



UNITED NEIGHBORHOODS OF THE HISTORIC ARLINGTON HEIGHTS, WEST ADAMS AND JEFFERSON PARK COMMUNITIES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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UNNC Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, March 3, 2011
Council District 10 Field Office
1819 S. Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

MINUTES

(approved April 7, 2011)

CALL TO ORDER

President Stevie Stern opened the meeting at 6:43 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members present: Evangela Anderson, Steve Wallis, Andrea Dunlop, Ed Turner, Roy Amemiya, Betty Walton, Chris Carlson, Betty Phillips, John Arnold, Norman Gilmore, Laura Meyers, Stevie Stern, Wesley Todd, Ruth Jones-Sawyer, Billie Green, Jess Bravo, Jeff Camp, Myrna Allen. (18 total).

Members absent: Gus Harris, Jr., Jose Rauda, Fletcher Kauffman, Joyce Smith, Allen Lulu. (5 total).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Billie Green moved to approve the agenda as presented.

Ed Turner seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Donna Jones thanked UNNC for the cameras at the Benny Potter Park Annex. Both Senior Lead Officers have checked it out and said the images are much better than expected. They are still looking for donated laptops for the Senior Lead Officers to log in remotely.

Luis South encouraged everyone to vote March 8th, and to especially pay attention to the School Board race.

Angie English, Senior District Representative, Senator Curren Price, 26th District, announced a town hall meeting on High Speed Rail on March 18th at the California Science Center. Contact Lisa at 916-651-4569 to RSVP.

A person came to advocate for Measure L on March 8, for restoring funding to the Los Angeles Public library. The average amount spent by libraries nationally is over \$4 per capita, but only \$1.70 per capita in Los Angeles.



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Andrea Dunlop, Chair of the Tree Committee, noted that there are no more free city trees for parkways. You do have to apply for a permit, which is free.

John Arnold reminded everyone that this coming election day, there is a hearing at 6th Avenue Elementary School on the proposed Jefferson Park HPOZ.

Dianne Lawrence of the Neighborhood News announced that they are auditioning talent for an upcoming talent show. Contact Dianne at the Neighborhood News.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 10 UPDATE

Westside Park is near Clyde and Adams near La Cienega. They are putting exercise equipment in the park and other fun kid play elements. Councilman Wesson encourages everyone to check it out and see if it's something we want to do at UNNC, particularly at Leslie Shaw Park on Jefferson Blvd.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Billie Green reported that the Executive Committee has started reviewing the bylaws to update them to conform with the stipulations UNNC agreed to with the City Clerk for the election in 2010, as well as any other changes that seem appropriate. After review by the DONE task force, proposed revisions to the bylaws will be presented to the board for discussion.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Planning & Zoning Committee

1. Laura Meyers – Chair of Planning and Zoning

A proposed ordinance to expand bicycle parking requirements to cover multi-family residential developments has a hearing March 10 at 1:00 pm at City Hall Room 1010.

This is a preliminary draft ordinance.

MOTION: Billie Green moved to table the motion until after the Bike Plan Presentation later in the meeting.

Chris Carlson seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

2. John Arnold – Chair of the ad hoc committee to review the Jefferson Park Historic Preservation Plan.

The ad hoc committee presented somewhat extensive revisions to the proposed Jefferson Park Historic Preservation Plan, and a letter summarizing those proposed changes.

John Arnold went through the letter summarizing the changes in great detail.

MOTION: John Arnold moved that UNNC endorse and authorize a letter summarizing UNNC's proposed changes to the proposed Jefferson Park Historic Preservation Plan to the Planning Department at the March 8, 2011 Hearing.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

NEW L.A. CITY BIKE PLAN

Jeff Jacobberger, member of the L.A. Bicycle Advisory Committee of the City of Los Angeles



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Jeff gave a presentation showing the long range plan for bicycle routes/lanes/paths in Los Angeles, including many maps showing existing and future bike friendly street enhancements in the UNNC area.

Steve Wallis exited stage left.

MOTION: John Arnold moved to table any action regarding the proposed draft for bicycle parking until another draft comes out.

Roy Amemiya seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Wesley Todd presented the Treasurer's report, including the US Bank Statement dated 2-21-2011

MOTION: Billie Green moved to approve the US Bank statement.

Betty Phillips seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: John Arnold moved to approve the February 3, 2011 minutes as presented.

Betty Phillips seconded.

Vote: 15 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Thanks to Jeff Camp for bringing dinner from Papa Christos tonight.

