



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

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UNNC Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, December 3, 2009
Council District 10 Field Office
1819 S. Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

MINUTES

(approved January 7, 2010)

President Stevie Stern opened the meeting at 6:52 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members present: Andrea Dunlop, Roy Amemiya, Laura Meyers, Norman Gilmore, Stevie Stern, Wesley Todd, Billie Green, Joyce Smith, Marva Maxey, John Arnold, Stephen Wallis, Brenda Bankhead, Betty Phillips, Marco Giordano, Gus Harris, Jr., Jess Bravo, Mason Bendewald, Ed Turner.

Members absent: Evangela Anderson, Moon Chung, Tae Kim, Brian Song

AGENDA

MOTION: Roy Amemiya moved to table Item 6A, "Elections Update with Sandra Mendoza" and to approve the agenda thus amended.

Stephen Wallis seconded.

Agenda approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Marva Maxey announced that the UNNC Outreach committee is meeting monthly on the 1st Tuesday of every month. The meeting will be at Trinity Baptist Church at Jefferson and Arlington. The Outreach committee needs volunteers to help staff the upcoming Christmas events at South Seas House and CD10.

Chris Carlson of the Western Heights Neighborhood Association reported that The Planning Commission denied the appeal regarding the cell tower proposed for Arlington and the I-10.

Gus Harris, Jr. informed us the sad news that a clerk at Saki Liquor in Jefferson Park died after an altercation with a customer. The perpetrator was caught promptly.

CD 10 Update – Albert Lord:

Albert Lord invited neighbors to a Wed December 9 at 7 p.m. meet & greet at CD10 UNNC with the new head of the LAPD Olympic Division. Captain Matt Blake.



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Albert Lord also noted that two City Council members are making a motion to recognize Western & Adams Blvd as the Gertrude Baines Memorial Intersection. Gertrude Baines, a resident of Jefferson Park, was the oldest known person in the world at the time of her death in 2009.

Gus Harris, Jr. announced that this Saturday is a decorative tree wrapping effort from Crenshaw to Western. Meet at Leslie Shaw Park.

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) update by Christina Ortega-Libatique:

EmpowerLA is putting on a series of events called Open Dialog for preparing stakeholders for the election.

Be sure to sign on to the NC News newsletter. They are putting out issues every Wednesday now.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Andrea Dunlop and Mason Bendewald have noticed that some of the trees in our area planted by Million Trees LA have died, despite being cared for. Million Trees LA is no longer paying to replace trees. Andrea Dunlop and Mason Bendewald presented a proposal to fund the replacement of nine (9) trees and related items for up to \$736.19. Trees are \$48 each. 4 Majestic Beauty Southern Magnolias for Cimarron St and 5 Chinese Flame trees for Washington/Bronson.

MOTION: Marva Maxey moved to fund the request for up to \$736.19 for the 9 replacement trees inclusive of costs for trees, costs for tree delivery, and related planting supplies.

Laura Meyers seconded.

Vote: 15 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstention.

- B. Carlton Stubbs of South Seas House/LA Recreation and Parks presented a funding request for a Holiday event at South Seas House for local children and families, to be held on December 12, 2009. Projected attendance is 300. The funding request is for up to \$987 for pony rides, a Castle Jumper, a petting zoo, a generator and related items as listed on the project proposal.

MOTION: Stevie Stern moved to support the funding request as presented.

Marva Maxey seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

- C. Norman Gilmore presented a proposal to design and print posters explaining the UNNC mission and activities for the purpose of outreach and education to stakeholders at events and meetings. Posters can be derived from the recently created Neighborhood News ad, photos of past sponsored events and beautification projects, etc. The posters can be mounted on foamcore and laminated for durability. Linda Frost is highly recommended as the designer. She designed the UNNC logo, the UNNC street banners, and is a resident in the UNNC area. Aside from her diverse and extensive professional credits, her understanding of our



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neighborhood and previous graphic design requirements make her an outstanding choice. The proposal included design improvements to our existing print ad as well as printing city prepared maps of the UNNC area at poster size for reference use at meetings.

MOTION: Stevie Stern moved to fund up to \$2000 for design and printing of posters supporting UNNC outreach and education objectives, design improvements to the print ad and the oversized printing of UNNC maps.

Brenda Bankhead seconded.

Vote: 16 in favor, 2 opposed.

COMMITTEE UPDATES

B. Planning & Zoning Committee

1. Case No. DIR-2005-2985-COA-M1, 3717 West Adams Blvd. This case is regarding complaints of unpermitted construction of a parking lot in a front yard, and various HPOZ violations. The case history is somewhat complicated. The city gave a retroactive approval for demolition of non-contributing garages. (Thus legal alley parking was removed.) Additional density was added to the lot. Building & Safety and Planning had substantial miss-communications. The owner attended the first HPOZ board meeting, which informed the owner in consultation that parking in the front yard would not be supported. The HPOZ Board recently formally denied the front yard parking request.

Recent pictures of the subject property and immediate area were projected for viewing.

MOTION: With respect to the above case, Laura Meyers moved to support the West Adams Terrace HPOZ Board and West Adams Avenues Neighborhood Association in recommending that the city not approve the owner's request to put a parking lot in the front yard and that the city not overlook the many HPOZ violations.

