



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 2, 2010
Council District 10 Field Office
1819 S. Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

MINUTES

(approved January 6, 2011)

CALL TO ORDER

President Stevie Stern opened the meeting at 6:46 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members present: Allen Lulu, Jose Rauda, Norman Gilmore, John Arnold, Laura Meyers, Stevie Stern, Wesley Todd, Betty Phillips, Chris Carlson, Fletcher Kauffman, Ruth Jones-Sawyer, Billie Green, Andrea Dunlop, Jess Bravo, Roy Amemiya, Jeff Camp, Gus Harris, Jr., Steve Wallis. (18 total).

Members absent: Evangela Anderson, Betty Walton, Joyce Smith, Myrna Allen. (4 total).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Item 7a should state the Bekins/Public Storage location as the Southeast, not northeast corner of Pico. The Department of Sanitation was unable to send a speaker, but Stevie will pass along the information instead.

MOTION: John Arnold moved to approve the agenda with the above amendments.

Chris Carlson seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Arnold stated that the Jefferson Park Historic Preservation Overlay Zone was moving forward, with the main timeline events being approval by Cultural Heritage Commission possibly by February, followed by the Planning Commission and then the full City Council.

The Jefferson Park HPOZ outreach committee has written and printed 2500 door hangers in English and Spanish that will be distributed to all addresses in the proposed HPOZ district.

Chris Carlson stated that the LAUSD choices brochure has come out, and you can get the application at schools and online. The Mid-City Magnet at Adams and Arlington K-8, is being reconfigured with a \$3.8 million dollar federal grant as a K-5 magnet. Kids who graduate are guaranteed admission to LACES, a 6-



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12 school that is one of the top 100 in the nation. The faculty at LACES will work with the K-5 teachers to coordinate curriculum. There will be a Choices Meeting to help parents on December 6, at 2179 W 20th St.

UNNC is participating at events December 18 and 19th, so board members should sign up to help.

BUREAU OF PUBLIC WORKS

Christmas trees should be recycled by removing all ornaments and supports and tinsel. Just put it curbside on collection day.

Bulky item collection is now available for apartment buildings.

The Department of Sanitation would also like people to be aware of proper methods of disposing prescription drugs, electronics, and other things that need disposal. See <http://www.lacitysan.org/>

COMMUNITY HEALTH COUNCILS

Bethany Ulrich gave us an overview of Community Health Councils. These organizations work on public health policy. Racial and Ethnic Approaches to Community Health (REACH) looks at ways to reduce cardiovascular and diabetes health disparities in South LA. We have lower density of parks compared to the Westside (2 acres per 1000 compared to 70 acres per 1000?), fewer bike lanes, and other similar contrasts. The Coalition for South LA is looking for large scale policy changes that can help improve our built environment to encourage healthier behaviors.

March 12, 9-1 at the MLK Rec Center on Western, there will be a tour by residents for residents, illustrating examples of empty lots, or underutilized spaces, or projects which are working toward completion. The tour will cover CD 8, 9 and 10. The summit is March 15th at the same location in the evening, that will help develop a blueprint of strategies that will help accelerate solutions.

The South LA CHC would like a designated liaison with UNNC. They would also like to be made aware of lots/underutilized spaces that could be used more effectively to encourage healthy activities.

Although not through CHC, an example would be the two skate parks that Councilmember Wesson and Rob Dyrdek put in with Parks & Rec.

Email Bethany at bethany@chc-inc.org to learn about how you can participate.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 10 UPDATE

The city is struggling with short staff. When you see problems out in the community, please call 311 or let Albert Lord know so that problems can be solved.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Billie Green stated that Rachel Turner has resigned her position as the Resident Representative for Region 6, Seat 2. UNNC will post the opening and solicit for a candidate. Candidates must be a resident of the area and come to the 3rd Tuesday meeting of the December Executive Committee meeting.



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COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Planning and Zoning

4174 West Pico (SE corner of Crenshaw) – Proposed Renovations and Sign Program:
applicant Public Storage

Jim Fitzpatrick, Sr. Vice President of Public Storage, Inc., introduced Public Storage, a publicly traded company that recently purchased the 1920 deco-style Bekins Building.

