

Contact Information

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## Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council

Governing Board Meeting 04/16/2015

### DRAFT MINUTES

**Present:** Nanci Rosas, Ben Wadsworth, Karina Andrade, Vera Padilla, Mario Marrufo, Sevin Riley, Michelle Aguirre (a 6:45pm), Penelope Lopez, Richard Silvera, America Lopez, Cynthia de la Cruz (a 7:09pm), Vincent Rosiles, John Menchaca, Frank Wada, Lisa Joffrey (a 6:15pm), Victoria Montes, Melissa Garcia, Lance Thomas, Selena Ortega (6:23pm),

**Absent:** Ernest E. Sanchez (unexcused), Paul Medina (unexcused), Kevin Flint (unexcused)

#### **Approval of the minutes:**

The minutes for March 19, 2015 were unanimously approval (16-0-0)

#### **Public Comments**

ZUL Surani: There are going to be road closures. Vehicle and pedestrian access for the next seven months will be closed on Pablo and Northfork Street. Wants to notify people that Soto will also have some construction activities and hopes to get this information out to the community in advance.

Connie Cervantes/Drew Goltermann: wanted to reach out to all to let us know they are with USC College Prep East. They serve local communities and want to provide the opportunities to local students to go to universities. Connie states they want to get kids from the area to participate and attend the school. Right now they have about 107 kids enrolled with about 30 enrolled from the area. Email [agoltermann@ednovate.org](mailto:agoltermann@ednovate.org).

Edgar Cervantes: wanted to make an announcement about community event. He is with Wall Las Memorias Project. The first NE community health forum will be held and he says there are prevention treatments they will discuss. They will discuss Hep C update.

#### **Board Announcements**

Michelle says school is celebrating on April 29<sup>th</sup> for her club and whoever can answer what is denim day will win a small gift.

Sevin gave an update on the startup Lincoln Heights event. It is for people in Lincoln heights who would like to start businesses.

Lisa wanted to give a big shout out to the LAPD. The community has been having huge tagging problems at the old jail and today when she called the police because she saw 6 people tagging they showed up to respond.

Vera would like to invite everyone to the Chamber of Commerce luncheon this month at East LA skill Center. The guest speaker will be Mike Fong. In addition, MEET group is having an event and there is information on the back. On April 21, a group of students will be taking a survey on what they want to see at the BIRITE market at 2pm.

America would like all to know that the mayor is forming a youth council and there are still a lot of slots that are open. Please let the high school students know so they can learn about the application.

#### **PRESENTATIONS:**



### **USC PENNY HARVEST:**

Melissa with USC community Partnerships has been coordinating the USC Penny Harvest Program. The whole point of the program is to teach and foster philanthropy in schools. Seven students participating in the program introduced themselves. Last year the group raised over \$1,400 in mostly pennies for philanthropy.

### **CHRIS ARELLANO/UTLA:**

Mr. Arellano is a UTLA rep for the East area and works with local high schools. He has a draft resolution he would like the council to support. Some teachers at Alliance (Ave 20/Broadway) that want to be organized and have a union. UTLA is now in a drive to unionize Alliance because the teachers are asking for it. Wants the council to pass a resolution saying to give the teachers a right to unionize if they want to do that. Chris was offered to present the resolution at the Executive Committee meeting.

### **EXECUTIVE REPORT**

Motion: approve a correction piece for the community beacon. Discussion: Ben Wads reiterated that no board member can speak on behalf of the board. Karina read the correction piece:

#### FOR THE RECORD

An article titled Mural Museum Proposed For the East Side of L.A. in the April/May 2015 newspaper edition incorrectly stated that the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council had hosted a presentation in relation to the Mural Museum on March 19th. Per the Secretary of the council, Karina Andrade, no such presentation was heard at its March 19th meeting.

In addition, Andrade, denies that any public official or the City Attorney's Office blocked hearing the proposal at the neighborhood council's February meeting. Andrade points out that the council did not hear the item at its February 2015 meeting because the published agenda for February did not contain this item for discussion and/or action. The presentation request did not make it to the agenda until the March 2015 board meeting and it would have been heard then had it not been due to lack of quorum.

Victoria moves and Vince seconds the motion. Motion passes (17-0-1)

B. Brown Act deadlines for agendizing motions and publishing agendas. Brown act has two deadlines for agendas, 72 hours for a regular agenda. Agendas need to be out to the public with 72 hour notice to the community, posted at Dinos and on the website.

C. required board trainings

### **BUDGET COMMITTEE REPORT:**

will meet on 5/4/2015 at 6pm meeting at Aztec Rising. Vera states we are getting ready to close out the fiscal year and we are close to spending out all the money. Frank states that he is part of the Congress of Neighborhoods and they are requesting funds. The budget advocates will also request funding.

