.org) if there are any inconsistencies.

1. Code of Conduct is required for all board members and must be renewed every two years. Members with expired or incomplete Code of Conduct are to be suspended after 30 days and removed after 60 days. Board members with incomplete or expired Code of Conduct do not count towards quorum and may not vote.

a) The following board members are shown at [EmpowerLA.org/GWNC](http://EmpowerLA.org/GWNC) as having EXPIRED or INCOMPLETE Code of Conduct  
- Brian Curran

Mr. Starr noted the above.

2. Ethics and Funding Training are required before members may vote on funding motions.

a) The following board members are shown at [EmpowerLA.org/GWNC](http://EmpowerLA.org/GWNC) as NOT having completed Ethics and/or Funding and are NOT eligible to vote on financial matters.

- Brian Curran (Funding)  
- Cathy Roberts (Funding)

Mr. Starr noted the above.

3. The following have not yet completed the REQUIRED anti-bias (ABLE) training:

- Brian Curran  
- Andy Galan

Mr. Starr noted the above.

4. Non-Board Committee Member Ethics Training Link - <https://locaethics.fppc.ca.gov/>

Mr. Starr noted the above.

C. Adoption of October 11, 2023 General Board Meeting Minutes

The above Item was skipped.

## **VI. OFFICER REPORTS**

### A. President's Report

Mr. Starr noted that the GWNC was founded 20 years ago on December 3, 2003. He urged not to click on spam emails. He described webmaster work.

### B. Treasurer's Report (Discussion and Possible Action). Please refer to MER and Administrative packet in the Supporting Documents folder (<https://greaterwilshire.org/bddocs>).

#### 1. Discussion and Possible Action – Motions

##### a) Motion to Approve Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for October, 2023.

###### Card Expenses

10/3 Public Storage \$205.00

10/24 Larchmont Chronicle (October) \$204.00

###### Checks Cleared

10/25 AppleOne: Minutes 10/4,10/18 \$409.65

10/25 AppleOne: Admin 10/4,10/11,10/18 \$881.79

10/25 AppleOne: Admin 9/1,9/14,9/27 \$881.79

10/25 AppleOne: Minutes 9/1 \$160.93

###### Checks Outstanding

8/25 Ebell of LA (Sept) \$400

8/25 Ebell of LA (Oct) \$400

8/25 Larchmont Family Fair \$500

Ms. Carroll reviewed the above.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Ms. DeVore): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for October, 2023.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

##### b) Motion to Approve Individual Expenses Listed in the October 2023 MER.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Ms. DeVore): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves the individual expenses listed in the October 2023 MER.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote; zero opposed; zero abstained.

#### 2. Review of past Board Expenses that may appear on the November 2023 MER

Ebell of LA September Board Meeting \$400  
Ebell of LA October Board Meeting \$400  
Apple One Minutes and Admin TBC  
Larchmont Family Fair \$500  
UmeWorks (Webmaster) \$600

Ms. Carroll noted the above.

3. Discussion and Possible Motion: The GWNC approves \$200 to generate a list of property owners within the notification area. (Jeff Carpenter)

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Atlee, seconded by Ms. Harvey): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves \$200 to generate a list of property owners within the notification area.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Carpenter explained the Motion. The State would pay for the mailing. Mr. Starr will check with the City Attorney about it. Ms. Carroll explained that, around 20 years ago, the City did a “SurveyLA.” Mr. Carpenter suggested referring this to the Outreach Committee. Mr. D’Atri thought this could be a land use issue; Mr. Curran agreed that the Land Use Committee could consider it. Ms. Betancourt wanted to ensure that apartment renters can be reached.

**MOTION to REFER to COMMITTEE** (by Mr. D’Atri, seconded by Mr. Nava): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council refers Item #VI. B. 3. to the Land Use Committee for further study and report.

*Board Member Cindy Chvatal had stepped away by this time, making 18 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present (the GWNC quorum was thirteen).*

**MOTION to REFER to COMMITTEE FAILED** by a roll call vote of the 18 eligible voters present with five in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Curran, D’Atri, DeVore, Galan and Nava); seven opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Appel, Atlee, Betancourt, Carroll, Gilbert, Sicilia and Smith); six abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Carpenter, Cortier, Harvey, Julie Kim, Suzana Kim and Starr).

*Board Member Cindy Chvatal returned at this time, making 19 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present (the GWNC quorum was thirteen).*

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 19 eligible voters present with 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Appel, Atlee, Betancourt, Carpenter, Carroll, Chvatal, Cortier, Curran, DeVore, Gilbert, Suzana Kim, Nava, Sicilia and Smith); one opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Galan); four abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (D’Atri, Harvey, Julie Kim and Starr).