Jim Goodman, architect for Public Storage, presented plans for new signage on the north and west exterior façade, enclosure of east exterior stairs, and adding new elevator on east exterior wall.

Gus Harris, Jr. arrived.

The original rooftop “Bekins Storage” sign is no longer legal in Los Angeles, but this one is considered historic. If they were to modify it in any way, it would have to be removed because it would have to comply with current law.

The new “Public Storage” signage will be lit by LEDs from the inside.

Mitzi Mogul, a historic preservation consultant present in the audience, stated that she felt the currently proposed signage would meet the Secretary of Interior standards.

Rory Cunningham with the Art-Deco Society introduced himself as an interested party.

Laura Meyers stated that the building has been *identified* as a historic building, but not *designated* as a historic building. The building is a singular landmark and should be treated as historic.

Jim Goodman stated that Public Storage’s consultant concurred with that assessment and is in fact treating the building as historic under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

MOTION: Based on the recommendation of the Planning & Zoning committee, Laura Meyers moved that UNNC support the proposed new signage program; provided that new elevations reflecting the verbal presentation to UNNC be provided to CRA, specifically regarding the restoration of the original and existing multi-paned transom windows, and that the Governing Board also support the proposed renovations (including additions, removal of the rear covered porch, a new exterior elevator, and changes to the exterior staircase.) UNNC considers this building to be historically significant and discourages any changes to any character defining features of the building, including the interior elevator.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved that UNNC write a letter to the head of the Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA), stating that UNNC would like to request that CRA comply with the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with neighborhood councils, and timely inform UNNC of new projects being initiated in the UNNC area.

Steve Wallis seconded.

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



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TREASURER'S REPORT

Wesley Todd presented the Treasurer's report, including the US Bank Statement dated 11-22-2010.

MOTION: Billie Green moved to approve the US Bank statement dated 11-22-2010.

Gus Harris, Jr. seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: Chris Carlson moved to approve the November 4, 2010 minutes with a correction to the announcements and Item A which had a typo in the budget.

Fletcher Kauffman seconded.

Vote: 11 in favor, none opposed, 7 abstentions.

PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

Stevie Stern read a letter from Herb Wesson thanking UNNC for supporting Movies in the Park at Benny Potter Park.

Board members that haven't taken the online ethics training course should take advantage of holiday time to get that taken care of.

Thanks to Chris Carlson for arranging food tonight from Kay Kays.

Ruth Jones-Sawyer agreed to arrange for food for the January meeting.

The Council Office has heard from people that our section of Washington Blvd does not seem to have had much attention. Bureau of Street Services and the Council Office 10 are working on some potential landscaped medians between 4th and 6th Ave, and between 10th and 12th Ave.

The neighborhood groups around the Washington Blvd area need to hear about these possible upgrades while they are in the design phase.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gus Harris, Jr. thanked everyone who helped man the booth for Taste-of-Soul.

Billie Green said that Executive Committee will be inviting Regional Representatives to the Executive Committee to strategize for 2011.

Allen Lulu reminded everyone to support our Wellington Square Farmer's Market. Try the mint salad mix.

Allen also reminded everyone to be alert to graffiti in the neighborhood and to report it online. Google "Los Angeles Graffiti removal." <http://anti-graffiti.lacity.org/> The city is even skipping street sweeping occasionally due to furloughs, so we need to keep our own streets clean.

Eureka Café is open 8am to 3pm on Saturday on Sunday. They upgraded the kitchen and the food is coming out faster! Allen recommends the French Toast.



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The new antennas to be added to the Holy Name of Jesus Church bell tower were approved by the Zoning Administrator. UNNC as an entity cannot appeal, but individuals or a neighborhood group could appeal by December 16th.

Local artists are selling crafts for the next three Sundays at the Farmer's market.

See everyone the 18th and 19th at the South Seas Holiday Festival and the Winter Wonderland at CD10!

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Norman Gilmore
UNNC Secretary
January 17, 2010 (corrections)
Attachments: None.