#### Treasurer's report and motion to approve:

February 2015: Victoria moves and Mario seconds approval of the February 2015 MER. Discussion: Frank wanted break down for the \$600 check. Vera states it is for the community beacon. Vote: 4 abstentions, 2 students and 12 yes. Motion passess (12-0-6)

March 2015 MER: There were a lot of expenses due to the east egg hunt. Vera brought the receipts. Motion was moved by Thomas and seconded by Victoria. Abstained by nancy, wads and America, thomas. 2 students ineligible. Motion passess (12-0-6)



Revised budget 2014-2015: motion moved by Ben Wadsworth and Victoria seconded the motion to transfer \$1,200 to NPG. Motion passes (19-0-0)

Motion to approve transfer of \$500 from NPG to operation: moved by Ben Wadsworth, seconded by Thomas. Motion passes (17-0-2)

C. motion to approve NPG for 4<sup>th</sup> of July : Lisa moves, John seconds. Raymond Rios introduced the motion for the fireworks show. Raymond says they are working with Plaza de la Raza and CD1 office as well as Recs and parks. He requests that we please approve the funding. Frank W asked what the approximate breakdown of the expenditure and revenues is. The expenditures are \$11k. Hilda Solis office is committing \$2K. Councilman Cedillo's office wants to see how much everyone else puts. USC has committed for about \$500-\$1000. If the firework event does not happen, everyone gets their money back. Sevin asked about concerns about the way that it was organized and it looks like they are getting it tougher this time, but also thinks it is a huge expense for a 20 minute show. John M thinks that even putting a fair together if they don't reach the goal is still something good for the community

VOTE: Sevin abstains, 2 students can't vote, 16 yes MOTION PASSES (16-0-3)

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

GEORGE CABRERA: he presented the community beacon issue for April/May 2015. He thanked Vera Padilla for her assistance and thanked everyone that bought a Mothers' Day ad.

JOSE AGUILAR: there are some articles that deal with the Neighborhood Council. One is for the Mural Museum and another is for a transparency article. Feels Main Street needs a pick-up, something that we would connect with.

B. Motion to approve \$500 for temper screws for securing of license plates. Moved by Cynthia and seconded by Victoria. Discussion: Sevin say she is of the opinion that it sends a bad message about Lincoln Heights. Mario says no because that is a lot of money for screws. Feels that the person that asks for money does not even come to the meeting or stays for just a bit. He would be more inclined to give the money to the fireworks people. John Menchaca wants to amend the motion to \$100, Ben Wadsworth seconds the motion.

Move to amend the motion to \$100: Motion passes (11-3-3)

Move on the amended motion: Mario moves, Karina seconds: MOTION PASSES (9-3-5) with two abstentions

## **OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT**

Nationbuilder motion: Motion to approve nation builder to provide 1 yr. of free service as website provider. frank asked how much it cost. Its starts at about \$19 per month. Mario thinks it's a good idea. Richard asked if it can be cancelled and Victoria says yes. Thomas moves, Mario seconds. Vote: MOTION PASSES (17-0-0)

B. motion to approve two board members to be trained as the webmaster for the neighborhood council.

MOVED: by Karina seconded by Richard. Discussion: Penelope asked how the training happening (through Andres). Anyone can be trained however we would have two people responsible. If someone is there for back up for us that will be great. Vote: America and Selena abstains plus two students; 13 yes MOTION PASSES (13-0-4).

AMERICA LEAVES MEETING AT 7:58pm (left for an educational event at PCC).



### C. Board Retreat work shop

Discussion/possible action to have a board retreat. Will follow up.

### Planning and Land Use Committee Report

Sevin said we had a very interesting meeting regarding the mural museum. Sevin stated Mike K is requesting to table the presentation. Sevin stated that at its last meeting, there was a motion to withdraw support until they learn more about the project. Sevin stated Mike K could have gone to the meeting if he wanted to. It is concerning when people do not show up but this is a public meeting.

Comment by Bennie: there were two motions that were approved at two different meetings, Feb and March 2015 in favor of the mural museum proposal. In the April 2015 meeting, Mr. and Ms. Kokler were not at the meeting and did not know it was going to be discussed. He feels it's awkward to have support at two meetings and have it withdrawn at its third meeting. There was an article at the proposal, apparently there were some mis-statements made according to executive committee. There was confusion there as well. There still needs to be some discussion. We need some clarity on this very big issue. Would like to ask the board of directors if they can postpone until the next meeting so there can be some clarity on the disagreements.

Mario moves to proceed with the motion on the agenda to withdraw support and John seconds the motion.

Motion reads: "Planning/Land Use Committee moves to withdraw the recommendation of support for the establishment of a mural museum for Lincoln Heights"

Mario says he are not against the museum. He feels the gentlemen wants to use the Lincoln Heights Neighborhood Council as leverage to try to force the city to buy the building off of him and donate the building back to him for the museum.

Karina stated: M. Kokler says that he is not here because he is ill. He was told at last month's board meeting that it was going to come back again this month. There are a lot of serious accusations made by this gentleman on the Community Beacon. His beef with the city council office has nothing to do with us. Until things get cleared we should withdraw our support.

