



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (“GWNC”)
Environmental & Sustainability Committee Meeting Minutes, Friday, March 15, 2024

Members

Polly Estabrook (Chair) (Area 14)
MJ Anderson (Secretary-Elect) (Area 12)
Jesseca Harvey (Area 8)
Julie Kim (Area 15)

(Four vacancies, up to two board member vacancies)

I. WELCOMING REMARKS

A. Call to order (Polly Estabrook)

A duly noticed Meeting of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (“GWNC”) Environmental & Sustainability Committee was held virtually. Chair Polly Estabrook called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m.

B. Roll Call (Polly Estabrook)

The Chair called the roll. Three of the five Committee Members were present in person at the Roll Call: Julie Kim, Jesseca Harvey, and Polly Estabrook (Chair). MJ Anderson was absent. A quorum was met. Guests included Board President Conrad Starr.

MJ Anderson arrived at ~ 6:45 PM in time for the vote on the first motion described below. He stayed for the entire meeting.

C. Self-Induction of Guests

Lionel Mares and Glenn Bailey introduced themselves.

II. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no public comments at this time.

III. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. The minutes of the past meeting held on 2/6/2024 were reviewed and approved.
- B. Training requirements. None required.
- C. Possible nomination of new committee members. None presented.
- D. The Committee Chair told all the members that Polly Chu, one of our long standing

committee members, had resigned. We duly accepted her resignation and commend her for all her work with the committee.

IV. OLD BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

As the guests were interested in the discussion of the two motions, the new business items were discussed first. After the two motions were passed, the committee considered the Old Business topics.

A. Earth Day 2024 (50th Anniversary April 22, 2024) Event. The event will be held at LA High Memorial Park on Sat April 27th from 10 - 2 PM. We will go through the presentation to the GWNC Board on 3/13/2024 and start the planning and publicizing process. Possible topics include: invited organizations, games, food trucks, equipment, and public outreach.

Polly Estabrook distributed the presentation on the GWNC Earth Day event that she had given to the GWNC Board on March 13, 2024. Then Julie Kim, Polly Estabrook and Conrad Starr described the walkthrough at LA High Memorial Park with the LA Department of Recreation & Parks personnel, Juan Guzman, Runako Ellis, Levi Gutierrez, and Michelle Flores from CD 5 office.

Conrad and Polly will submit an event request prior to 3/27/2024.

We discussed who might want to take the lead on various activities.

Julie Kim said she might not be able to be present on Sat April 27th due to work constraints and MJ Anderson thought he would be able to support the event on that day.

B. Transit Day Event. Per the notes of our last meeting on 2/6/2024, we had identified the following days, in highest priority order first, Saturday May 25th and Sat March 30th, as possible event days. Due to the focus on planning for Earth Day, we have selected Saturday May 25th for the GWNC Transit Day Event. We will discuss the overall scope for the event and set a high level planning schedule.

The date of the event will be Saturday May 25th. Polly and Conrad will submit an event request prior to April 25th, 2024. Jesseca will email Ned Racine.

V. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

A. A discussion was held on the recently submitted [LA City Council Motion 24-0011-S4](#) entitled: Dodger Stadium / Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit (LA ART) / Traffic Assessment / Council District 1 / Street Furniture Revenue Fund. This was submitted by CM Eunisses Hernandez and seconded by Monica Rodriguez and Hugo Soto-Martinez on 1/24/2024. The LA Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (LANCSA) voted to oppose the Dodger Stadium gondola. Their letter can be found [here](#). Information about the project can be found [here](#). There is an interesting op-ed in

the LA Times from 1/24/2024 [here](#). The article states: “The [final EIR specifically suggests](#) that the gondola should be evaluated strictly as a transportation project. Metro “is not required to analyze a broader scheme or attribute a motive” to the plan beyond building a gondola.” The [LA City Motion](#) requests that “the City must take all the necessary steps to fully analyze the multifaceted impacts and potential solutions to alleviate traffic around Dodger Stadium.” Possible submission of individual Community Impact Statement (CIS).

Jessica Harvey moved that the motion be considered. The move was seconded by Polly Estabrook. Public comment started. Lionel Mares and Glenn Bailey started that they did not think the LA ART was needed and gave their reasons to support their position.

MJ Anderson joined the meeting during the discussion.

The motion was put to a vote.

