

**North Westwood Neighborhood Council
Special Board Meeting
July 17th, 2019 from 7:00 to 10:00pm
Weyburn Commons Village View Room 4th Floor, 11020 Weyburn Dr. Los Angeles CA
90024**

MINUTES

1. Call-to-order and roll call (2 minutes)

- Call to order at 7:07 PM. Reynolds, Trifunovic, Russel, Arciniega, Rodriguez, Ranadive, Peters, Skiles, Beshay, Crummy, Arfin, Helmi, May, Braciszewski present. Quorum met.

2. Announcements (10 minutes)

- Skiles
 - Met with Officer Ragsdale and LAPD Vice representatives regarding continued enforcement of restrictions on Rocco's Tavern contrary to the council's prior request. LAPD Vice is now preliminarily supportive of removal of those conditions recommended removed by the council.
 - On Monday, met with Chinese monorail company BYD regarding the Sepulveda Transit Corridor. BYD has proposed a public-private partnership which would be much faster and cheaper than purely public options. However, the proposed line would not have a direct stop at UCLA's campus due to distance from the 405. UCLA has been lobbying Metro to modify the proposal so as to include the campus.
 - Westwood Park soccer field proposal has been modified such that the field would no longer be in the center of the park.
- Peters
 - Upcoming Metro meeting regarding the Sepulveda Corridor Transit proposals at St. Paul the Apostle Church, 10750 Ohio Ave on Tuesday, July 30, 2019 from 6-8 pm.
- Beshay
 - Invites the public to contribute to the ongoing work of the homelessness committee.

3. Comments by Public Officials or their representatives including but not limited to: (15 minutes)

- **a. Congressman Ted Lieu (Janet Turner)**
 - This Friday, Lieu is taking applications for the Youth Advisory Council to be made of high school juniors and seniors in the 33rd Congressional District.
 - West LA VA master plan environmental review has concluded, the plan currently includes a bike path. Concerns should be sent to Lieu's office, who will communicate them to the VA.
 - VA supportive housing buildings 205 and 208 will soon be completed. Plans on the other 1200 units will begin in August.
 - LA Metro awarded \$100 million by the FTA for the Purple Line.

- Sponsored the City and State Diplomacy Act to create an office of subnational diplomacy within the State Department.
- 4 amendments to the National Defence Administration Act passed.

Andrew Lewis arrived.

b. Mayor Eric Garcetti (Ami Fields-Meyer)

- LA law enforcement does not assist with immigration enforcement or inquire about immigration status.
- City is relatively well prepared for another earthquake. Mayor has challenged every neighborhood council to name a preparedness liaison as part of the Ready Your LA Neighborhood Plan.
- New sanitation plan
 - 4-person sanitation “CARE” teams providing daily clean-up around encampments and bridge home sites
 - 13 CARE+ teams will be regionally deployed providing once-per-week comprehensive cleanups (sidewalk cleared, area sprayed down, trash collection) and providing a mobile shower to those living in the area.
- Homeless count showed 16% increase in city, 12% increase in county.

c. UCLA Government Relations

- Sepulveda Transit Corridor
 - Upcoming Metro meeting at St. Paul’s the Apostle on July 30, 6-8 pm. Stakeholders encouraged to attend. Can contact board at jacksonm@metro.net
- Recent isolated case of measles in an employee on campus. For the last 3 years, students have been required to prove vaccination. However, not all employees are required to be vaccinated.
- UCLA Extension building has been demolished, Margan apartments in construction.
- Hilgard faculty housing at intersection of Hilgard and Lindbrook. in the conceptual planning stage.

4. Discussion and possible resolution regarding the proposed 31 unit TOC apartment building on 1300 S. Westwood Blvd. (Andy Simhaee, Mehdi Moss, and Farzin Maly, 30 minutes)

- Architect
 - Proposed 31 unit apartment and corner of Westwood and Wellworth in front of CVS. Tier 4 TOC development. First level entirely residential, 6 stories, loft units on top. Parking access only via the alley, 11 parking spots and 4 units reserved for extremely low-income renters. Singles, one-bedroom apartments, and studios.
 - Average rent is \$3000/mo for a two bedroom unit. Studios are \$2700/mo. Extremely low-income rent is \$800/mo.

