



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

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## UNNC Governing Board Meeting

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Thursday, April 7, 2011  
Council District 10 Field Office  
1819 S. Western Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90006

### MINUTES

(approved May 5, 2011)

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Stevie Stern opened the meeting at 6:55 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Members present:** Betty Phillips, Fletcher Kauffman, Joyce Smith, Gus Harris, Jr., Evangela Anderson, Andrea Dunlop, Ed Turner, Roy Amemiya, Chris Carlson, John Arnold, Norman Gilmore, Laura Meyers, Stevie Stern, Wesley Todd, Ruth Jones-Sawyer, Billie Green, Myrna Allen. (17 total).

**Members absent:** Steve Wallis, Jeff Camp, Jess Bravo, Betty Walton, Jose Rauda, Allen Lulu. (6 total).

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Billie Green moved to approve the agenda with an amendment to table the Western Heights funding request until next month.

Chris Carlson seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Lydia Gutierrez announced that she is in the run-off for Community College Board Seat 5. You can learn more about her platform at [www.lydiaforeducation.com](http://www.lydiaforeducation.com). The election is May 17<sup>th</sup>.

Luis South announced that an alley in the 2000 block of 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> in Jefferson Park is getting a beautification facelift. There is an event Saturday the 23<sup>rd</sup> to kick off the project. The alley will be reclaimed as a community space.

Stacy Yamato from LA County Metro, operators of the Expo Line, is responsible for Safety Outreach to community organizations, businesses and all organizations with facilities or stakeholders near the tracks. The outreach is focused on a 1.5 mile radius from the tracks. They are available to give safety presentations at community events. Call her to see if she can provide a presentation or materials to your group or event. Email her at [yamatos@metro.net](mailto:yamatos@metro.net) More information at: <http://www.metro.net/about/transit-safety/outreach/>



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Jesus Batidas announced that new classes were being added at Mid-Wilshire School, including for solar installation.

Sandy Zalagens and William Hernandez announced that this Saturday they are having a co-op produce and gardening swap at 3661 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. They are interested in doing local outreach on community beautification, spay & neuter programs as well as public safety issues and disaster preparedness. Email [sandyz@kw.com](mailto:sandyz@kw.com) for details.

John Arnold's block club on 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> between Cimarron and St. Andrews is also doing an alley clean up in a month or so.

Donna Jones announced that the Park Advisory Board is meeting this coming Tuesday. She updated us on the status of the new park bathrooms, the South Seas Programs, and the park security cameras.

## COUNCIL DISTRICT 10 UPDATE

Albert Lord mentioned that Movies in the Park is being planned by the Council members office again.

The council office asks that we be sure to let the Council office know of all problems you notice in the community. There is also a DWP program to put more lights in alleys, contact Albert to learn how to request more alley lights.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Funding request - 2011 Fire Service Day Celebration on May 14 at Fire Station #34 - Capt. Hsiao – ACTION

(Item handled out of order.)

Captain Johnny Green presented a funding request for Fire Station #34 at 3661 S. 7<sup>th</sup> Ave for their annual Fire Service day on May 14, 2011. There are fire fighting demonstrations, and the Jaws-of-Life. There will be music and a performance by American Indian dancers. They've had an increasing number of people each year. They have had crowds from 350 to 500 people.

They are requesting up to \$800 for food and drinks for attendees, \$300 for street closure permits, and \$400 for a jumper. There will be music and other food vendors as well. This is the biggest of the "non-official" Fire Department Service days. UNNC has supported this event for the last three years.

**MOTION:** Evangela Anderson moved to support the above funding request as presented.  
Ed Turner seconded.

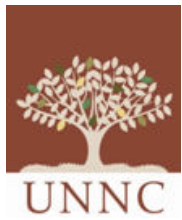
Evangela and Ed agreed to amend their motion to read that: UNNC shall provide up to \$1500 to Firestation#34 Fire Service Day for food and drinks for attendees, for a street closure permit if needed, and jumpers.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

- B. Funding request - Western Heights beautification project - Dunlop – Tabled until next month.

- C. Update - revising UNNC e-blasts

The E-Blast ad-hoc committee has been upgrading the types and amount of information we are sending out. Formerly we mainly sent out agendas under the subject "UNNC E-NEWS". We have split our list into more specific topics: Agendas, E-Lerts, Neighborhood Know, Minutes, Planning



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& Zoning, Historic Preservation, and Economic Development. In addition, there are now (empty) lists for Angelus Vista, Harvard Heights, West Adams Avenues, Western Heights & Kinney Heights, and Jefferson Park. The latter lists will be available to communicate very local information such as about block club meetings.

