

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: Westside Neighborhood Council

Name: Terri Tippit

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Date of NC Board Action: 08/08/2013

Type of NC Board Action: Against Proposal

Impact Information

Date: 09/13/2013

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 13-1300-s1

Agenda Date:

Item Number:

Brief Summary: WNC opposes proceeding with the development of ballot language; however the WNC supports the continued study of the 24 points as outlined in the Buscaino/Englander Motion.

Additional Information:



**WESTSIDE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**  
P.O. Box 64370 Los Angeles, CA 90064  
[www.wncla.org](http://www.wncla.org) (310) 474-2326



**Westside Neighborhood Council Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, August 8, 2013**  
**7:00 P.M.**  
**Westside Pavilion**  
**10800 W. Pico**  
**Meeting Room A**  
(3<sup>rd</sup> Floor behind food court)

**AGENDA**

**1. Call to Order**

**Call to order: 7:10PM**

**By Terri Tippit, WNC Chair**

**Attendance:**

**John Padden ( Seat 1 ),**  
**Lisa Morocco (Seat 2),**  
**Michael McIntyre Seat 3)**  
**Steve Spector (Seat 4),**  
**Sarah Shaw (Seat 6),**  
**Barbara Broide (Seat 7),**  
**Terri Tippit (Seat 8),**  
**Drew DeAscentis (Seat 9),**  
**Richard (Dick) Harmetz (Seat 10),**  
**Mary Kusnic (Seat 11),**  
**Colleen Mason Heller (Seat 12),**  
**Bob Guerin (Seat 13),**  
**Shannon Burns (Seat 14),**  
**Eric Shabsis (Seat 15),**  
**Melissa Kenady (Seat 16),**  
**Aaron Rosenfield (Seat 17)**

**Also Present:**

**Shelia Kouhkan**  
**Ellen Moy**

**2. Approval of July 11, 2013 minutes**

**Motion by Steve: "That the Westside Neighborhood Council approve the July 11, 2013 Meeting Minutes with changes as noted by Shannon."**

**Second by: Colleen**

**Motion approved 12 – 0 – 2 (Seats 3, 16 )**

**3. Review of Agenda (ITEMS BELOW MAY NOT BE HEARD IN THE ORDER LISTED)**

**4. Agenda Items:**

**New Business:**

**A) Adee Drory:**

- **Support for LA Opera In The Park to be held in Cheviot Hills Park September 21, 2013**

**Adee did not attend meeting. She notified Terri that there will not be an event held this year. Dick also gave details regarding same.**

**B) Barbara Broide:**

- **Follow up on WNC sponsored Sidewalk Repair Program**

**Barbara reviewed in detail the estimate for repairs and noted that is ery costly. There was a discussion of the members and all agreed. Barbara confirmed that Items # 8, at Pico and Westwood, Southside and #18 Pico and Glendon, Northside are the sidewalk areas which will be repaired. The costs total \$10,000.00 for these areas; and, that WNC had allocated for the sidewalk repair program as previously approved.**

**C) Lisa Morocco:**

- **Funding approval for camera--\$305.19**

**Motion By Lisa: That the WNC approve the purchase of a Nikon 9500 camera for \$305.19 to record WNC outreach efforts and events.**

**Second By: Bob**

**Motion Passed 16 – 0 – 0**

- **Treasurer Report**

**Lisa gave a detailed report as of August 8, 2013.**

- **Introduction of Lili Rayguza, new webmaster**  
**Lisa introduced Lili and she presented her background.**

**D) Aaron Rosenfield:**

- **Mayor Garcetti Road Repair Progam**

**Aaron presented an overview of Mayor Garcetti’s Road Repair Program. The members discussed aspects of the program.**

**E) Terri Tippit**

- **DONE Neighborhood Council Plan Review Survey**

**Terri explained in detail that BONC is proposing 9 motions to address NC policies and regulations. She stated there are close to 100 NCs and said some NC’s feel that “one size fits all” does not work while others feel all NCs should operate the same. Terri stated the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (Commission) and the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment**

invited the NC's to provide input on the 9 motions that are currently being considered by the Commission. She added these motions address policies and regulations that govern the NC system and are contained in the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils (NC Plan).

