

**Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council  
Governing Board Members**

President - Jennifer DeVore  
Vice President - John Gresham  
Secretary - Erika Stuart  
Treasurer - Patricia Carroll  
Asst. Secretary - Dave Cavalier

Area 1 - Brookside: Tony Gittelson  
Area 2 - Citrus Square: Erika Stuart  
Area 3 - Country Club Heights: Slate Donaldson  
Area 4 - Fremont Place: Julia Dalton  
Area 5 - Hancock Park: Jennifer DeVore  
Area 6 - La Brea-Hancock: Sixto Sicilia  
Area 7 - Larchmont Village: Natalie Irby  
Area 8 - Melrose: Richard Gano  
Area 9 - Oakwood/Maplewood/St. Andrews:  
Lisha Sevanian  
Area 10 - Ridgewood-Wilton/St. Andrews Square:  
Patricia Carroll  
Area 11 - Sycamore Square: Conrad Starr  
Area 12 - Western-Wilton: MJ Anderson  
Area 13 - Wilshire Park: John Gresham  
Area 14 - Windsor Square: Gary Gilbert  
Area 15 - Windsor Village: Drew Kiesow  
At Large: Mark Alpers  
Renter: Dave Cavalier  
Business: Romi Cortier  
Education: Scott Appel  
Religion: Charles D'Atri  
Other Nonprofit: Brian Curran

**CITY OF LOS ANGELES  
CALIFORNIA**



**GREATER WILSHIRE**



**NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**Environmental & Sustainability  
Meeting Minutes**

Thursday, April 2, 2026 5:30 p.m.

Via Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/92827811179>

Or by Toll Free Phone (888) 475 4499

Webinar ID: 928 2781 1179

[www.greaterwilshire.org/SCdocs/](http://www.greaterwilshire.org/SCdocs/)

**GWNC Sustainability Committee:**

Chair - Polly Estabrook (Area 14)  
Secretary - MJ Anderson (Area 12)  
Julie Dalton (Area 4)  
Julie Kim (Area 15)  
Andy Galan (Area 12)  
Anders Waalen (Area 5)  
*Multiple Vacancies*

**Direct Committee Inquiries to:**

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일시 광역주민의회  
환경 & 지속가능성 위원회  
정기회의 의제

*Concejo Vecinal de Greater  
Wilshire - Comité de medio  
ambiente y sostenibilidad -  
Agenda de reunión ordinaria*

***In conformity with the January 1, 2026 enactment of California Senate Bill 707 (Durazo) and LA City Council File 23-1114, this Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted virtually.***

The Neighborhood Council system enables civic participation for all Angelenos and serves as a voice for improving government responsiveness to local communities and their needs. We are an elected advisory body to the City of Los Angeles, made up of volunteer stakeholders who are devoted to the mission of improving our communities and bringing government closer to us.

**A. WELCOMING REMARKS**

**A. Call to Order (Polly Estabrook) 18:33**

**B. Roll Call (MJ Anderson)**

Present: Anders Waalen

Andy Galan

Polly Estabrook

Julie Dalton

MJ Anderson

Julie Kim (19:05)

Also Present: Jennifer DeVore, Conrad Starr

Quorum achieved with 5 members present of the 6 total members.

**B. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. Public Comment – Conrad Starr: A free Metro day is possible due to D line extension opening. Friday 8 May; Palms NC had an approval after many rejections.

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

- A. **Approval of Minutes** from prior Sustainability Committee meetings:
  - A. Special meeting on 3/2/2026. The minutes were approved unanimously by those present (J. Kim not yet online).
- B. **Stakeholder Committee Member Required Training:** All Committee members have completed required training. Any new non-GWNC Board members on the ESC would need to complete the following training:
  - A. **Code of Conduct** – available at <https://greaterwilshire.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/2023-1-Code-of-Conduct-Form.pdf>, send signed copy to [secretary@greaterwilshire.org](mailto:secretary@greaterwilshire.org).
  - B. **Ethics** – Ethics Training Link: <https://localethics.fppc.ca.gov/>  
All members are up to date as of this meeting.

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

A. **Pesticide Use in Los Angeles**

- i. Report on Meetings being set up with CD 2, Adrin Nazarian and his staff, and CD 14, Ysabel Jurado and her staff, respectively on Pesticides, their impact on human and ecosystem health, and their use on LA City Property. These meetings were recommended by the staffers for CD 5 and CD 13 whom we spoke to in the past month or so.
- ii. Update on GWNC ESC Presentation to CD 2 and CD 14 and strategy discussion on next steps.

**Outreach to CD2 and CD14.** Efforts to schedule meetings with Council Districts 2 and 14 are ongoing. Polly reported leaving voicemails for Lilly Sarafian and Steve Diaz. Jennifer DeVore offered to follow up as well. No response has been received to date.

Polly reported a recent EPA decision, at industry request, to reduce the buffer zone for glyphosate spraying from 100 feet to 50 feet — the first time in EPA history the agency adopted a lower buffer than the industry proposed. Anders Waalen was granted authority at the prior meeting to update the committee's pesticide presentation to reflect federal rollbacks. Polly will forward the relevant update to Anders.

- B. **Report on John C. Fremont Public Library Landscaping Project.** This work was proposed by the Hancock Park Garden Club, under Leah Fischer's leadership, and was accepted by the LA City Public Libraries for completion. The GWNC ESC proposed putting in a butterfly garden along the steps leading up the library patio from the parking lot.