- Joey Russel recused himself from the room and discussion out of caution.
- Skiles: Brown Act requires that all material available to the board must be made available for public inspection and online. A quorum of the board has not yet seen the development plans, and they will be immediately posted on the website before being distributed to the board.
- Skiles
 - The development provides less units (31) than allowed to (35), more parking than required. Would it be possible to trade parking spaces for 4 more units?
 - No, they could only provide the required common open space for 31 units. Also want to provide amenities including a gym area.
 - The development is by-right, does not require a board recommendation or action.
- Reynolds: The developer's packet is now uploaded on northwestwoodneighborhoodcouncil.org.
- Braciszewski
 - If this is a TOC project a walkable distance from campus, why are 11 parking spaces necessary?
- Helmi
 - When are you planning to start the project?
 - Entitlements process has lasted almost 14 months. The city is short-staffed and doesn't have enough planners.
 - Supports the project, recommends that they invest in providing sufficient parking because parking is hard to find in the area.
- Public comment
 - Steve Sann
 - Why would this project not go to the land use committee first? That's a better forum than a full board meeting to ask and answer these sorts of questions.
 - Skiles: Where a project doesn't need discretionary approval, there's no need for a recommendation from the land use committee. Don't need to force developers to come to a second meeting.
 - Other neighborhood councils typically ask developers to notify all stakeholders who will be directly affected within 500 feet.
 - Need to be careful to recuse when a boardmember owns real property within 500 feet of a project, even during discussion.
 - Arfin
 - Students can't afford studios, advises the developers to replace studios with one or two-bedroom units.

Without objection, Skiles moves **item 7** out of order.

7. General Public Comment (2 min. each)

- Jessica Lamb
 - 10 year Westwood resident. Surrenders her time to the next speaker.
- Unidentified member of the public
 - Distributed images of the new Westwood park plan, will follow up with an email
 - Second soccer field is now positioned towards the middle, removes less grass from the middle. Still removes two highly-used tennis courts, moves all of the basketball courts from the center to Veteran.
 - Against having a second soccer field at Westwood Park. Construction would close half of the park for a long period of time, eliminate needed green space. Parks shouldn't be entirely composed of athletic facilities. Feels like privatization of public land. Not everyone is in an organized soccer club. Other local parks have been fenced off for exclusive sports use.
 - Seems costly to completely reconfigure the park, remove facilities for 10 sports, and build an unneeded second soccer field.
- Linda Favor
 - Asks the council to pass a motion rejecting Rec and Parks' hastily proposed plan for the park. Demands expensive infrastructure infrastructure, halves the number of tennis courts, and moves the basketball court to an area requiring tree removal and more fencing. A regulation size soccer park doesn't equitably serve all kids, not all kids benefit from competitive team sports or play soccer. Suggests a volleyball court, garden plot, martial arts, or other spaces.
- Unidentified resident
 - This area is very concrete, need to preserve existing green space. Plenty of sports fields including a soccer field already in the park. People using the park don't know about the plan to change it. Soccer events will make parking more difficult. Private interests taking over public space.
- Martha
 - Still haven't gotten an evidence based explanation of why Westwood Park is the most appropriate location for a synthetic soccer field, or why Parks and Rec is contradicting its own assessment of community park needs. Westwood Park is not an appropriate location, already has a dedicated soccer field.
- Steve Sann
 - One of the Rec and Parks had over 300 members. Even the most controversial development in his memory didn't have that kind of turnout. This is an issue that people in the community take great interest in.
 - Hard to know when meetings will be scheduled, need a regular schedule.
 - Renews request for the council to not schedule its meetings in direct conflict with other meetings, ex. with Westside Design and Review Board.

5. Nomination and Appointment of Standing Committee Members and Election Committee Chair. (20 minutes)

- Skiles moves to nominate Alisha Ranadive as election committee chair.

- Ranadive accepts the nomination.
- Skiles moves to confirm Ranadive's appointment, Russel seconds.
 - Motion carries unanimously.
- Skiles moves to nominate Abdallah Daboussi to the transportation and safety committee, Furkan Yalcin to the outreach and communications committee, Aubrey Yarbrough to the community activities and projects committee.
- Skiles moves to ratify the nominees, Beshay seconds.
 - Motion carries unanimously.

6. Review and approval of minutes from June meeting (5 minutes)

- Skiles moves to approve the June minutes, Peters seconds.
 - Motion carries unanimously, Crummy abstains.

7. General Public Comment. (10 minutes) [already done]

8. Presentation and Possible Resolution and Community Impact Statement with respect to the proposed Fair Workweek LA Policy that would offer worker protections such as advance notice of work schedule with compensation for schedule changes, right to rest between shifts, additional work hours offered to part-time employees before hiring new employees, and protection from retaliation. (Council File: 19-0229) (Edgar Ortiz, 30 minutes)

- Edgar Ortiz, researcher with the LA Alliance for a New Economy
 - Part of the Fair Workweek LA coalition
 - Lobbying for scheduling regularity and stability in Los Angeles
 - UCLA Institute for Research on Labor and Employment
 - Irregular scheduling makes it hard to be a student, attend to childcare, etc.
 - Many workers get less than a week notice of their weekly schedule
 - New ordinance would apply to corporations with over 300 employees
 - Required to give two weeks notice of a week's schedule
 - Ban "clopening"
 - Required to offer additional shifts to current employees before hiring new full time employees
 - Ban retaliation against employees who request different hours
 - Require predictability pay
 - Asks NWWNC for a full endorsement in the form of a community impact statement
- Rodriguez
 - Moves to pass the given resolution of endorsement and authorize the president to file a CIS to that effect, Beshay seconds.
 - Discussion
 - Russel