PENELOPE left the meeting at 8:14pm

John Menchaca says that the committee is not recommending to support. Please remember that Jose Rodriguez stated that he could not discuss mural proposal due to pending litigation two months back. Mike K was here to hear that. There has to be support from the councilman. We do not know what the issues are between the councilman and the maker of the motion.

Mario also states that this is taxpayer money. We have a park at the end of Broadway that is in disrepair that could be repaired. The monies could be used in this way.

Moved: Nanci abstains and Vera, 2 students ineligible, 13 yes, (13-0-2) Motion Passes.

### Bylaws/Standing Rules Committee

Ben Wads states we should vote on the non-contentious items 1-17 as a whole. Thomas makes motion to approve standing rules #1-17 as a single vote, Ben Wads seconds.



Richard Silvera does not like the wording for standing rule # 13, "IN GENERAL", would like for it to be removed. Ben Wadsworth moves to strike out the word IN GENERAL from #13, Richard seconds it. Approved (15-0-0)

Now back to the first 17 as amendment, all present board members were in favor of standing rules 1-17 including the amendment of standing rule 13. (15-0-0)

SELENA ORTEGA left at 8:33pm and THOMAS left at 8:32pm.

Ben Wadsworth introduced proposed standing rule # 18. Proposes amendment to say to not be chairman instead of motion to say board member cannot be in more than three committees. Ben Wadsworth stated this rule affects one person- Frank Wada. Vera, Sevin and Karina stated it affects them as well not just Frank.

Motion was moved by Richard and seconded by Vince.

Mario understands that yes we do fall short of having all board members in a committee. Disagrees that people will not be able to support. Mario feels that even though he does not belong to all committees, he has supported them. Feels there is more danger in having one person in so many committees because at the end of the day people take ownership of the committees. Does not want the motion amended.

Frank states that DONE created the rule for participation, so you are eliminating the person to vote and support. Being there and having input, to be able to support something by saying yes or no is where it lies.

John M. seems to agree with Marrufo. Furthermore there is more than one individual that is in more than three committees. If this board is going to move in the future to best practices it is not healthy for board members to participate in many committees. Richard says he is serving on four committees, two of which rarely meets.

Sevin wants to take issue with Mario's remark that we are holding back the board. It is changing now, there is a demographic shift. Sevin is glad that we are getting more participation.

MOTION: on the amendment for motion to read "cannot be chair of more than 3 committees": MOTION FAILS (4-6-5)

ORIGINAL MOTION: moved by Mario M. and seconded by Karina. MOTION PASSES (8-3-4). Ben Wads publicized he is resigning from the committees he belongs to that are beyond the three committees allowed.

### **Motion to amend Bylaw ARTICLE XIII**

This item is tabled till moratorium is lifted. The current process requires there to be at least 18 board members present and there are less than 18 present.

### **GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT**

- a) Motion to approve Community Impact Statement in support of CF 13-0953; Citywide WIFI Initiative

MOVED: wads moved, Victoria seconds it.  
13-0-2 for WIFI initiative

- b) Motion to approve Community Impact Statement in support of CF 13-1374 Prohibit the Growth of Genetically Modified (GM) Crops within City Limits

Wads moved, Victoria seconds GMO: thinks not letting GMOs be planted so that GMOs don't go here. GMO plants are not going to be allowed to be used within city boundaries. MOTION PASSES (12-1-2)



c) Motion to approve Community Impact Statement in support of CF 14-016-S3 Sidewalk Repair Trust Fund

SIDEWALK: there was a lawsuit in the city of LA that took place not too long ago. The Trust Fund has been supported by other neighborhood councils. MOTION PASSES (13-0-2)

#### **EXTENSION OF THE MEETING**

Ben Wadsworth moves that we extend the meeting time for 20 minutes, Karina seconds. All were in favor.

#### **ELECTION COMMITTEE REPORT**

Election online voting: 2016 elections coming up is already in progress and DONE is already asking us to set up the elections committee.

Frank Wada introduced and summarized the Stipulation sheet. John M. Menchaca was appointed as the representative for the regional grievance committee. Approval of the Stipulation Sheet moved by Frank and seconded by John. MOTION PASSES (13-0-2)

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mr. Larsen, an architect and musician and wants to bring up the fact that some Lacey street housing was converted to artist housing and now the properties are being converted to residential leases. The developer is saying that he can't refuse leasing to anyone that shows up. Right now there are all kinds of owner activities going on where it used to be an artist loft of 4-5 buildings. It is supposed to comply with the CAD. He states that everything going on over there is illegal and should not be allowed. He would like to be included in the next agenda. Nanci suggests that he go to the planning and land use committee so that he could discuss this more at length. There is a time sensitive matter. Planning may have a special meeting sooner than their normal time.

Victoria moved and John Menchaca seconded at 9:52pm to adjourn the meeting. All present were in favor. Meeting adjourned.