- C. Vice-President’s Report  
Mr. D’Atri ceded his time.

D. Secretary's Report

Ms. DeVore indicated that there was no report.

**VII. LAND USE COMMITTEE** (Discussion and possible action) (Chair: Brian Curran)

[*The following sub-section first paragraphs are copied from the Agenda.*]

A. Report on the October 24, 2023 Land Use Committee Meeting.

Mr. Curran reported that “we heard a great deal of public comment” about the 200-202 S. Orange Dr. project. Mr. Starr explained the recusal process.

*Mr. Carpenter 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), making 18 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present 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.”*

B. 200-202 S. Orange Dr: (Beis Medrash of Hancock Park) Use of R2-1 property as a synagogue. Motion: That the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC) ask Council District 5, the City Attorney, the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety, and the Los Angeles Planning Department to coordinate and compel the owner of 200-202 S. Orange Drive to come into compliance with the Building Code through the application for a Change of Use, including the required Conditional Use Permit, and to comply with all applicable building, fire, and safety codes and regulations for use as a religious institution.

Mr. Curran described the project and that “the owner maintains that this is still a residence,” while neighbors have said “this is very much operating as a synagogue.” He described other Stakeholders’ input that he received by U.S. Mail and emails. He read aloud an email from a synagogue representative. He’s working with the City Council office on this. The City Housing, and Building & Safety Departments weren’t sure in whose jurisdiction the property is. The Board agreed to not include the phrase “to coordinate” in the Motion.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Curran, seconded by Ms. DeVore): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC) will ask Council District 5, the City Attorney, the Los Angeles Department of Building and Safety, and the Los Angeles Planning Department to compel the owner of 200-202 S. Orange Drive to come into compliance with the Building Code through the application for a Change of Use, including the required Conditional Use Permit, and to comply with all applicable building, fire, and safety codes and regulations for use as a religious institution.

**DISCUSSION:** A short video was shown of pedestrian traffic at the property. It was said that such traffic is happening “day and night.” Mr. Curran explained that he was told that visitors are leaving their vehicles parked on the street all the way until sundown



of the next day, making residents' guest parking less available. He explained that Federal "religious use" laws are applicable.

*Ms. Chvatal returned to the room by this time, making 19 Board Members present (the GWNC quorum was thirteen).*

Ms. Chvatal explained about the RLUPA (Religious Land Use Protection Act) that "any kind of substantial burden" on religious expression is not allowed. Mr. Carpenter said "our Motion is to get [the process] started that Stakeholders want." Citrus Square resident Bennett Wolk said "I represent a large number of concerned citizens in this neighborhood. [Property users] are violating . . . are not operating it as a residence . . . [Its] ongoing institutional land use . . . is creating a myriad of nuisances" which he described. He requested the GWNC to help the City "bring the property into compliance." Neighbor Patrick Hagen said that neighbors want property users to apply for proper Permits, and that RLUPA "is not a carte blanche." Neighbor Kathryn Scott said "we're blocked in constantly . . . they're breaking zoning laws." Mr. Gresham said they've gutted the entire inside and are using it as a synagogue." A short audio recording was played of praying that easily could be heard two houses away, including, for three years, on Friday and Saturday nights.

**MOTION to AMEND** (by Mr. Gilbert, seconded by Ms. Chvatal): To INSERT "The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council believes that 200-202 S. Orange Dr. and 5566 W. Second St. should remain a residence with R-2 zoning only, but if the City allows them to apply for a change of use, then the GWNC asks that..." prior to the text of the agenda motion.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Ms. Scott didn't understand why the property owners "can even apply" for a Permit; "it's zoned residential." Neighbor Silvia Marjoram said "they're lying to us . . . they won't allow people in" to inspect it.

**MOTION to AMEND FAILED** by a roll call vote of the 19 eligible voters present with four in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Chvatal, Cortier, Curran and D'Atri); 13 opposed ("No" or "Nay") (Atlee, Betancourt, Carroll, DeVore, Galan, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Julie Kim, Suzana Kim, Nava, Sicilia and Smith); two abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither "yes" votes or "no" votes) (Appel and Starr); one recused (Carpenter).

**MOTION to AMEND** (by Mr. Curran, seconded by Mr. Sicilia): To SUBSTITUTE the following motion: The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council recommends to Councilmember Yaroslavsky and LADBS that the synagogue be required, at a minimum, to apply for the requisite CUP to operate as an institutional use. GWNC's recommendation does not equal support for the CUP application and, in fact, the GWNC opposes the institutional use under these circumstances.