- strongly endorses the motion.
- Crummy
 - concerned that this would exacerbate the decline of the brick-and-mortar retail industry. Might hurt retail businesses in under-retailed neighborhoods with lower sales figures.
- Tarighat
 - agrees with Crummy, the policy would make it harder to do business in Los Angeles.
- Reynolds
 - If additional worker protections killed retail, then European countries would have experienced that, but they haven't.
- Braciszewski
 - Important to protect workers' rights but also consider the needs of the business community
- Trifunovic
 - Scheduling is difficult. Overregulation might lead to businesses hiring fewer employees or investing in automation.
- Skiles
 - Erratic scheduling is an injustice, employees shouldn't bear the costs of sudden scheduling changes.
- Beshay
 - Supports the policy, it addresses a power disparity between the employer and employee.
- Public comment
 - Steve Sann
 - Agrees with Crummy, concerned about unintended consequences and possible increase in unemployment.
- Tarighat
 - Founding principle of the NWWNC was concern for economic growth. Thinks it should be addressed on a statewide level so as to not disadvantage individual cities.
- Peters
 - Los Angeles won't be disadvantaged compared to neighbor cities in LA County, will be a regional trendsetter.
- Rodriguez
 - Supports the policy because of concerns for the health consequences of unstable scheduling
- Helmi
 - This policy puts too much pressure on the retail industry, will cause job loss
- Beshay

- Resolution says the annual median income is \$21,139, which is very low. Can't talk about an issue like homelessness and then consider it controversial to support the fair work week ordinance.
- Skiles moves to call the question, Rodriguez seconds.
 - Motion carries unanimously
- 12 yeas, 4 nays, 0 abstentions
 - The motion carries

9. Approval of new fiscal year budget. (Andrew, 15 minutes)

- Tarighat moves to approve and submit an admin packet with the following budgetary numbers:
 - Total office expenditures: \$20,000
 - Total outreach expenditures: \$6,000
 - Total election expenditures: \$4,000
 - Total community improvement projects: \$4,300
 - Total neighborhood purpose grants: \$17,000
 - Total: \$52,000
 - Beshay seconds
 - Motion carries unanimously (Braciszewski absent)

10. Update on general finances, and review and approval of monthly expense reports (Amir, 10 minutes)

- Tarighat moves to approve the monthly expense report in the amount of \$11,139, Rodriguez seconds.
 - Motion carries unanimously

11. Presentation/Review of June Westside Regional Alliance of Councils Meetings (Andrew, 5 Minutes)

- WRAC did not meet this month.

12. Designation of Westside Regional Alliance of Councils alternate member and Land Use Committee representative. (10 minutes)

- Russel nominates himself for WRAC land use committee representative, Skiles seconds.
 - Skiles moves to appoint Russel as WRAC land use committee representative, Rodriguez seconds.
 - Motion carries unanimously

13. Approval of \$150 room rental for July council meeting at Weyburn Commons. (10 minutes)

- Skiles moves to approve the invoice, Rodriguez seconds.
 - Motion carries unanimously.

14. Board Re-Vote for Approval of Previously Approved Neighborhood Purpose Grants that did not submit required Application Updates within City NPG Consideration Deadline (Applications to be Approved may be slightly modified to meet city requirements for disbursements of funds) (Andrew, 15 minutes):

A. 'WestCal Academy' (Amount Requested: \$4,991.5, WestCal Academy would use the funds on career pathway education programming).

B. 'Kaleidoscope' (Amount Requested: \$5,000, Kaleidoscope would use funds to provide free chamber orchestra concert in North Westwood).

C. 'UCLA Foundation/CPO Food Closet' (Amount requested: \$5,000. Would use funds to purchase fresh produce, canned goods, and toiletries).

- Skiles moves to approve a neighborhood purpose grant for \$5,000 to the UCLA CPO Food Closet.
 - Skiles moves to table consideration of the motion until such as time as they present a budget which reflects the consensus and support of the budget committee, Peters seconds.

- Skiles moves to approve a neighborhood purpose grant for \$5,000 to Kaleidoscope, Rodriguez.
 - Public Comment
 - Steve Sann
 - Not worthwhile to spend that amount on a single comment
 - Peters
 - Agrees with Sann, Westwood doesn't lack for orchestral performances.

 - Skiles moves to table consideration of the motion until such as time as they present a budget which reflects the consensus and support of the budget committee, Peters seconds.
 - Motion carries unanimously.

- Skiles moves to approve a neighborhood purpose grant for \$4,991.50 to West Cal Academy, Peters seconds.
 - Steve Sann
 - Supports a neighborhood purpose grant to West Cal Academy
 - 8 yeas, 1 nay, no abstention (Andrew Lewis recused himself from discussion and vote)
 - Motion carries

15. Adjournment at 10:59 pm