Marco Giordano seconded.

Vote: 18 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

2. Case ZA-2009-3290-CU is a request for a conditional use permit to allow a commercial parking lot in the residential zone at 1919-1921 S. 4th Ave (Arlington Heights), described as "asphalt paving and striping for a 13-space public parking lot" in the RD2-1 zone. Applicant has previously demolished an existing residential structure (duplex) with permit. The parking lot is currently being used without a permit.

Recent pictures of the subject property and immediate area were projected for viewing.

MOTION: Laura Meyers moved that UNNC recommend to the city that this application be denied. Billie Green seconded.

Discussion: The city of Los Angeles has lost major court cases on the basis of making land-use



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exemptions in the face of an ostensible ban. (e.g., billboards). Allowing commercial users to cross alleys into residential areas to create parking lots would be a extremely prejudicial precedent for residential areas. It was suggested that commercial interests should convert commercial lots to parking. A Victorian House within a few hundred yards could be moved from its commercial lot to this residential lot as one possible beneficial re-use.

Vote: 18 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

3. An ad hoc committee to address a proposed mixed use retail and senior housing project at 3712 West Washington Blvd in Arlington Heights is being established. Members are Laura Meyers, Stevie Stern and Roy Amemiya.
4. Council File: 09-2645 – Proposed further citywide regulations of new cell tower installations. On October 14, 2009, the Ninth US Circuit Court of Appeals upheld the City of Palos Verdes Estates' rejection of two wireless construction projects on aesthetic grounds and stated that did not violate the 1996 Telecommunications Act bar of municipalities from action that prohibited the provision of wireless services. As a result, the Los Angeles City Council may consider actions to develop additional regulatory tools to govern these facilities. Neighborhood Councils may weigh in with a Community Impact Statement.

MOTION: Laura Meyers moved that the Executive Committee be authorized to develop a short Community Impact Statement pertaining to file 09-2645 for the City Council on behalf of the UNNC Governing Board if such a statement is required before the next Governing Board meeting.

Ed Turner seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved: Whereas the motion recorded by the secretary in the September 3, 2009 UNNC Minutes as follows “Mason Bendewald presented a funding request for Angelus Vista Block Club signs. Laura Meyers moved to fund up to \$850 for the Angelus Vista Block Club sign proposal.” did not reflect the intention of the movant to incorporate all the elements of the proposal presented to the entire board at that time, it is hereby resolved by the UNNC Board to amend the previously approved minutes to state that “Mason Bendewald presented a funding request for Angelus Vista Block Club signs and business cards. Laura Meyers moved to fund up to \$850 for the Angelus Vista Block Club sign proposal, including business cards.”

Laura Meyers seconded.

Vote (by those in attendance at that prior meeting): 13 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved: Whereas the motion recorded by the secretary in the October 1, 2009 UNNC Minutes regarding the Benny Potter Park security cameras as follows “MOTION: Evangela Anderson moved that the letters submitted be accepted as satisfying UNNC requests for establishing all needed support to move forward for this project, and that UNNC shall now fully fund this project as originally moved.” did not state the outcome of the vote taken on the motion at that meeting, it is hereby



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resolved by the UNNC Board to amend the previously approved minutes to record the vote as follows
“Vote: Approved unanimously.”

Laura Meyers seconded.

Vote (by those in attendance at that prior meeting): 12 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

Norman Gilmore distributed minutes for the November 5th, 2009 UNNC Board Meeting.

MOTION: Billie Green moved that the minutes be approved with corrections. Betty Philips seconded.

Vote: 17 in favor, none opposed, one abstention.

TREASURER’S REPORT

Wesley Todd presented the Treasurer’s Report. There was a discussion of the challenges of dealing with payment procedures.

MOTION: Ed Turner moved that we accept the treasurer’s report as presented.

Billie Green seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

PRESIDENT’S UPDATE

Andrea Dunlop agreed to order the food for the January meeting.

Stevie Stern noted that our agendas are required to be posted at five locations publicly, including the CD10 Field Office,

South Seas House, Jefferson Park Library, Washington Irving Library, and the LAPD Stop-In Center. We need volunteers to post at the latter two locations.

Myrna Allen generously volunteered to post agendas at Washington Irving Library and the LAPD Stop-In Center.

Stevie Stern reported on a meeting of NC activists looking to recruit CD10 city council member for the next election. UNNC in the past has helped organized town-hall style debates of candidates. Stevie Stern has stated that she will attend in the interest of keeping UNNC in the loop on those issues.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Billie Green announced that William Grantsdale Center is having their 29th Annual Show of dolls of color. It is at 2525 Westview at West Adams. Billie's collection is featured. The opening reception is 3-6 this Saturday. It goes till February 27th and admission is free.

LANCC is meeting this Saturday.

Metro Board of Directors Voting on the Crenshaw LAX Corridor on Thursday December 10th.
Karen Bass is having an end-of-year celebration on December 13th from 3-5pm at a luncheon.

Meeting adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Norman Gilmore
UNNC Secretary
January 7, 2009

Attachments:
None