The proposal to plant a butterfly garden near the June Street entrance ramp is progressing. The Hancock Park Garden Club (represented by Leah Fisher) is navigating a right-of-entry agreement with the City Attorney's office. Polly noted her view that the city should be drafting the agreement, not the garden club. The butterfly garden was included in the library's

submitted plan and was well received. Planting is anticipated in the fall. Plants will largely be sourced from a stakeholder's donated offshoots. Jennifer will look into whether committee members may donate plants (e.g., milkweed) under applicable dollar thresholds.

#### IV. NEW BUSINESS (Discussion and Possible Action)

##### A. Earth Day and Earth Day Related Activities in Los Angeles.

- i. Earth Day 2026 will be on Wednesday April 22nd. The theme is “Our Power, Our Planet.” The website is: <https://www.earthday.org/earth-day-2026/> to find general activities and for registering your event.
- ii. Los Angeles will be holding a Climate Week from April 8 - 15, 2026 - with a few events starting on Sunday March 29th. It is being organized by a decentralized group of organizations including UCLA Center for Climate Science, Yale Program on Climate Change Communication, the Los Angeles Regional Collaborative Climate Action and Sustainability and many more.

See [laclimateweek.com](http://laclimateweek.com) for event list. Events are organized along themes, contents or geography.

Some that may be of interest are:

- [Wildfire Resilience Workshop: Explore Resilience Investment Through Game-Based Learning](#) - 4/8/2026, 9 - 11:30 AM - Organizer Optivide.
- [Why the 2026 Midterms are the most important Climate Action Opportunity of the Decade](#) - 4/8/2026 12 - 1 PM, organizer: American Sustainable Business Network
- [Walking Tour of the East Los Angeles Sustainable Median Stormwater Capture Project](#) - 4/9/2026, 10 - 11 AM, Organizer: LA County Chief Sustainability Office.
- [Let's Not Die! Open Mic](#) - 4/11/2026, 6 - 7 PM, Frogtown, Organizer: Yellow Dot Studies
- And many more, beach cleanups, tree planting, bird watching events...

B. **Rain Barrel Giveaway** Jennifer DeVore shared information about a free rain barrel registration program. Polly noted this as a potential item for the GWNC website and/or outgoing committee emails.

C. **What would the GWNC ESC want to do for Earth Day?** Would we want to go to any of these events as a group? Work with GWNC Outreach team to advertise Climate Week and other events on GWNC Website?

[There are events around the city and individual members expressed some interest.](#)

#### V. COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

A. **Report on any other sustainability or environmental issues not on the agenda.**

B. **Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance (NCSA) Events:**

- i. **The NCSA held a City Attorney Candidate Forum on 3/22/2026.** Challengers Marissa Roy and Aida Ashouri to the city attorney seat participated in a candidate

forum with a focus on sustainability. The current city attorney, Hydee Feldstein Soto, had agreed to participate, but then withdrew. Her campaign did not provide a reason. The other contender, John McKinney, joined the race after we had first invited the other candidates. He ultimately was invited to participate but was unavailable. Recording of NCSA forum can be found [here](#).

- ii. **Tour an Athens Services Material Recovery Facility**, ie See what happens to what you put in your blue bin. Monday April 13th in Irwindale. [RSVP here](#). You will likely to be put on wait list but they will organize another visit if there is sufficient interest.

**C. Los Angeles Climate Reality Project Chapter Events of interest:**

- i. San Fernando Valley Climate Reality March Chapter Meeting will be on Tues, March 10 from 7 - 8:30 PM. They have a very well respected Weather & Climate Scientist, [Dr. Daniel Swain](#), from the CA Institute for Water Resources speaking on “Weather and Water Extremes in a Warming California.” Dr. Swain also also authors the widely-read Weather West blog ([weatherwest.com](#)), which provides real-time perspectives on California weather and climate. ***This will be a very clear talk relevant to our water availability in Southern CA.*** [RSVP here](#). *Climate talk will also include water according to P. Estabrook. Local climate abnormalities will be a theme.*
- ii. Los Angeles Climate Reality Picnic and Botanic Garden Tour at the CA Botanic Garden in Claremont, Sunday, April 26th at Noon. [RSVP here](#).

**VI. COMMITTEE MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- A. **Next Regular Committee meeting date:** Thursday, June 4, 2026, 6:30 PM. via Zoom. *Note: regular meetings are held in even-numbered months, alternating between Zoom and in-person.*
- B. A longstanding committee goal is another attempt to plan a Transit Day. MJ reported progress on planning a committee-sponsored Metro transit day tied to the opening of new D Line stations on May 8 (free service day). Kay Hartman of the Palms Neighborhood Council received city clerk approval for a similar event, establishing a useful precedent. M. Anderson will check in with K. Hartman at Palms NC by next meeting after their similar plan is approved.

**VII. REQUESTS FOR POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

- A. **Website / Outreach Communications.** C. Starr led a discussion on website adding City approved sustainability events as well as adding it to the GWNC emails.
- B. **KYCC (Korean Youth Community Center).** Julie Kim noted that KYCC has been active in distributing free trees and offering free graffiti removal referrals through 311 services. The committee expressed interest in potential future collaboration.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT – 19:20**

**Minutes respectfully submitted by: MJ Anderson**