## COMMITTEE BUSINESS

### A. Planning & Zoning Committee - Meyers

1. Proposed "Permeable Paving" ordinance - discussion regarding this proposed ordinance about ground-covering material able to support vehicular and pedestrian traffic yet also allow water to pass through and infiltrate into either the ground or a specially designed water capture area. Current Zoning code allows permeable paving to be installed in driveways. Installing permeable paving in parking lots, however, requires a lengthier process. The proposed ordinance will create one streamlined process for either driveways or parking lots. The City is considering this as part of its general "Building Green" initiative. – ACTION

There is a public hearing next week on this. Then it goes to the Planning Commission, and then City Council.

**MOTION:** Laura Meyers moved that UNNC support the proposed ordinance by writing a letter in support to the Planning Department.

Myrna Allen seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

Update: The Community Care Facility Ordinance went through a PLUM hearing and should be proceeding to City Council.

### B. Historic Preservation Committee - Arnold

1. Jefferson Park HPOZ - presentation and recommendation regarding porch enclosures on houses built within the period of significance – ACTION

**MOTION:** John Arnold moved that UNNC adopt the attached motion and write a letter to the Cultural Heritage Commission stating that UNNC respectfully requests that the Commission review the standards used to designated altered contributors for the Jefferson Park Historic Survey and use the same standards used for other recently adopted HPOZs; and further to invite the Cultural Heritage Commission to visit the ten to fifteen specific properties that should be considered altered-contributors instead of non-contributors due to the reversibility of the changes.

Chris Carlson seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

2. Golden State Mutual Building - proposed Historic Monument designation – ACTION

**MOTION:** John Arnold moved that:

WHEREAS the Golden State Mutual Life Building and its lobby murals depicting the history of African Americans in California are a vital part of the cultural heritage and built environment of Los Angeles, South Los Angeles, and Jefferson Park;



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The UNNC Governing Board SUPPORTS the designation of the Golden State Mutual Life Building AND its murals as a City Historic Cultural Monument and SUPPORTS the Office of Historic Resources Staff Report recommending such a designation.

Chris Carlson seconded.

Background: Since Golden State Mutual went through liquidation, the state liquidators are claiming that the murals are part of the assets that can be sold to pay creditors, whereas the building owners and preservation groups assert that the murals, that were commissioned as part of the buildings design by noted architect Paul Williams, are an integral part of the building.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

3. Update – The HPOZ Annual Conference to be held in the UNNC community on May 7<sup>th</sup> from 8:30 to 4:30 at McCarty Church. This is a preservation conference. Cost is about \$20.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Wesley Todd presented the Treasurer's report, including the US Bank Statement dated 3-21-2011.

**MOTION:** Gus Harris, Jr. moved to approve the US Bank statement.

Roy Amemiya seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

John Arnold gave an update on the 30/31 Block Club party that was rained out on March 21<sup>st</sup>. It is being tentatively rescheduled. The items purchased by UNNC are being stored for use on the rescheduled date. The Block Club has to re-raise the funds for the street closure, since that was non-refundable.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**MOTION:** Betty Phillips moved to approve the March 3, 2011 minutes with two amendments (i) delete a statement attributed to Andrea Dunlop on page two about the cost of a street tree, and (ii) the President's update should refer to food planning for this April meeting, not March.

John Arnold seconded.

Vote: 14 in favor, none opposed, 3 abstentions.

## PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

- A. UNNC as listed partner at Gore-Carson Academy of Environmental Studies – ACTION

**MOTION:** Gus Harris, Jr. moved that UNNC accept the invitation to be listed as a partner of the Gore-Carson Academy of Environmental Studies.

Andrea Dunlop seconded.

There was a discussion about ways in which UNNC should consider partnering with the school actively, rather than merely in name only.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

- B. Long term loan to West Adams Avenues of one of UNNC's lap top computers for the monitoring



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of the cameras in the Benny H. Potter/West Adams Avenues Park annex – ACTION

The cameras at Benny Potter Park are almost ready. Only LAPD is allowed to monitor the cameras, however, LAPD laptops are not allowed to connect to non-LAPD equipment.

**MOTION:** Norman Gilmore moved that UNNC loan a UNNC laptop to West Adams Avenues Neighborhood Association for a period of 12 months, for use by the Senior Lead Officer whose area includes Benny Potter Park, for the purpose of monitoring the security cameras funded by UNNC. West Adams Avenues Neighborhood Association would have to agree to be responsible for replacing or repairing the computer if lost or damaged. Prior to the loan being made, UNNC will put out a request to the community to find if a laptop can be donated. UNNC will retain the option to request return of the laptop prior to the end of the 12 months. At the end of the 12 months, West Adams Avenues will arrange for return of the laptop. If the Senior Lead Officer assignment changes, West Adams Avenues will be responsible for transferring the laptop to the new Senior Lead Officer.

