



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council  
General Board Meeting November 8, 2017  
Approved by the Board on December 13, 2017

**I. WELCOMING REMARKS**

A. Call to order (Owen Smith – President)

A duly noticed Meeting of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (“GWNC”) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, November 8, 2017, at the Ebell of Los Angeles, 743 S. Lucerne Blvd., Los Angeles. President Owen Smith called the meeting to order at 7:12 p. m.

B. Flag Salute (Frances McFall)

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Frances McFall.

C. Roll Call (Joe Hoffman – Secretary)

Greg Wittmann called the roll. Fifteen of the 21 Board Members or their Alternates were present at the Roll Call: Tucker Carney, Jeffry Carpenter, Patricia Carroll (Treasurer), Charles D’Atri, Philip Farha, Michael Genewick, Karen Gilman, John Gresham, Joseph Hoffman (Secretary), Bobbie Kumetz, Frances McFall, Caroline Moser, Julie Stromberg, John Winther and Greg Wittmann. Six Board Members were absent and not represented by an Alternate: Scott Appel, Max Kirkham, Barbara Savage, Steven Senigram, Owen Smith (President) and James Wolf (Vice-President). The GWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is 3/5 of the 21 currently filled Board Seats, or 13 Members (see the Bylaws at <https://lacity.quickbase.com/db/bj3apxsp3?a=q&qid=32&qskip=0&qrppg=1000&dlta=su46~>), so the Board could take such votes. All 21 of the 21 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). No Board Seats were vacant. Four Alternate Seats were vacant [see below]. To apply see [www.GWNC.org](http://www.GWNC.org). Also attended: approximately 20 Stakeholders and guests.

**II. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Representatives from government offices and community-based organizations).

A. CD4 Update (Catherine Landers)

Catherine Landers, Senior Deputy for L.A. City District Four Councilman David Ryu (323-957-6415; [Catherine.Landers@LACity.org](mailto:Catherine.Landers@LACity.org); <http://CD4.LACity.org>), reviewed recent legislation. Utility box art grants are available [[http://davidryu.lacity.org/press\\_release\\_utility\\_box\\_art\\_program](http://davidryu.lacity.org/press_release_utility_box_art_program); [cd4.art@lacity.org](mailto:cd4.art@lacity.org)]. CD4’s holiday party will be December 10<sup>th</sup>.

B. CD5 Update (Robert Oliver)

Robert Oliver, Field Deputy for L.A. City District Five Councilman Paul Koretz (323-866-1828; Robert.Oliver@LACity.org; www.lacity.org/council/cd5), reported that the proposed Short-Term Rental Ordinance is in the City PLUM Committee and that the Councilman requested a 60-90 day per year cap on short-term rentals.

C. LAPD Senior Lead Officers / CPAB (Frank Rosato)

Hebel Rodriguez, LAPD Wilshire Division Senior Lead Officer (office 213.473.0476; mobile/text phone 213.793.0715; 35738@LAPD.LACity.org; www.LAPDWilshire.com), could not attend and there was no report at this time.

D. Metro (Ned Racine)

Ned Racine, Metro Senior Construction Relations Officer (cell 213.479.7884, RacineN@metro.net; 24-hour information 213.922.6934; Bus Rapid Transit 24-hour hotline 213.922.2500+1; PurpleLineExt@metro.net; www.facebook.com/PurpleLineExt; www.Twitter.com/PurpleLineExt; www.metro.net/PurpleLineExt), could not attend and there was no report at this time.

E. Department Of Neighborhood Empowerment (John Darnell)

[*This Agenda Item was continued after Item #XIII.*] John Darnell, Project Coordinator, L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) (213-978-1551; John.Darnell@LACity.org; www.EmpowerLA.org), reported that Neighborhood Council elections will be held in 2019. Bylaws can be changed until April 15, 2018. A committee is forming regarding Neighborhood Council funding equity.

F. Other local government representatives

Aurelia Friedman, Field Rep. for Congressman Ted Lieu (323) 651-1040; Aurelia.Friedman@mail.house.gov; https://lieu.house.gov), offered federal issues help.

**III. CITY BUDGET and NC BUDGET ADVOCATES** (Discussion and possible Board action) (Jack Humphreville and Julie Stromberg)

A. DWP Report

[*This was addressed after Item #III. C.*] Mr. Humphreville reported that “water usage is down” and that the DWP approved “equity metrics.”

