WEST LOS ANGELES SAWTELL NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL REGULAR BOARD MEETING – MINUTES 10/26/16

Meeting begins 7:04 pm
Ends 8:55 pm

I. Call to Order

Attending: Eric Nakamura (Vice Chair), Jamie Keeton (Chair), Jay Handal (Treasurer), Naomi Kageyama (Sec’y), Ron Migdal, Rosie Kato, Jean Shigematsu, Arman Ghorbani and Zana Glisovic. Quorum achieved with 9 members attending.

Absent: Greg Ericksen (OR Director), Danilo Torro, Kirk Watanabe, Xochitl Gonzalez, Jian Kerendian. It is noted that Danilo Torro tried to attend but was unable to get into building.

II. General Public Comment

Jeanine Y. noted that some people are pulling trash bins (still full) up onto the curb in order to park their cars. Chair Jamie K. noted that she will send email to Dept. of Sanitation.

III. Community Partner Reports
   a. Daniel Tamm – Mayor’s Office of Public Engagement (‘MOPE’)

Mr. Tamm has been active with WLASN NC as well as many others. As part of the Mayor Garcetti’s ‘MOPE’ his goal is public engagement for a large area of the Westside; he is also Interfaith Liaison. MOPE includes: Youth Engagement, the Mayor’s Volunteer Corp; Clean Streets Team; Sustainability Corp.; Citizenship Corp.; Veteran’s Corp.; and Homeless Corp. Also involved in ‘Neighborhood Walks with the Mayor’ (part of Back to Basics campaign) and ‘Save the Drop’ water conservation campaign. Encouraged everyone to read the Sustainability Plan (www.lamayor.org/sustainability). Their office also does: Great Streets, Performance Budgeting, Resiliency by Design, Welcome Home Project and the Great Streets Challenge. Complimented the WLASNC’s current Clean Streets project and the promotion of the Mayor’s ‘311’ resource.

   b. Officer Lavenson - LA Police Department

Office James Levenson is the WLA/Sawtelle’s new officer liaison. His responsiveness was noted and praised. His email is 30627@lapd.lacity.org. Phone is 310-444-0701; 0702. He talked about the new Stoner Park Neighborhood Watch Council. Stoner Park area has a 40-year history of gang activity. The Bundy Triangle Business Watch focuses more on homelessness. Being homeless is not a crime. The LAPD watches for criminal activity from whatever source.

   c. Charles Butler, LA Fire Department

Charles Butler is Deputy Chief of the LA Fire Dept/Operations West Bureau. Talked about various emergency services provided by LAFD. His email is charles.butler@lacity.org. Phone is 323-957-4121.
d. Office of Councilmember Bonin - postponed until later in meeting

e. Office of U.S. Representative Karen Bass - absent

g. West LA Library – Celia Avila

Celia Avila is the branch manager for the WLA library (11360 Santa Monica Blvd.). The WLA Library is one of 73 LA City libraries and is open 7 days a week. The WLA branch has received notable programming awards. Their activities are supported by a ‘Friends of the Library’ group.

h. Update on LAX Project – Daniel Osztreicher

The large scale LAX development project - Landside Access Modernization Progra - is also called the ‘People Mover’ project. It is set to begin 2017 with completion by 2030. The projected opening is set for 2023. The ‘theme’ building of LAX will be preserved and is considered the ‘crown jewel’ of the project. The draft Environmental Impact Report is ready. A powerpoint presentation was provided with details. General discussion on security and traffic issues. www.connectinglax.com

i. Update on EE - Representative of Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (“DONE”)

Jasmine Elbarbary noted that unspent funds from the previous year (2015-2016) will be transferred to the current year. But all will be allocated for investigation costs associated with exhaustive efforts (EE). A question was asked about potential fund award through the Clean Streets project. Jasmine did not know how those funds would be allocated if actually awarded. DONE has not yet hired an investigator as required for EE because DONE is still trying to assess the overall ‘scope’ of complaints. Since complaints keep coming in then it is impossible to determine the actual scope of the investigation. The best solution is for all NC members to stop filing grievances and learn to work together without rancor. When asked how many other NC’s were in EE Jasmine noted that she personally is currently working with 4 NC’s. There are 17 NC’s currently in EE (note: there are 96 NC’s in the city of LA).

IV. Approvals
   a. Draft meeting minutes of September 28, 2016 minutes (Secretary Kageyana)

Minutes from 9/28/16 (special meeting) and 9/28/16 (regular meeting) were reviewed. Motion to accept minutes. Unanimous. 9 yes.

   b. MERs report (Treasurer Handal)

The monthly expenditure report (MERs) report for September 2016 was reviewed. It was noted that some sections were written in (rather than via computer). There was some discussion due to an error of $1150 for ‘Brockton NPG’. This is meant for a different NC. This has been corrected. Motion to accept the MERs. 8 yes. 1 abstain.

V. Committee Reports
   a. Homeless Committee Report

Has been asked to participate in the SPA 5 homeless count (end of year). Will need to be agendized for next NC meeting. Jay H. has been SPA 5 leader for several years. Works with LAHSA (LA Homeless Services Authority – a joint powers authority).

   b. Outreach Committee Report – Greg Ericksen is out sick
1. Clean Streets Update (Board Member Rosie Kato)

Rosie Kato provided update on the Clean Streets project; 10/15/16 (LAFD) and 10/22/16 (Nora Sterry Elementary School). 2 of the 4 events have been completed to date. See photos and video on website. 11/5/16 (civic center) and 11/12/16 (Sawtelle business district). Farmers market table have been set up on multiple Sundays. Getting items for free give-aways. Many businesses have been supporting the effort since no funds are available. Round of applause for Rosie. Jamie K. noted that this has been a lot of work. Noted that all sponsors are listed on the website. Final comment for everyone to check out the ‘311’ LA City resource. The MyLA 311 app is available for phones. Or call 311. Or check out website Myla311.lacity.org

2. Upcoming events (Outreach Chair Greg Ericksen)

Since Greg out will wait for next meeting.

c. PLUM Committee Report - Xochitl Gonzalez absent

1. 2029 Sawtelle Blvd. (Case No. ZA-2016-1994-CUB-ZV) Full liquor license request. This case has been closed and is for informational purposes only.

