

Contact Information

Neighborhood Council: West Los Angeles Neighborhood Council

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Date of NC Board Action: 1/28/2015

Type of NC Board Action: For

Impact Information

Date: 02/01/2015

Update to a Previous Input: No

Directed To: City Council and Committees

Council File Number: 14-1686

Agenda Date: 1/28/2015

Item Number: 4.1

Brief Summary: The West L.A. N.C. unanimously approved support of the neighborhood Naming change to "Sawtelle Japantown" as per the council file.

Additional Information:

MINUTES OF THE WEST LA SAWTELLE NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
West L.A Neighborhood Council Office-In WLA Municipal Building
1645 Corinth Avenue West L.A., CA 90025
January 28, 2015, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Chair Jay Handal called the meeting to order at 7:01PM.

Council members present: Jay Handal, Al Casas, Grace Tabib, Jean Shigematsu, Rosie Kato, Zana Glisovic, Tom Donovan, Kirk Watanabe, Jack Fujimoto, Helga Hakimi, David Levitus.

PUBLIC COMMENT ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA: (Pre meeting)

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

December and January Special - Motion was made (Casas), seconded (Shigematsu).

Approved - unanimous.

PRESENTATIONS:

Motion to approve a CIS re council file 14-1686 Support of Sawtelle Japantown Naming - Motion was made (Fujimoto), seconded (Watanabe). Approved - unanimous.

Issue of board status changes reporting to DONE (Kato) - Kato indicated concern with organizational representative status.

Motion to approve Grace Tabib as Secretary - Motion was made (Watanabe), seconded (Glisovic). Approved - unanimous.

DWP REPORT (Watanabe):

Nothing to report.

Public Work Report (Kato):

Nothing to report.

OUTREACH COMMITTEE (REPORT):

Discussion/action of Stakeholder Survey - Tabled until February meeting.

PUBLIC SAFETY:

Officer Kirk Report (Pre meeting), Crime up 6.8% from last year. Burglary up from 3 to 6%. General theft down 36%. Increase in homeless encampments. Leaf blower issue: technically illegal to use gas power leaf blower in Los Angeles, but no enforcements or fines. Jay Handal sending issue to the Public Safety Committee for discussion and strategy.

Introduction of Neighborhood Prosecutor Victoria De la Cruz, Will be attending February meeting.

BY LAWS COMMITTEE (DONOVAN):

Nothing to report.

CD 11 - COUNCILMAN BONIN (REPRESENTED BY LEN NGUYEN, FIELD DEPUTY):

Sawtelle Japantown application: city clerk office processing the application.

(Handal), In conversation with Councilmen Bonin's office, office suggested providing concessions to New West and indicated lack of support from community members. Handal believes Bonin potentially wavering support of the Board's position to prevent New West from student expansion and relaxed conditional use permit conditions. Handal requested that meeting notes reflect the Board's unhappiness with Bonin's wavering position. The Board does not support any concessions to New West. Handal has requested a town hall to discuss New West's request for expansion and has yet to receive a response from Bonin's office.

(Casas), Online petition - currently only 44 signatures. Encouraging community to send letters/emails to Councilman Bonin.

(Donovan), Requesting response from Len's conversation with Councilman.

(Kato), Voicing the difficulty for community members to attend meetings downtown in the middle of the work day.

MAYOR OF LA - GARCETTI (REPRESENTED BY DANIEL TAMM -WESTSIDE AREA):

Absent.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER BLOOM - (REPRESENTED BY STEPHANIE COHEN):

Absent.

CONGRESSMAN TED LIEU - (REPRESENTED BY JANET TURNER):

Secretary McDonald announced settlement re: homelessness in West LA Veterans Administration lawsuit. Entertaining town meeting with US Postal Service.

ASSEMBLY MEMBER RIDLEY THOMAS - (REPRESENTED BY SCOTT MAILSEN):

Absent.

STONER PARK REPORT (JASON LISS):

Successful skateboard event last Saturday.

(Handal), University High School principal seeking use of baseball field by the JV team.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA REPORT (NATHAN):

Motion in committee to stop issuing tax certificates to illegal collectives. Will be informed when moves to City Council. Advising the community to report any illegal collectives to Nathan or Len.

FINANCE AND BUDGET REPORT (ZANA):

Voting on new allocation of budget in February meeting

PLUM COMMITTEE PROJECT PRESENTATION, REPORTS AND/OR PLUM ACTION RE PROJECTS:

Martin Expo Center development Bundy and Olympic (Motion re deir letter), Motion made to approve letter (Casas), seconded (Watanabe). Approved - unanimous.

Application to erect a cell tower at 12026 Wilshire, No discussion.

Literati Café: Renewal of their CUB Wilshire and Bundy, Requesting CUB renewal. Motion to support was made (Fujimoto), second (Shigematsu). Watanabe abstain. Donovan recusal. Motion approved.

Update Mississippi/Sawtelle light & mitigations (Kato), Traffic signal has been approved.

(Casas), Traffic light has been funded and approved by City because of accidents occurring at the intersection warranting a traffic signal for safety purposes. The safety required meets the threshold for a traffic light by state warrant.

(Kato), Suggesting no thru traffic on Mississippi during certain hours. Casas has advised for Kato to contact Mo directly.

Update Olympic/Butler project (Kato), Did not receive notification for hearing as per 500 feet of the project.

BOARD COMMENTS:

(Donovan), Bingo at Buddhist Church once a month - half the proceeds go to the Church.

(Casas), Encouraging signing of online petition and sending letters to Councilman Bonin re: New West expansion. Feb 24 and 25 PLUM and City Council meetings.

(Tabib), There will be an Outreach Committee meeting on Tuesday, February 10 at 7:30PM. We encourage anyone interested in discussing events for the remainder of the year and next fiscal year to attend.

(Kato), Sawtelle businesses and trash problems- remanded to Public Safety Committee

(Handal), PLUM meeting in February - consider making it a joint Board/PLUM meeting.

ADJOURN:

Motion was made (Casas), seconded (Donovan). Approved - unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 7:52PM.