Evangela said that Gus Harris, Jr. had volunteered to arrange for food at our April meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Betty Phillips announced that Harold of Harold & Belle's and Rick of Rick's Barbershop, both on Jefferson Blvd, passed away recently.

Laura Meyers announced that on Saturday March 26th, West Adams Heritage is doing its second Art in Historic Places Tour. <http://westadamsheritage.org/>

Roy announced that the 3rd Thursday, the Wilshire CPAB is having their meeting. New time is at 7:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

LACES school is funding its culinary arts program by selling bread, and is accepting tax deductible donations of 2 lb breadmakers. Talk to Chris Carlson if you have one to donate.

Betty Phillips announced that the city is still looking for poll workers.

Don't forget to vote March 8. Herb Wesson is looking for campaign volunteers too.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.



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Respectfully submitted,

Norman Gilmore

UNNC Secretary

April 8, 2011

Attachments:

Q&A Bicycle Parking Requirements

Letter from Planning and Zoning Ad Hoc Committee summarizing proposed changes to the proposed Jefferson Park HPOZ Preservation Plan

Q&A: Bicycle Parking Requirements

Q: What are Bicycle Parking Requirements?

A: The proposed ordinance will amend the LAMC to require that bicycle parking be provided in a similar manner to car parking. Any new development, major remodel, or change of use would be required to meet these standards and provide parking for bicycles as described in the ordinance.

Q: Why do we need Bicycle Parking Requirements?

A: The City of Los Angeles is currently seeking to encourage bicycling. Bicycling can reduce congestion, improve air-quality, reduce emissions and improve public health. However, a key obstacle is the lack of bicycle infrastructure. Bicycle parking amenities provide this infrastructure at the end of each bicycle trip.

A: Bicycle theft and vandalism is a deterrent to bicycle riding. Properly designed, safe and secure bicycle parking can reduce the number of such incidents.

A: Conveniently located and highly visible bicycle parking will serve as a reminder that bicycles are welcome at any destination.

Q: What's wrong with what we have?

A: The current bicycle parking ordinance only requires bicycle parking be provided in extremely limited circumstances. This has resulted in a lack of bicycle parking in most developments. The current code requires that bicycle parking be provided at a rate of 2% of automobile parking for buildings over 10,000 square feet. This results in one bicycle parking space being provided per 25,000 square feet for most developments. This also means that all destinations under 10,000 square feet are not required to provide bicycle parking.

Q: How much bicycle parking will be required?

A: Different ratios of bicycle parking will be required for different land uses as described in the proposed ordinance. The most significant change will be the expansion of current regulations to multifamily residential developments. These ratios were developed by studying best practices from across the country and California and were adapted to meet the needs of Los Angeles.

Q: What kinds of bicycle parking are required?

A: The proposed ordinance requires that both short and long-term bicycle parking be provided. Short-term bicycle parking consists of bicycle racks that allow users to visit locations for several hours. Long-term bicycle parking is designed for residents and employees who have concerns about leaving their bicycles in unattended areas for long periods of time.

Q: What kinds of design standards have been included to ensure that bicycle parking is properly installed?

A: The proposed ordinance expands on the previous bicycle parking ordinance and provides specific design standards for both short and long-term bicycle parking. The proposed ordinance details signage, lighting, location, and size requirements for bicycle parking.

Required Bicycle Parking

Land Use	Short-term Bicycle Parking	Long-term Bicycle Parking
Residential Uses	1 per 10 dwelling units or guest rooms	1 per 2 dwelling units or guest rooms
Commercial Uses	10% of automobile parking (Minimum 2)	10% of automobile parking (Minimum 2)
Institutional Uses	5% of automobile parking (Minimum 2)	10% of automobile parking (Minimum 2)
Industrial Uses	5% of automobile parking (Minimum 2)	5% of automobile parking (Minimum 2)

March 3, 2011

To: UNNC Governing Board
From: UNNC Historic Preservation Committee

RE: Recommendations from the HPC for a letter of public testimony regarding changes to the draft of the Jefferson Park HPOZ Preservation Plan

Dear Governing Board,

The UNNC HPC has met twice in the past month to read and discuss the draft Preservation Plan for the proposed Jefferson Park HPOZ. The original draft was written by the Planning Department. We have also formed a Sub-Committee that has met twice as well.