*Board Member Charles D'Atri stepped away at this time, making 18 Board Members (or their Alternate(s)) present (the GWNC quorum was thirteen).*

**MOTION to AMEND PASSED** by a hand vote with 16 in favor; zero opposed; three abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes (Galan, Julie Kim and Suzana Kim); one recused (Carpenter).

**AMENDED MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 19 eligible voters present with 17 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Appel, Atlee, Betancourt, Carroll, Chvatal, Cortier, Curran, DeVore, Galan, Gilbert, Gresham, Harvey, Julie Kim, Nava, Sicilia, Smith and Starr); zero opposed; two abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes (Suzana Kim and Starr); one recused (Carpenter).

Mr. Starr encouraged applying for the Citrus Square Alternate Board Seat.

*Mr. Carpenter’s recusal ended and he returned to the room at this time, making 20 Board Members present and eligible to vote (the GWNC Board quorum was thirteen).*

C. 4820 W. Oakwood Ave: (Sean Nguyen) Filing date: 6/27/23. New 5-story (total), 31-unit apt. bldg. with 3 ELI units, over 1-story parking garage on 2 vacant lots. Zoning: R3-1. TOC: Tier 2. Case no: DIR-2023-4330-TOC-HCA. Area 9: Oakwood/Maplewood/St. Andrews. Motion: That the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC) [see the below Motion].

Mr. Curran described the project.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Curran, seconded by Mr. D’Atri): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC) opposes the proposed project located at 4820 W. Oakwood Ave. for a new 5-story, 31-unit apartment building with 3 Extremely Low Income (ELI) units, over a 1-story parking garage, as the proposed project does not include an adequate number of affordable units commensurate with the project’s impact on the community and the environment, as presented to the GWNC Land Use Committee on October 24, 2023.

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 20 eligible voters present with 10 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Appel, Carpenter, Carroll, Chvatal, Cortier, D’Atri, DeVore, Gresham, Sicilia and Smith); six opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Atlee, Betancourt, Curran, Galan, Gilbert and Suzana Kim); four abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes (Harvey, Julie Kim, Nava and Starr).

D. Next GWNC Land Use Committee Meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Tuesday, November 28, 2023 at the Marlborough School, 250 S. Rossmore Ave, Los Angeles, Board Room (C115).

Mr. Curran noted the above.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #XIII. D. 1.*

**VIII. OUTREACH COMMITTEE** (Discussion and Possible Action) (Chair: Jesseca Harvey).

A. Committee Report

Ms. Harvey reported that there was no quorum for the last Committee meeting. The LAPD Wilshire Division Open House was very nice. The Family Fair was “a lot of fun”; she thanked volunteers. She encouraged submitting family and community photos. The November Memorial Branch Library tree giveaway was successful.

B. Committee Membership

Ms. Harvey reported that there are available slots.

C. Call for Volunteers for Upcoming Events in November

Ms. Harvey reported on upcoming events.

D. Next Outreach Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 14, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the John C Fremont Library at 6121 Melrose, Los Angeles 90038

Ms. Harvey noted the above.

*Board Member Scott Appel left at this time (9:11), making 19 Board Members present (the GWNC Board quorum was thirteen). The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #XII.*

**IX. ENVIRONMENTAL & SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE** (Discussion and possible action) (Acting Chair: Cathy Roberts).

A. Committee Report

Ms. Roberts was not present. Ms. Harvey and Mr. Starr reported on the Town Hall.

B. Committee Membership: Two (2) openings for committee membership

This item was not addressed.

C. Next Environmental & Sustainability Committee Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. at the Memorial Branch Library located at 4625 W Olympic Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90019.

Mr. Starr noted the above.

**X. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** (Discussion and possible action) (Chair: Cindy Chvatal)

A. Committee Report

1. Resignation of Julie Stromberg: committee vacancies for two board members.

Ms. Chvatal reported that Ms. Stromberg had communicated to her that she no longer needed to resign from the Committee.

B. Next GWNC Transportation Committee Meeting will be Thursday, November 16, 6:30 p.m. at JC Fremont Branch Library, 6121 Melrose Ave., Los Angeles 90038.

Ms. Chvatal noted the above.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #VIII.*

**XI. QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE** (Discussion and possible action) (Acting Chair: Charles D'Atri)

A. Committee Report

B. Next Quality of Life Committee Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. Please check the website/agenda for location.

Mr. D'Atri noted the above.

**XII. RESILIENCE COMMITTEE** (Discussion and Possible Action) (Chair: Gary Gilbert)

A. Committee Report

Mr. Gilbert reported that a draft 15-question survey would be presented for Board consideration.