B. Budget Advocate Report:

Mr. Humphreville reported that the City is “expecting a \$300 million shortfall”; services probably will be cut. Pension plans are \$20-\$25 billion in the red. He listed Budget Advocate [www.ncbala.com] recommendations to the City, including opposition to the proposed “bank of Los Angeles.”

C. LANCC Report

Mr. Humphreville reported that LANCC [the Los Angeles Neighborhood Councils Coalition; LANCC@EmpowerLA.org; www.LANCC.org] passed a Motion regarding State Senator Kevin DeLeon’s comments regarding Neighborhood Councils.

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

There were no public comments at this time.

#### **V. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS** (Discussion and Board Action)

##### A. Review and adoption of October 4, 2017 Minutes (Joe Hoffman)

**MOTION** (by Mr. Hoffman, seconded by Mr. Carpenter): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its October 4, 2017 General Meeting as written.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote with nine in favor; zero opposed; six abstained.

#### **VI. PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

##### A. Alternate Board Member Vacancies. Eligible for nominations of qualified candidates, to be submitted to the Board for approval: Area 3 – Country Club Heights; Business; Education; and Religion.

Mr. Hoffman noted the above.

##### B. Board Member and Alternate Training Requirements. All board members and alternates must complete ethics and funding training in order to vote on funding motions before the board. The training courses and instructions can be found at <http://empowerla.org/boardmembers/>. The following Board Members and Alternates are shown, by DONE, as NOT having completed the trainings noted below and are NOT eligible to vote on financial matters: Mintz – Ethics & Funding; Morgens – Ethics; and Rosales – Ethics & Funding.

Mr. Hoffman noted the above.

##### C. Code of Conduct Policy – All Board Members and Alternates are required to read and sign the Neighborhood Council Code of Conduct Policy (online version at <http://empowerla.org/code-of-conduct>) within 30 days of their election or appointment.

Mr. Hoffman reported that all Board Members are current.

#### **VII. TREASURER'S REPORT** (Discussion and Board Action, as noted) (Patti Carroll)

##### A. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for October 2017 (Discussion and Board action)

10/2 Public Storage \$129.00

10/3 Lloyd Staffing DL Board and Sustainability \$225.23

10/3 Lloyd Staffing DL Land Use and Transport Cmte \$218.79

10/4 San Wilshire Board Copies Board Meeting \$40.88

10/5 Larchmont Chronicle Sept and October Ad \$680.00

10/24 San Wilshire Land Use Copies \$28.26

10/25 Ebell October Board Meeting \$350.00

10/25 Lloyd Staffing DL Land use and Board Meeting \$283.14

10/31 Ebell Homeless Panel Sponsorship and Outreach \$250.00

10/31 Lloyd Staffing SF 8/20 #400022A \$320.00

10/31 Lloyd Staffing SF 8/13 #400022A \$180.00  
10/31 Lloyd Staffing SF 8/6 #400022A \$240.00

Copies were distributed of and Ms. Carroll reviewed the GWNC October 2017 Monthly Expenditure Report and the above.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Mr. D'Atri): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Report for October 2017.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with all 15 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Carney, Carpenter, Carroll, D'Atri, Farha, Genewick, Gilman, Gresham, Hoffman, Kumetz, McFall, Moser, Stromberg, Winther and Wittmann); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- B. Approval of individual expenses listed in the October 2017 MER (Discussion and Board Action). See above.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Carroll, seconded by Mr. Gresham): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves the individual expenditures it made in October 2017.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a roll call vote of the 15 eligible voters present with all 15 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Carney, Carpenter, Carroll, D'Atri, Farha, Genewick, Gilman, Gresham, Hoffman, Kumetz, McFall, Moser, Stromberg, Winther and Wittmann); zero opposed; zero abstained.

- C. Review October 2017 Board Expenses that will show up on the November 2017 Monthly Expense Report (Discussion only, no Board Action necessary).  
Ms. Carroll reviewed the above.

- D. Pre-Approval of Upcoming Board Expenses (Discussion and Board Action) No non-recurring expenses at this time.  
Ms. Carroll noted the above; no Motion was made or vote taken.

- E. Review and update of General Treasury information and DONE update  
Ms. Carroll reviewed the above.

**VIII. OUTREACH COMMITTEE** (Discussion and Possible Action as noted) (Joe Hoffman)

- A. Review of November 3 meeting.