The goal of these meetings was to make recommendations to the UNNC for a letter of public testimony for changes to the document that would allow the Preservation Plan to best suit the needs of the Jefferson Park community and its proposed HPOZ. This testimony would be given to the Planning Department at the 3/8/11 Jefferson Park HPOZ public hearing. We make the following recommendations:

- 1) Revise the "mission statement" to most accurately reflect the intent of the community in establishing the HPOZ, particularly in regards to availability of resources.
- 2) Allow for more opportunities within the Preservation Plan guidelines, for community education, access to resources, and involvement, especially for owners of "non-contributing" properties. Also, to allow for more opportunities for input by the community and HPOZ board on changes that are proposed on "non-contributing" properties. Ways that we propose achieving these goals in the Preservation Plan are:
 - a. Encourage all applicants for permits to attend a consultation with the HPOZ board, regardless of the "contributing" status of their property. The Preservation Plan currently has no mention of the "consultation" process. We believe this will give all property owners exposure to the HPOZ; be a venue for education about the historic resources of the community; and give all property owners the opportunity to be involved regardless of the historic significance of their property.
 - b. Require that the HPOZ board and community (including UNNC) be notified by the Planning Department of pending projects in the HPOZ, regardless of "contributing" status, and also timely notification of approvals delegated to the Planning Department. This will give the opportunity for input and/or appeals on projects that do not require Board approval or public input. Currently, for projects that are delegated to the Planning Department, there would be little or no input allowed from the community.
 - c. Allow for the Board to have some input on changes to existing historic elements on non-contributors. Currently, only the Planning Department has jurisdiction over all elements of contributors.
- 3) Further tailor the Preservation Plan guidelines for projects to be specific to the neighborhood. This would allow for a better resource for property owners to learn about their property and what may be appropriate for changes. Ways that we propose achieving this goal are:
 - a. Include more extensive sections on the architectural styles and resources in the neighborhood. Areas of deficiency that were noted are in the "Victorian", "Transitional", "Craftsman" and "Commercial Vernacular" sections. These styles

- make up the majority of the structures in the HPOZ area and should be described more fully to provide the best possible resource for residents.
- b. Include extensive design guidelines for mixed-use new development on Jefferson Blvd. and Western Ave. Currently, this section does not exist and it is the opinion of the committee that it is on the boulevards that the neighborhood will see the most change in the coming years. These guidelines, based on existing mixed-use guidelines from other specific plans, should be used to not only shape the design of the boulevards to fit into the existing historic fabric, but to also protect the historic streetscapes of the adjacent single family neighborhoods.
 - c. Provide guidelines that are tailored to the historic needs of Jefferson Park, such as allow reversible porch enclosures that are designed to fit into the architecture.
 - d. Provide more guidelines for "non-contributing" structures, as these properties make up approximately one-third of the HPOZ area. Currently, the guidelines are not clear on what is required of non-contributing properties when changes are proposed.
- 4) Clarify language so property owners have a reasonable expectations as to what will be required from the Board and/or the Planning Department when permits are pursued. Currently, there are vague or conflicting statements that might lead to confusion or unrealistic expectations. Some specific recommendations are:
- a. Provide definition for statements such as "inappropriate", "should be avoided" or "discouraged".
 - b. Use the words "shall" and "should" with more precision and clarity. Specifically, we feel that overarching preservation principles should be labeled "shall", and guidelines should be labeled "should" as to give some flexibility to decision-makers and property owners.
 - c. Replace all references to "secondary facades" with "not visible from street".
 - d. Include the full text of the Secretary of the Interiors Standards, not just references, paraphrases, or interpretations of them, as is in the draft currently.

We respectfully ask the UNNC Governing Board to consider these changes, and to authorize the writing of a letter of public testimony to the Planning Department supporting these suggested changes. Thank you.

Sincerely,

John Arnold, Chair – UNNC Historic Preservation Committee

Preservation Plan Subcommittee: Marina Moevs, Steve Peckman, Cheron Wells, Laura Meyers, John Arnold

Proposed Jefferson Park HPOZ

Mission Statement - recommended changes by the UNNC HPC

March 3, 2011

To maintain and enhance the historic integrity, sense of place, and quality of life in the Jefferson Park HPOZ area, and to preserve and stabilize the neighborhood for future generations, the Jefferson Park HPOZ and Preservation Plan shall:

- Promote education by encouraging interest in the rich cultural, social and architectural history of Jefferson Park;*
- Foster neighborhood pride in Jefferson Park and its cultural and architectural history among residents and property owners of both residential and commercial buildings;*
- Ensure that historic preservation is inclusive of all residents and encourage residents to participate in historic preservation;*
- Preserve the character of Jefferson Park, and the structures, natural features and sites that contribute to its distinctive culture and history;*
- Provide clear guidelines for appropriate rehabilitation, new construction, and relocation of both residential and commercial structures in the HPOZ; and*
- Provide residents and business owners with pertinent information about historic preservation resources and opportunities.*