

9/3/2019 north westwood neighborhood council meeting MINUTES

Called to order at 7:07pm. Members Michael Skiles, Andrew Lewis, Kaveh Navab, Ernesto Arciniega, Amir Tarighat, Ashraf Beshay, Katja May, Alisha Ranadive, and Nahian Arfin.

Michael Skiles announces procedure for giving public comment: Those wishing to comment on multiple agenda items must do so at up to 3 minutes per speaker during multiple agenda item comment period near the beginning of the meeting and will not be able to speak on any items afterwards, except for General Public Comment period. Those wishing to speak on just one agenda item may do so during discussion of the item for up to 1 minute. Those wishing to speak on matters other than agenda items within the council's subject matter jurisdiction may do so within General Public Comment period at up to 2 minutes per speaker.

Announcements were made by representatives from Assemblymember Sydney Kamlager-Dove and UCLA Government Relations.

Multiple Agenda Item Comment Period:

Stakeholder Phil Gabriel at 7:33, asked questions about speaking on multiple items. Said the new agenda is good for normalizing how it's done across the city; this board was acting like children and needed to be spanked, shouldn't have come to that, multiple items in disarray, he applauds the council now. Said May meeting minutes need a couple things added: 1. DONE asked us NWWNC not to play the recording on the computer, and it was played anyways. 2. When Josh started his tirade on Steve Sann, DONE asked him to stop and no one stopped him. Please have minutes reflect that. It was a dark day for the board that meeting.

Steve Sann at 7:37: Criticized multiple agenda item comment period as unnecessary, arguing that unlike City Council we do not have serial disruptors. Also, we don't have quorum right now, you only have 9 members, and the #10 will have missed everything Phil just said. Also, we shouldn't have people speak to agenda items prior to them being discussed, because speaking in advance of the items being presented prevent people being informed at the time of their speaking.

Zahra Hajee arrived at 7:40, and we have quorum.

Michael Skiles asked if there was any general public comment. Seeing none, he proceeded to discussion of approving the May and August 2019 minutes.

Michael Skiles moved to approve the May and August 2019 minutes, Andrew Lewis seconded. Michael asked if there was any discussion and, seeing none, the motion was passed by a unanimous vote. Steve Sann yelled complaining that he had not had a chance to speak to the matter.

Then Skiles turned to discussion of funding CPO Food Closet and Kaleidoscope. It was noted that reps from neither organization are present. Steve Sann insisted he be given a chance to speak to the minutes council just voted to approve, whereupon Skiles noted that he had already used his 3 minutes for multiple agenda item comment. Steve protested that he wanted to request changes to the minutes, whereupon Michael noted that he had emailed the minutes to Steve on August 18th, asking him to reply with any suggested changes and that he had not replied. Since Steve neither addressed the matter then, nor during his multiple agenda item comment period, Skiles said there was no reason to allow him to further disrupt the meeting. Then Steve Sann and Phil Gabriel went into the well and began shouting in protest that Skiles wasn't allowing them to speak during each individual item in addition to the multiple agenda item comment period. Skiles declared them both out of order, and asked them to sit down, to which Steve said he does not care and Phil yelled that we're welcome to call the police on him. As the disruption persisted, Steve said we're welcome to put him down as a disruptor and Phil Gabriel said we're welcome to file a complaint with DONE about him. Because Steve Sann protested that Skiles was acting unilaterally as a "king" and without the consent of the board in ruling Steve and Phil out of order and not allowing them to speak again, Skiles replied that he is exercising chair's discretion in accordance with the bylaws and rules of order, but noted that if any council members were ever unhappy with any ruling or exercise of chair's discretion, the appropriate procedure would be for them to say, "I appeal the ruling of the chair," whereupon there could be a discussion and majority vote on whether to sustain the chair's ruling. Then Skiles asked, "do I hear any appeal of the ruling of the chair?" after a pause in which no board members raised any appeal, Skiles reiterated his ruling that Steve and Phil were out of order and asked that they sit down. Phil Gabriel then dared Skiles to call the City Attorney, saying "call the City Attorney; have them call me. I don't give a crap about the City Attorney. He can't touch me." Phil Gabriel requested that the minutes reflect that Skiles was "acting like a child." After about 10 minutes of disruption and seeing no signs that the disruption would end, Michael Skiles proceeded to move forward with conducting business despite their continued disruptive presence in the well.

Due to an absence of reps from either organization, Skiles moved to table the item of CPO food closet and kaleidoscope funding, and Amir seconded. Passed unanimously.

Then the Council considered amending the budget to allocate \$15K to the Community Activities and Projects committee, \$3K more than what they were initially budgeted. Because they already have a 12k budget but can't use it because it's not yet itemized, because Mara was not present to speak to these needs, and because other committees had not yet sent in budgets, rendering the rest of the council's budget unclear, Amir suggested the matter be tabled. Michael moved to table and Amir seconded. The motion to table unanimously carried.

Review and approval of monthly expense report: July, no expenses. Although we agreed for a \$150 room rental fee, we didn't transact any expenses. Amir moved to approve the monthly expense report, and Andrew seconded. Motion unanimously carried.

Review and approval of Apple One March and May minutes taking invoices for \$115 and \$173.25, and we have unpaid invoices. We will be paying for these out of the budget. Michael moved the approval of both invoices, Amir seconded. Vote, unanimously carried.

Discussion of NWWNC website creation by Navazon. Since Josh wasn't present and Wren was not anticipated to arrive until 8:30, Michael moved without objection to postpone until Wren arrives.

Michael moved to approve invoice from UCLA for \$150 for today's meeting, Andrew Lewis seconded, vote was unanimous.

Approval of boundary adjustment petition, and amendment of article 3 and attachment A of our bylaws reflecting of these changes: Michael moves to, in the list of shared facilities at the end of Article 3 remove the word "and" before westwood branch library, and also to add " Westwood Park (which includes Westwood Recreation Center, Aidan's Place, and Bad News Bears field across sepulveda at 1350 Sepulveda Blvd) and Westwood Gardens Park (1246 glendon ave), and also adjust the map on attachment A to reflect these inclusions. Motion seconded by Amir.

Public forum on the motion: Stakeholder Steve Sann argues that it's hypocritical for Skiles to seek to share this park as a resource now, while during the subdivision, he argued it was so far and inconvenient for students to use the facility to vote, that holding elections there amounted to voter suppression. He also insisted that the correct name for the recreational complex is Westwood Recreation Center, not Westwood Park.

Michael Skiles explained that he continues to think Westwood Recreation Center would be a very bad place for the council to use as it's one and only polling place, as this would be inaccessible to the tens of thousands of pedestrian stakeholders of UCLA. Still, he thinks it's important that we recognize that our constituents, particularly those living or working south of Wilshire, have an important stake in this park, and that it would be worthwhile for our council to hold events and committee meetings there, as well work to address issues there such as homelessness. But he took Steve's point concerning the name of the facility and moved to amend the motion from "Westwood Park" to "Westwood Recreation Center." Amir seconded. Amendment unanimously passed. Then the main motion as amended was voted on and unanimously passed.

Having no further business, the council returned to a protracted discussion about navazon, taffy tech, and the possibilities of having navazon or other build the website, and then have it on another server, so that we wouldn't have that \$250/month hosting fee. Furthermore, they'll probably have to split the contracts between the 5000 and 250/m, since 250/m will only be approved through the current fiscal year. Since Wren still wasn't present, Michael moved to table the matter, and Andrew Lewis seconded. Unanimously carried.

Meeting adjourned at 8:39pm.