Terri explained the process for reviewing the NC Plan began in December 2012 when the Commission established 3 standing regional committees for that purpose; and after numerous public meetings, the committees developed 9 motions which address the following topics: 1) NC Subdivision, 2) Grievances and Complaints, 3) Board Selections, 4) Elections, 5) Brown Act and Posting Policies, 6) Appointment Processes, 7) Maintaining Information Networks, 8) Commission Duties, and 9) the Exhaustive Efforts Process.

#### **Motion 1: Neighborhood Council subdivision/boundary adjustment policies**

**Motion recommends that:**

**“A new Neighborhood Council may be created from within the boundaries of an existing Neighborhood Council by the following process:**

- a. The subdividing group shall undertake the process for Neighborhood Council formation as already described for new councils.**
- b. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment shall set an election to take up the question within 90 days of verifying all paperwork is complete.**
- c. A majority of the votes cast by stakeholders of the entire original Neighborhood Council shall be required to complete the separation and create a new council.**
- d. If an area leaves a Neighborhood Council, the original council should simply be required to adjust its boundaries and board structure and not recertify.**
- e. If an area moves between two existing Neighborhood Councils, neither should be required to recertify.”**

**Terri moves, Lisa seconds. Motion does not pass: 0-15-1 (seat 13)**

#### **2) Grievances and complaints policies and procedures**

**Motion recommends that:**

- a. “The grievance procedure and the complaint process be merged into one system; that the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (Department) establish a single set of procedures with a regional grievance panel empowered to render a final decision on a grievance without further right of appeal, which shall be based on the grievance policy recommendations already made by the Department as reflected in its report dated November 22, 2011, and contained in Council File Number 11-1018.”**

**Shannon moves, Mary seconds. Motion does not pass: 0-16-0**

#### **3) Rules for governing board selections**

**Motion recommends that:**

- a. “The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment look at establishing rules and guidelines for Board selections so that they are more uniform and more open to the public.”**

**Lisa moves, Melissa seconds. Motion does not pass: 7-7-2**

#### **4) Election policies and procedures; term limits**

**Motion recommends that:**

- a. “Reaffirm support for the authority having been returned to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment to conduct Neighborhood Council board elections and to partner with the City Clerk for back office administrative services.**
- b. All Neighborhood Councils need to participate in elections or selections at least every two year cycle.**

- c. Existing Neighborhood Council boards are encouraged to partner with other Neighborhood Councils and with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment for candidate recruitment and election outreach.
- d. The City of Los Angeles should not require Neighborhood Councils to impose term limits. It should be left to each Neighborhood Council's discretion.
- e. There shall be participatory involvement of Neighborhood Councils in reviewing election policies and procedures prior to Neighborhood Council elections.”

Motion By Mary, Second by Bob  
Motion passed 12 - 4 - 0

**5) Brown Act and posting policies**

Motion recommends that:

- a. “Reaffirm support for the Brown Act for Neighborhood Councils and its single accessible 24 hour posting requirement, and reaffirm current board policies regarding electronic mail and website posting, with only one physical posting site as opposed to many. The email requirement shall specify that agendas be sent to “NCSupport” with the intent that the Department will post them to the city’s agenda system.
- b. Neighborhood Councils that do not have a website must post in at least five (5) physical locations.”

Motion By Aaron, Second by Sarah  
Motion passed 9 – 7 – 0

(Note Comments re confusion re posting reqs 4 vs 72, etc.)

**6) NCs and rule formulation; appointments of GM, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners**

Motion recommends that:

- a. “Neighborhood Councils should have a greater role in the formulation of rules and regulations as promulgated by the Department and shall continue to have an advisory role in the appointment of the Department General Manager and the members of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.”