B. Next GWNC Resilience Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, December 4, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. Please check the website/agenda for location.

Mr. Gilbert noted the above.

**XIII. OLD BUSINESS** (Discussion and Possible Action)

A. Temporary Services Contract and Temporary Staff Pay Rates Explanation: AppleOne has been asked by GWNC President to provide an updated range of pay based on temp staff's job descriptions and typical rates of pay for similar roles in October, 2023. To conform with the Brown Act's requirement that no funding motions exceed dollar amounts listed in the agendas, the placeholder motion below uses hypothetical maximums of \$50/hour; the quote from AppleOne is anticipated to be significantly lower. Possible Motion: the GWNC requests the City Clerk contract with Howroyd-Wright Agency, Inc., dba AppleOne Employment Services, for administrative assistant services from Julia Christiansen at a rate of pay not to exceed \$50/hour and a billable rate not to exceed \$50/hour and for minute taking services from David Levin at a rate of pay not to exceed \$50/hour and a billable rate not to exceed \$50/hour, based on the provided scope of services (job descriptions) provided by the GWNC for each role.

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to POSTPONE the above Item to the next Board Meeting.

B. GWNC Business Cards. Possible Motion: The GWNC will allocate up to \$400 for the purchase of business cards for its Directors and committee chairs; and will reallocate up to \$400 from Rollover Funds to Office/Operational

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to POSTPONE the above Item to the next Board Meeting.

- C. GWNC Badges. Possible Motion: The GWNC will allocate up to \$250 for the purchase of lanyard badges for its Directors from Anderson Trophy; and will reallocate \$250 from Rollover Funds to Office/Operational.

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to POSTPONE the above Item to the next Board Meeting.

D. Resumption of Virtual Meetings

1. Possible Motion [if guidance received from DONE/City Council; requires a vote of  $\frac{2}{3}$  of the entire board (14)]: The GWNC will hold the first regular monthly board meeting each quarter in person; and will hold its second and third regular board meetings each quarter virtually.

**MOTION** (by Mr. D’Atri, seconded by Ms. Chvatal): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council reflecting its desire for higher community participation and the avoidance of the possible transmission of disease, will hold the first regular monthly board meeting each quarter in person; and will hold its second and third regular board meetings each quarter virtually; furthermore, the GWNC may, at the discretion of the President or by a simple majority vote of the Board, occasionally substitute a virtual meeting for an in-person meeting or vice-versa; and the GWNC President, or in President’s absence, the GWNC Vice President, may call Special Meetings of the Board as needed and may call for such meetings to be held virtually or in-person, at their discretion; and the GWNC will file a Community Impact Statement reflecting this motion.

**DISCUSSION:** There was discussion of when the schedule would start.

**MOTION to AMEND** (by Mr. Appel): To REPLACE “the first regular monthly board meeting each quarter in person; and will hold its second and third regular board meetings each quarter virtually” with “all board meetings virtually...”

**MOTION to AMEND FAILED** for lack of a second.

**MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the 20 eligible voters present with 14 in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Atlee, Betancourt, Carroll, Chvatal, Cortier, Curran, D’Atri, DeVore, Galan, Gilbert, Gresham, Suzana Kim, Nava and Smith); two opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Sicilia and Julie Kim); four abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes) (Appel, Carpenter, Harvey and Starr).

2. Possible Motion (Contingent on D.1 above): The GWNC may, at the discretion of the President or by a simple majority vote of the Board, occasionally substitute a virtual meeting for an in-person meeting or vice-versa.

Mr. Starr explained that this motion was already covered by the approved motion, XIII.D.1.

3. Possible Motion (Contingent on D.1 above): The GWNC President, or in President's absence, the GWNC Vice President may call Special Meetings of the Board as needed and may call for such meetings to be held virtually or in-person, at their discretion.

Mr. Starr explained that this motion was already covered by the approved motion, XIII.D.1.

4. Possible Motion (Contingent on D.1 above): if a GWNC committee has not yet voted its preference for regular or virtual meetings, or a combination thereof, and until said committee has taken such a vote and the Board has voted its concurrence, the Chairperson of said committee may call its Regular and Special meetings as in-person or virtual, as they see fit.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Atlee, seconded by Ms. DeVore): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council Motions that, if a GWNC committee has not yet voted its preference for regular or virtual meetings, or a combination thereof, and until said committee has taken such a vote and the Board has voted its concurrence, the Chairperson of said committee may call its Regular and Special meetings as in-person or virtual, as they see fit.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by consent of the 20 eligible voters present with all 20 in favor; zero opposed; zero abstained.