Statement from PLUM (read by Eric N.): Plum voted to conditionally approve the project. The conditions were for shorter operating hours and limited to wine/beer only in keeping with their menu and similar restaurants they own. They must secure parking for staff off-site. Case file is closed.

2. 11750-11770 Wilshire Blvd (former Pavilions Site) (Case No. CPC-2015-2662-VZC-ZAD-CDO-SPR-CPC-2016-3257-DA-VIT-73387). Plum voted 5-1 to approve. Motion to approve the project based on PLUM recommendation.

Statement from PLUM (read by Eric N.): The former Pavilions site on Wilshire is proposing a residential tower in lieu of a grocery store. This will generate less traffic than a grocery store. They are also proposing a $10M public park on the grounds. Community oriented park. Developer has been truly responsive to the PLUM requests to make it less of an ‘office park’ and more of a community park.

There is a motion to approve the project. Jay H. noted that they have been very responsive to PLUM recommendations. Since everything has already gone downtown and been approved this is essentially a “done deal” (Jay H.). It was noted that many were in attendance to hear the presentation so the vote would be held after the presentation. Motion passes 8 Yes. 1 No.

Kristin Lonner, Jordan Kaplan (CEO of Douglas Emmett), Dale Goldsmith, Michelle Aronson (and someone else – couldn’t hear)

Jordan Kaplan: 12/31/14 no renewal by Pavilions. Thought of leasing to another grocery store. But decided to move to a residential design since there are numerous grocery stores already. They met with Xochitl and Aric who brought up the idea of a park. They came up with an ‘office park’. Office of Mike Bonin asked about more of a ‘community’ park.

Kristin Lonner: Already has an office tower on site. Barrington Plaza across the street. As a way to minimize impact decided to have a 34-story residential tower. The zone change is needed to remove the requirement for a grocery store. Otherwise no zone change would be needed. 40K sq. ft. park.

VI. Committee Formations and Committee Member Approval
a. Change Ad Hoc Civic Center Clean-up Committee to Standing Committee and add Officer Lavenson as member
Jay H. noted that this may require a bylaws change. Jamie K. does not believe so but will defer to next meeting for review. It was noted that Greg E. had brought this up because he thought an ’ad hoc’ committee was time-limited and the revitalization of the civic center is an ongoing effort. And he hoped to have Officer Lavenson on the committee.

VII. Discussion of standing meeting times for committees

Jamie K. would like all of the committees that have been formed to date to please set standing meeting schedules so there is a decrease of excessive email traffic. Jasmine noted that even with standing meeting schedules committee have the right to change meeting dates/times as needed (e.g. holiday schedules).

VIII. Discussion of DONE communication re: communication

Jamie K. discussed the need for more prudence when doing wlan email communications. Asked all NC members to be careful and to think carefully about who should actually be cc’d on an email before hitting ‘send’. (This item was discussed in the earlier part of the meeting.)

IX. Discussion of moving November meeting due to holiday

Some discussion on whether to cancel November 2016 meeting due to holidays. General discussion that there is increasing momentum so having a meeting (even if some members could not make it) is warranted. Motion to meet on 11/16/16. Unanimous. Approved.

X. Public Comment for Items Not on the Agenda

Ivan Spiegel: There is a major event over at the VA to provide meals to all. Especially veterans. As way to say ‘Thank You’.

XI. Board Comment and Announcements

Jay H.: The VA has been doing the Thanksgiving meal event for 38 years. Jay H. took over cooking duties 2 years ago. Jay H. has experience with his many years of owing restaurants. Feeds 2000-4000 people. Full Thanksgiving spread. They also provide haircuts, clothes. Amazing community contributions. This is a sit-down dinner. Full service. Many other nonprofits coming together to provide resources to participants. Will get info out to Outreach Team.

Ron M.: Public Safety Committee (3 of us) will meet on Nov. 3rd.

-St. Sebastian Church on Federal. There is a large Oaxoan community in the local area.

-Emergency Preparedness: Has been attending Emergency Preparedness meetings. Will get list of items that are best for a ‘to go’ emergency bags. NC members and others should be CERT trained. Citizen Emergency Response Team (CERT).

-Animal Control: The other night there was a meeting regarding housing rights. Will get info for website. The City will begin issuing service animal licenses again (there was a moratorium for a while). Also a Commissioners meeting the other night. There is a problem with rabbits especially in east areas of LA.

Rosie K.: A shout-out for the next Clean Streets event on Nov. 5.

XII. Adjournment

8:55 pm
This form can be used for both attendance and tracking of votes for all motions & amended motions. Use new sheet(s) for each meeting.

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<td>Agenda Item Vc2: Motion to approve project (11750-11770 Wilshire Blvd; former Pavilions site; CPC-2015-2662-VZC-ZAD-CDO-SPR; CPC-2016-3257-DA-VTT-73387) based on PLUM recommendation. Motion passes. 8 Yes; 1 No.</td>
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Meeting adjourned 8:55 pm