Motion: The GWNC Sustainability Committee requests that the GWNC file a CIS to express its full support of the Dodger Stadium / Los Angeles Aerial Rapid Transit (LA ART) / Traffic Assessment / Council District 1 / Street Furniture Revenue Fund (Council File: 24-0011-S4) introduced on 1/24/2024 calling on the City to fully analyze the multifaceted impacts and potential solutions to alleviate traffic around Dodger Stadium and take the actions outlined in the motion.

The motion was approved by Polly, MJ, Jessica and Julie and passed unanimously.

- B. Discussion on recently submitted [LA City Council Motion 24-0055](#) entitled: Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers / Fiscal Year 2022-23 Complaints and Citations / Enforcement / Education Program. This [motion](#) was submitted by CM Nithya Raman and seconded by Bob Blumenfield on 1/16/2024. The LA City Motion moves that the Bureau of Street Services (BSS) re-consider how the LA City ordinance, passed in 1998, to forbid the use of gas-powered leaf blowers within 500 ft of a residence, is enforced.

Jessica Harvey moved that the motion be considered. The move was seconded by Polly Estabrook. Public comment started. Lionel Mares and Glenn Bailey started that they supported this motion and gave their reasons to support their positions: cleaner air, climate change has a devastating impact on all. Glenn stated that holding the property owner is the correct way to enforce the law but that over the last 20 years, it hasn't worked. There needs to be more incentives.

The motion was put to a vote.

Motion: The GWNC Sustainability Committee requests that the GWNC file a CIS to express its full support of the Gas-Powered Leaf Blowers / Fiscal Year 2022-23 Complaints and Citations / Enforcement / Education Program (Council File: 24-0055) as the particulate matter and CO2 emissions of gas powered leaf blowers are now better

quantified, their negative impacts understood, and the still much needed 1998 ordinance has not been effectively implemented.

The motion was approved by Polly, MJ, Jesseca and Julie and passed unanimously.

C. General Discussion of Activities for 2024

C. Upcoming CicLAvia (Feb 25) Melrose (Discussion Only)

- i. Ways of supporting the event. Most important would be attendance at GWNC booth. Please volunteer.
- ii. Possible bike ride from GWNC booth. This may be hard to coordinate. Bring your bicycles and we can spontaneously see whether there are enough GWNC members to ride together.

D. Earth Day 2024 (50th Anniversary April 22, 2024) Event

- i. **Motion** to recommend the GWNC commemorate Earth Day by hosting an event on [TBD date] at [LOCATION]. The event will be developed by the GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee and the Outreach Committees. The Sustainability Committee requests up to \$300 to cover cost of various items, such as permits, rentals, refreshments and promotions.

Jesseca Harvey moved that the motion be considered and MJ Anderson seconded.

Jessica Harvey, MJ Anderson, and Polly Estabrook voted to pass the motion. The motion passed.

- ii. **Motion** to recommend that the GWNC have a booth at the Climate Day event being organized by HangOutDoGood (HODG), a neighborhood group, at [TBD location] on a weekend [TBD] near Earth Day as long as it is not on the same day as the GWNC Earth Day.

Jesseca Harvey moved that the motion be considered and MJ Anderson seconded.

Jessica Harvey, MJ Anderson, and Polly Estabrook voted to pass the motion. The motion passed.

E. General Discussion of Activities for 2024

VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS (Discussion and Possible Action)

- A. Report on most recent NC Sustainability Alliance meeting - Polly Estabrook
- B. Report on any other sustainability or environmental issues not on the agenda

VII. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

- A. Next GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee Meeting will be held at 6:30 pm on Thursday, April 4th, 2024 in person via zoom, assuming the GWNC Board approves the motion to change the meeting times.

VIII. REQUESTS FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- A. Self-Guided Tour of Drought Tolerant Garden Event. The possibility of an event consisting of a self-guided tour with Water Wise Gardens was discussed.
- B. Invitation to Julie Stromberg to discuss Drought Tolerant, or Native Plants, Gardens. The possibility of inviting Julie Stromberg to a Committee Meeting to hear about Drought Tolerant Garden Tours or Native Plants Garden Tours was discussed.
- C. Committee Meeting Date & Time: Julie Kim brought up that she is not available on Thursdays before 7 PM. If we do a zoom meeting she may be able to log in at 6:30 PM at the start of the meeting, but if the meeting is in person at Memorial Library, it will be hard for her to be there. We may need to revisit the optimum time for our Committee meetings again.
- D. Budget Request for Next Year. The GWNC Board will start budgeting for the next year at their June, 2024, meeting. The Sustainability Committee should discuss events they would like to support and determine a preliminary budget request for them.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** around 7:43 p.m.