#### E. Formation of Ad Hoc Neighborhood Purposes Grants Committee

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to POSTPONE the above Item to the next Board Meeting.

#### F. Selection of Community Impact Statement (CIS) Filers (up to 5)

1. Possible Motion: Be it resolved, that the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council authorizes the following board member(s) to SUBMIT Community Impact Statements which have been passed by a vote of the full board: Conrad Starr [and FILL IN UP TO 4 OTHERS]. Be it further resolved, in cases where an issue is moving quickly through board member(s) (is/are) authorized to also WRITE and SUBMIT Community Impact Statements which express positions previously voted upon by the full board.

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to POSTPONE the above Item to the next Board Meeting.

#### G. Digital Media Policy Appointments (See:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1AeXn3tS2kzoRJWit-OMKAUVwTtRhyh45/view>)

1. Possible Motion: The GWNC appoints/elects \_\_\_\_\_ (and \_\_\_\_\_ etc.) as its Digital Media Account Administrator(s) to ensure compliance with the Digital Communications Policy. (Required role; absent designation, filled by board president.)
2. Possible Motion: The GWNC appoints/elects \_\_\_\_\_ (and \_\_\_\_\_ etc.) as its content creator(s) and/or comment moderator(s) to work with the Account Administrator(s). (Optional role.)

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to POSTPONE the above Item to the next Board Meeting.

**XIV. NEW BUSINESS** (Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. Participating in and/or providing financial support for LAUSD Board District 4 School Beautification Day event on December 2nd - Van Ness Elementary - see [https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcxzwYeX7nJB\\_SuOc\\_W5hi1mFtPtHc5sry-Uzvmp3bfCL6jw/viewform](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfcxzwYeX7nJB_SuOc_W5hi1mFtPtHc5sry-Uzvmp3bfCL6jw/viewform).

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to POSTPONE the above Item to the next Board Meeting.

**XV. COMMUNITY IMPACT STATEMENTS** (CIS), RESOLUTIONS, REQUESTS FOR ACTION (Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. Neighborhood Council Bill of Rights - Possible GWNC Endorsement

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to postpone the item indefinitely.

- B. Amendment to Rule 48 - Request for Action. Possible Motion: the GWNC requests the City Council amend and pass forthwith the following amendment to its current Rule 48: that so-called default voting be abandoned, that every Council Member must be physically present in their seat in the Council Chamber to count towards quorum, and must vote either "yes" or "no" or be indicated as "absent" and, under no circumstances, may a vote when the Councilmember is not physically in their seat be counted as anything other than "absent."

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to POSTPONE the above Item to the next Board Meeting.

- C. Proposed Neighborhood Council Board Member Code of Conduct Policy Explanation: current policy: <https://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/NEIGHBORHOOD-COUNCIL-BOARD-MEMBER-CODE-OF-CONDUCT-POLICY.pdf>; proposed policy: [https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rIAOLlc\\_Tp0PurhiX-o-IgID0EV5VM3J/view](https://drive.google.com/file/d/1rIAOLlc_Tp0PurhiX-o-IgID0EV5VM3J/view). Possible Motion to support or oppose, or support or oppose if amended, etc.; AND/OR to urge BONC to provide for a 90 day comment period (extended for intervening holidays) for all board members and stakeholders to weigh in with concerns about the 9/17/23 version of the Proposed Neighborhood Council Board Member Code of Conduct Policy; AND/OR

to urge BONC to ensure that the Code of Conduct appears on every BONC agenda during such period; AND/OR to urge BONC to circulate each of BONC's agendas during that period to every Neighborhood Council and Board member.

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to postpone the item indefinitely.

D. Council File 23-1097, Office of Compliance / Conflict of Interests / Ethics Laws / City Councilmembers. Possible Motion to support or oppose, or support or oppose if amended, etc.

Mr. Starr requested and it was agreed to postpone the item indefinitely.

*The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #X.*

#### **XVI. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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

#### **XVII. REQUESTS/MOTIONS FOR FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

A. Potential Expansion of the Los Angeles City Council

B. Independent Redistricting Commission / City Charter Amendment / Ballot Measure / November 2022.

C. NPG Grants

D. 2024 Homeless Count

E. Neighborhood Council Regional Grievance Panelist

#### **XVIII. ADJOURNMENT**

A. Upcoming GWNC Board Meeting. The next GWNC General Board Meeting will be held at 6:30 PM on Wednesday, December 13th, 2023 at the Ebell of Los Angeles, 743 S Lucerne Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90005.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:14 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>.*