Mr. Hoffman reported that the meeting was successful.

- B. 2018 Los Angeles Homeless Count. Volunteer recruitment begins for the annual event on Thursday, January 25, 2018.

Mr. Hoffman reported that the Count needs around 40 volunteers. Ms. McFall wanted the City to use vacant lots for housing; Mr. Hoffman noted that some are and will be used, none in the GWNC area.

- C. Next Outreach Committee meeting: December 2, 2017 at 9am at Bricks and Scones Café, 403 N. Larchmont Blvd.  
Mr. Hoffman noted the above.

**IX. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE** (Julie Stromberg)

- A. Call for new Transportation Committee members. The Transportation Committee would like to grow the committee and see representation from each GWNC area. To date, we have representatives from Windsor Village, Windsor Square, Brookside, and La Brea/Hancock.

Ms. Stromberg noted the above.

- B. Next Transportation Committee Meeting will be held on Monday, December 18, 2017, at Marlborough School, Collins Room – D200, 250 South Rossmore Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90004.

Ms. Stromberg reported that the Committee will discuss the Pink Dot Restaurant request to paint crosswalks pink. A Sixth St. traffic survey is being done; the middle between Fairfax to La Brea could become a turn lane.

**X. SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE** (Discussion and Possible Action) (Julie Stromberg, Barbara Savage)

- A. Update and Discussion regarding GWNC Environmental & Sustainability Committee projects.

Ms. Stromberg described a proposed Green Fair/Festival that would be held in Spring at Los Angeles High Memorial Library Park, and work to have electronic vehicle charging stations in Larchmont Village; there will be a December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting with the DWP.

- B. Next meeting will be Tuesday, December 12, 2017, 7:00 p.m., Marlborough School, Collins Room – D200, 250 S. Rossmore Ave., Los Angeles, CA 90004.

Ms. Stromberg noted the above.

**XI. NEW BUSINESS** (matters not previously identified for future consideration and action)

- A. Divest LA seeks support in asking the city of Los Angeles to divest from Wells Fargo. (Discussion and Possible Action). Divest LA seeks support for divestment from Wells Fargo, reinvestment of taxpayer dollars into ethical institutions that prioritize and protect our local communities, and consideration of a public bank option. The organization requests this support in the form of a Neighborhood Council Community Impact Statement. Copies were distributed of a letter from Windsor Village resident and Divest LA Community Ambassador Polly Chu. Divest LA's Trinity Tran presented and listed benefits of having a public bank, and concerns regarding Wells Fargo bank. Ms. Stromberg suggested forming an ad hoc Committee to address this; Mr. Carney and Mr. Farha volunteered to be Members.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Stromberg, seconded by Mr. Carney): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council will form an ad hoc committee concerning divestment from Wells Fargo Bank and creation of a public bank.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with seven in favor; six opposed; one abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes).

Mr. Farha will Chair the ad hoc Committee.

- B. GWNC Neighborhood Purposes Grant Committee (Discussion, Planning, and Possible Action) (Julie Stromberg). Note: tabled from last meeting GWNC planned on doing a round of Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) awards for two grants up to \$1,000 each before December 2017. Update on status of NPG Committee and this round of NPG awards.

Ms. Stromberg noted the above and the next Meeting.

## **XII. LAND USE COMMITTEE**

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

- A. 946 S. Norton Avenue (Discussion and Possible Action) Pursuant to LAMC section 12.24-W,37, a conditional use permit for a public parking lot In the R1-1 zone to be used as parking for an adjacent commercial business. ZA-2017-3955-CU, ENV-2017-3956-CE. The Land Use Committee voted 7, 0, 0 to recommend that the Board support the project. Proposed motion: That [see below].

**MOTION** (by Ms. Moser, seconded by Ms. Stromberg): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council supports the Conditional Use Permit for a public parking lot at 946 S. Norton Avenue in the R1-1 zone to be used as parking for an adjacent commercial business.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Hoffman described the issue. Olympic Spa is there. “The lot has been used as a parking lot for nearly 20 years.” Mr. Gresham believed the use has been illegal. There was extensive discussion of the lot’s use.

**MOTION FAILED** by a hand vote; three were in favor; eight opposed; three abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes).