Ed Turner seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

- C. Delegating to Executive Committee the authority (with approval by two officers) the short term loaning out of UNNC equipment on a discretionary basis to community groups or community-related activities for presentations – ACTION

The following motion was arrived at after considered discussion and various friendly amendments:

**MOTION:** John Arnold moved that the UNNC Governing Board allow loans of UNNC equipment (e.g., such as a laptop and projector) to (i) City of Los Angeles employees presenting to the community; or to (ii) a community group for an event where a UNNC Governing Board member is present and responsible for the equipment. Loans will be for a maximum of two days. The loan would be subject to the approval of two Executive Committee members, including the board member responsible for storing and retrieving the equipment. UNNC is not obligated to provide such loans.

Fletcher Kauffman seconded.

Vote: 16 in favor, 2 opposed, no abstentions.

- D. Updates & UNNC business

Saturday April 16<sup>th</sup> is the next EmpowerLA Board Training.

Board members you will be reminded if you need to take your ethics training.

USC Engineering Writing class students have been drawing up plans for improvements to the Isadore house per the vision of the Park Advisory Board. Presentations will be made at USC this coming Monday and Wednesday from 3:30 to 6:00. Contact Stevie if you'd like to attend.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kehinde Wiley, who grew up in Jefferson Park and who has become a nationally known artist, is speaking in Los Angeles this week and having a gallery opening.



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John Arnold reported that the Jefferson Park HPOZ hearing put on by the Planning Department had very supportive public testimony. He estimated attendance at about 65 people.

Stevie Stern announced that April 16 is the next BudgetLA. It is 10-1 at the Hollywood Presbyterian Church on Gower. BudgetLA advocates for NC funding.

There is E-Waste drop off at 2085 South Hobart this Saturday from 9-3pm.

All these events are on the calendar on the website!

Thanks to Gus Harris, Jr. for arranging the food tonight. Myrna Allen agreed to arrange the food for May.

Meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Gilmore

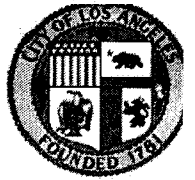
UNNC Secretary

April 8, 2011

Attachments: Motions from the Historic Preservation Committee



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## Historic Preservation Committee

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Wednesday, April 6, 2011

### MOTIONS FOR GOVERNING BOARD CONSIDERATION

#### 1) JEFFERSON PARK HPOZ CONTRIBUTOR STANDARDS

- WHEREAS the recent historic resources survey holds Jefferson Park structures to more rigid standards for contributor status based on reversible changes, especially in regards to porch alterations, than other recent HPOZ contributor standards;
- WHEREAS most Jefferson Park houses are smaller than those in the wealthier HPOZs in Los Angeles and thus more susceptible to visual impacts from minor alterations;
- WHEREAS houses with reversible enclosed porches and intact facades can be easily restored to original condition;
- WHEREAS Jefferson Park is in danger of losing significant contributing features due to a very narrow reading of the criteria set forth by the City for altered contributors;
- WHEREAS the accepted criteria for Hancock Park and other HPOZs specifically use as an example of "typical alterations" to Contributor-Altered structures a "porch area that was enclosed or in-filled, but the original form of the structure is still evident";
- WHEREAS the Jefferson Park houses that are in question are largely historically intact except for porch alterations and it would be a shame to allow an entire historic house to be unprotected because of a reversible minor change:

The Committee recommends that the UNNC Governing Board SUPPORT Contributor standards that do not result in the loss of significant contributing features and elements in the Jefferson Park HPOZ neighborhood AND that the Cultural Heritage Commission not hold Jefferson Park contributors to rigid standards, especially when alterations to historic features, such as porches, tend to be reversible and relatively easy to repair.

#### 2) GOLDEN STATE MUTUAL LIFE BUILDING AND MURALS:

- WHEREAS the Golden State Mutual Life Building and its lobby murals depicting the history of African Americans in California are vital part of the cultural heritage and built environment of Los Angeles, South Los Angeles, and Jefferson Park;

The Committee recommends that the UNNC Governing Board SUPPORT the designation of the Golden State Mutual Life Building AND its murals as a City Historic Cultural Monument, and SUPPORTS the Office of Historic Resources Staff Report recommending such a designation.