Motion By Barbara, Second by Aaron  
Motion passed 15 - 0 - 1 (Seat 10)

**7) Creating and maintaining information and communication network for public use**

Duties of the Department in Sec 22.801(j) currently states that “[The Department shall] with the assistance of the Information Technology Agency, create and maintain an internal and external information and communication network, including a Citywide database of neighborhood organizations and similar information, that would be available for public use;”

Proposed motion to adopt the recommendations of the NC Plan Review Committees that Sec 22.801(j) of the Administrative Code be amended as follows:

“with the assistance of the Information Technology Agency, create and maintain an internal and external information and communication network that would be available for public use to:

- a. Provide organized access to all current rules, regulations, and election/selection/voting and any other procedures adopted by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.
- b. Provide organized access to all historic rules, regulations, and election/selection/voting and any other procedures adopted by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment that are no longer in force.
- c. Provide organized access to all current legal opinions by the City Attorney on matters relating to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Board of Neighborhood

Commissioners, Department rules or regulations, and Department procedures for elections/selections/voting and any other matter.

d. Provide organized access to all historic legal opinions by the City Attorney on matters relating to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, Board of Neighborhood Commissioners, department rules or regulations, and department procedures for elections/selections/voting and any other matter that are no longer in force.

e. Provide a Citywide database of existing neighborhood organizations and similar information, sortable by areas and individual Neighborhood Councils.”

Motion By Barbara, Second by Steve

Motion passed 16 – 0 – 0

#### 8) Duties of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners

Motion recommends that:

a. “The Board of Neighborhood Commissioners be given more power to enforce its policies.”

Motion by Mary, Second by Sarah

Motion passed 0 – 16 - 0

(Note Motion too open ended & vague.)

#### 9) Exhaustive efforts process

Motion recommends that:

a. “As part of exhaustive efforts the Department shall be able to recommend to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners that the board of a neighborhood council be removed prior to having to recommend involuntary decertification.”

Motion by Mary, Second by Shannon

Motion passed 15 – 1 (Seat 14) - 0

#### 5. Reports:

Officer Rashad:

- LAPD Update

Officer Rashad was not present due to the holiday.

Shelia Kouhkan:

- CD5 Update

CF11-0923 Mural Ordinance

CF13-0650 Fine for blocking sidewalk

CF13-0941 Eliminate of City Fees for property owner to fix sidewalk

Shelia reviewed the above issues in detail and there was a discussion of the board members.

Ellen Moy, District Representative

Holly Mitchell, Assemblymember 14<sup>th</sup> District

Ellen gave a report on their activities and Assemblymember Mitchell’s legislative calendar.

## **WNC Treasurer Report / June, 2013**

**Presented by Lisa Morocco, Treasurer  
Report referenced - See Item C.**

### **6. Public Forum**

**Stacy acknowledged and thanked Lisa and everyone who assisted in making the Lange Foundation Annual Fundraiser such a success.**

**Barbara presented the following UPDATE:**

**This afternoon the City Council Public Works and Gang Reduction Committee, after hearing public comment from 12 persons, unanimously approved without amendment the 24 recommendations contained in the August 6, 2013 letter from Councilmembers Buscaino and Englander (previously sent and attached again). These will next be considered by the full City Council in a "couple of weeks" stated Committee Chair Buscaino during the meeting. That would be the time window for Neighborhood Councils to submit their Community Impact Statements to be included on the City Council agenda if they haven't already done so. Again, the Council File number is 13-1300-S1.**

**Barbara asking that the WNC consider this matter tonight since it might go to council before our next meeting.**

**Motion by Bob: There is need for immediate action on this item which developed subsequent to the WNC Agenda being prepared, under the emergency provisions in the Brown Act.**

**Second by Barbara**

**Motion passed 15 – 0 – 0  
(Shannon left prior to vote)**

**Emergency Motion: That the WNC opposes proceeding with the development of ballot language; however the WNC supports the continued study of the 24 points as outlined in the Buscaino/Englander Motion.**

**Motion by Barbara**

**Second by Eric**

**Motion Passed 14 -1 - 0**

**Motion to Adjourn At 9:10PM.**

**Motion By: Dick**

**Second By: Lisa**

**Motion Passed: Unanimous  
Submitted By Recording Secretary**

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. **Public forum is limited to 2 minutes per speaker**, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. The chair may take items out of order. Agenda is posted for public review at: Palms and Cheviot Hills Park, Palms Library, Westside Pavilion, Westfield Century City and [www.wncla.org](http://www.wncla.org)