- B. 3377 W. Olympic Blvd. (Discussion and Possible Action) Eldercare Facility Unified Permit for an eldercare facility with 146 residential units, including 24 memory care rooms, medical professional office and /or retail, and restaurant use. REQUEST: Site Plan Review for an eldercare facility with more than 50 new residential units. REQUEST: Removal of outdated Building Line on Gramercy Drive. Applicant revised plans to adjust height on north facing façade as well as other street-level improvements. APCC-2017-569, ENV-2017-570-EAF. The Land Use Committee voted 7-0-0 to recommend that the Board support the project. Proposed motion: That [see below].

**MOTION** (by Ms. Moser, seconded by Ms. Stromberg): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council supports the application for an Eldercare Facility Unified Permit at 3377 W. Olympic Blvd.

*Board Member Mike Genewick left around this time, making 14 Board Members present (the GWNC quorum at this Meeting was 13).*

**DISCUSSION:** Developer representative Neill Brower described the project. He said they did “an extensive outreach effort . . . three rounds . . . including one on the weekend . . . we received two responses . . . one asked for a job . . . the average age is in the upper eighties.” Their Hearing date is November 20<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Gresham urged the developer to continue to work with City Council District Four Planning Deputy Julia Duncan. Stakeholder Elspeth Kwang opposed the project, saying it is invasive, too high and will reduce sunlight.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with 11 in favor; three opposed; zero abstained.

- C. Proposed Permanent Supportive Housing Ordinance. (Discussion and Possible Action)  
City Planning is proposing an ordinance to streamline PSH projects. If adopted, this ordinance will better ensure that the City is a responsible steward of the Measure HHH funds, providing a streamlined pathway for the consideration of PSH projects while also imposing new regulations which establish stronger development standards for qualifying projects. Proposed motion: That [see below].

**MOTION** (by Ms. Moser, seconded by Mr. Hoffman): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council supports the Permanent Supportive Housing Ordinance as proposed by the City Planning Department.

*Board Member Patricia Carroll left around this time, making 13 Board Members present (the GWNC quorum at this Meeting was 13).*

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Hoffman explained the Ordinance’s purpose and operations.

**MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with ten in favor; one opposed; two abstained (the GWNC counts abstentions as neither “yes” votes or “no” votes).

- D. Possible agenda items for upcoming meetings:
- i. A proposed amendment to LAMC concerning restrictions and limited immunity from enforcement of specific City prohibitions relating to commercial Cannabis Activity. CPC-2017-2260-CA, ENV-2017-2261-EAF.
  - ii. 5212 W. Melrose Ave: The project would repurpose the 6 existing historically-significant bungalow structures to allow construction of a hotel consisting of up to 18 guest rooms, with a small hotel lobby on 12,434 sq. ft. parcel.
  - iii. 407 S Sycamore Ave: La Brea Hancock New Q Condition CPC-2017-2533-ZC. ENV-2017-2534-ND
  - iv. 848 N. June St: Application for new Multi-Family Zones – South Hollywood, CPC-2017- 2604-ZC
  - v. Proposals for community input for Density Bonus applications.
  - vi. 985-991 3rd Ave, formally 3607 W. Olympic Blvd. Vesting Tentative Tract for 6 single-family lots in accordance with the SLS Ordinance on a 7,982.3-sq. ft. parcel of land in the C2-1 zone. VTT-73951-SL, ENV-2015-4443-EAF

Mr. Hoffman noted the above.

**XIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS/LIAISON REPORTS**

A. Report on Ebell of Los Angeles Homelessness Event (Julie Stromberg) Follow up report on the event held on October 25th.

Ms. Stromberg described the “great” event. Ms. Gilman proposed that the GWNC suggest to the City to have City Planning and Land Use Management Committee meetings on weeknights instead of weekdays.

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

Ms. Moser requested to Agendize forming an ad hoc Bylaws Committee.

**MOTION** (by Ms. Moser, seconded by Ms. Stromberg): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council will form an ad hoc Bylaws Committee.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote with all 13 in favor; zero opposed; zero abstained.

Ms. Moser will Chair the Committee; Mr. Carney, Mr. Gresham and Ms. Stromberg will be Members.

**XV. ADJOURNMENT**

A. Next meeting - Wednesday, December 13, 2017 at 7pm.

Mr. Hoffman declared and the Board agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 9:19 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.* Edited by GWNC. The GWNC Minutes page is

<http://www.greaterwilshire.org/site/site/?q=node/581>.