



# 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, January 5, 2012  
Council District 10 Field Office  
1819 S. Western Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90006

### MINUTES

(approved February 2, 2012)  
(corrected April 5, 2012)

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

President Stevie Stern opened the meeting at 6:45 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Members present:** Andrea Dunlop, Steve Wallis, Jeff Camp, Fletcher Kauffman, Gus Harris, Jr, Betty Phillips, Myrna Allen, Wesley Todd, William Hernandez, Jess Bravo, Billie Green, Roy Amemiya, Laura Meyers, Norman Gilmore, Stevie Stern, Chris Carlson. (16 total).

**Members absent:** Betty Walton, Ed Turner, Ruth Jones-Sawyer, John Arnold, Sanjiv Bhattacharya, Evangela Anderson. (6 total).

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Gus Harris, Jr. moved to approve the agenda.  
William Hernandez seconded.  
Vote: Approved unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Donna Jones has invited representatives of three neighborhoods to the West Adams Avenues monthly meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup> (Second Wednesday of the Month). 7pm at Wilfandel House on Adams.

Donna Jones reported that Frederick Douglass students have been out-of-control crossing the street, and up to 100 kids in the park unsupervised. The city is not enforcing the CUP adequately. The police officers are considering asking for nuisance abatement on the school.

Donna Jones strongly suggests that we scrutinize future charter schools and their potential impact on neighborhoods.

Ami Motevalli thanked UNNC for supporting the William Grant Still Doll Workshops. She also dropped off flyers for the music of Abby Roach and Max Lincoln educational workshop.

Beth Peterson presented for LA Commons, a group commissioned by CRA LA, to work with local teens,



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to generate ideas for light pole banners for potential mounting on Crenshaw Blvd.

Sunday January 22<sup>nd</sup> from 1 to 4 at St. Elmo’s Village, they will be collecting stories from neighborhood residents to inspire the artwork. Also, she noted that the support of the NC would enable the banners to be permitted to stay up longer.

Irma Garcia presented for the Koreatown Youth Community Center. They were able to get funding to plan 600 trees south of the 10. They have 200 to 300 trees that need to be planted.

They have canvassed south of the 10 from Western to Crenshaw to about 1.5 mile south of the 10. Also check the Million Trees Los Angeles website.

## **CD 10 UPDATE**

Albert Lord thanked UNNC for supporting the Winter Wonderland event at CD10 for families in need.

Three medians are being put in on Washington Blvd. Also, from Normandie to almost Fairfax, curb cuts are being put in on Washington Blvd.

Councilmember Herb Wesson has been elected president of the LA City Council.

## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

### **A. Election Alternatives for future NC elections – ACTION**

The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment sent an election survey to the board.

The secretary displayed the City Clerk Election Division NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (NC) ELECTION ALTERNATIVES SURVEY on the screen so everyone could read it as we proceeded.

Question #1:

Is your NC willing to postpone elections until 2014?

Vote: 0 in favor of postponement, 10 against postponement, 6 abstentions.

Result: No.

Question #2:

What is your board willing to consider in terms of the cost of the election? Check all that apply.

Contribute a limited amount of funds:

Vote: 13 in favor, 3 opposed, no abstentions.

Cover the full cost of the election:

Vote: 0 in favor, 16 opposed, no abstentions.

Utilize the Town Hall selection process and forgo the election process:

Vote: 0 in favor, 15 opposed, 1 abstention.



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**Question #3:**

Who would your board prefer to administer your elections in the future?  
Each board member allowed to vote for up to 3 to facilitate ranking.

- A. Your NC using Town Hall                      Votes: 0 votes
- B. The Office of City Clerk                      Votes: 11 – 2<sup>nd</sup> ranked
- C. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment                      Votes: 3
- D. Independent Election                      Votes: 9 – 3<sup>rd</sup> ranked  
Administrator supervised by  
DONE or City Clerk
- E. League of Women Voters                      Votes: 7  
supervising Independent Election  
Admin
- F. USC or other Public Policy or                      Votes: 14 - 1<sup>st</sup> ranked  
Educational Institution supervised  
by DONE

**Question #4:**

Which method does your NC Board prefer for electing board members?  
*Hybrid Method: At-Polls Elections with Vote-By-Mail for pre-registered handicapped voters only.*  
Vote: Unanimous.

**Question #5:**

In favor of town hall with mandatory secret ballot: Unanimous  
In favor of town hall selection with open ballot: None.

**Question #6:**

Following comments approved by consensus of the board:  
Our last election had 550 voters. Finding a public, non-religious, venue for Town Hall would be difficult. There is no cost reduction for the town hall election over at-polls. It would be too chaotic.

**COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

- A. Planning & Zoning Committees – Laura Meyers
  - 1. The California State Supreme Court has approved dissolving Community Redevelopment Agencies statewide.

Questions we have:



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What is the list of pending projects in UNNC that are CRA supported that could be affected?

What properties in our area are CRA owned?

**MOTION:** Laura Meyers moved that UNNC write a strongly worded letter to the CRA and Councilman Wesson requesting promptly a list of CRA projects in our area, including both initiated projects and fallow properties, and the disposition of each property or project; providing examples of the properties and projects we are already aware of.

Jeff Camp seconded.

Vote: 14 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Laura Meyers reported that over the years, CRA has hired consultants and researched the historic status of many buildings that would be affected by their projects.

However, these historic findings have not necessarily been entered into the record yet. CRA has not certified these surveys or sent them to the State Office of Historic Resources.

**MOTION:** Laura Meyers moved that UNNC (i) write a letter Los Angeles CRA requesting the CRA Board certify all of their historic surveys, and (ii) write a letter to each Council member requesting that the City Council pass a motion transferring these surveys to the City Office of Historic Resources.

Steve Wallis seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 3 abstentions.

2. Public Safety Committee: Contact Jeff Camp about upcoming CERT Emergency training, from 8:30 to 4:30 on the following Saturdays: 2/2, 3/3, and 4/7.
3. Education Committee: Chris Carlson reported that the state has pulled massive amount of funding out of the schools. LAUSD is deficit spending to maintain bus service. Federal Title I funds have also been reduced, which are funds designed to target impoverished students, for example for student lunches. In December, LAUSD Board dropped 22 schools in from Title I qualification by raising the percentage of students at the school who have to be below the poverty line. So LACES lost over \$400,000 this year as a result.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Wesley Todd presented the Treasurer's report, including the US Bank Statement dated 12-21-2011.

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

Gus Harris, Jr. seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

## MINUTES

Norman Gilmore presented the December 1, 2011 Governing Board Minutes for approval.

**MOTION:** Roy Amemiya moved to approve the minutes as presented.



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William Hernandez seconded.  
Vote: 12 in favor, none opposed, 4 abstentions.

## **PRESIDENT'S UPDATE**

Thanks to Jess for arranging the Vees Café food. Chris Carlson will arrange food February. Roy Amemiya will arrange food for March.

### UNNC January Board Retreat

The UNNC Board retreat is January 7. Coffee and pastries from 9:00 to 9:30. Expected to finish about 12:45. It will be at the Wilfandel House on Adams Blvd. It is open to the public.

The first of three new median on Washington Blvd encountered problems upon breaking ground. The old train tracks were expected to be 14 inches deep, but were only 4 inches below the pavement. So this is affecting the redesign of the median. Stevie, Andrea, and Jess are working with General Services on a suitable design for a hardscape plan, such as river rock and boulders.

There was discussion about various design ideas for the problematic median.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Steve Wallis reported that he may have succeeded in connecting the Sprouts Grocery store with CIM for signing a lease at Mid-Town Crossing. Mid-Town Crossing's Lowes is expected to open in March.

Billie Green stated that they met with LANI about a lot at Normandie and Cordova. They were awarded three park spaces to develop, one in UNNC. There is a meeting Tuesday January 10<sup>th</sup>, 2085 South Hobart, to discuss the new park design.

There was some discussion about the city wide re-districting commenting process.

Betty Phillips announced that LAPD Southwest will be having a 3 day carnival at MLK and Marlton.

Billie Green announced that the MLK day parade is this month. Contact the council office to request tickets for the bleachers.

Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Gilmore

UNNC Secretary

April 5, 2012 (removed accidental inclusion of Executive Committee Item B from December)

Attachments: Election Alternatives Survey.



## **\*Neighborhood Council Boards\***

# **NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL ELECTION ALTERNATIVES SURVEY**

The City Clerk was not provided funds in the City's 2011-2012 Budget to conduct the 2012 Neighborhood Council (NC) Elections, and NC Elections as administered by the City Clerk were postponed until 2014.

The City Clerk was instructed by the City Council to perform a study on alternative methods for conducting NC Elections. The purpose of this study will be to ascertain what each NC's preferences are for conducting NC elections, and to lay out all options for the City Council and Mayor to review.

To accurately reflect each NC's preference, the City Clerk has distributed the attached NC Election Alternatives Survey to each of the 95 NC Boards for completion. So that the opinions of each and every NC can be accurately documented, it is critical that each NC Board complete this survey by **January 6, 2012**. Please do not miss this opportunity to contribute your NC's position on this important issue. If your Board has any questions or concerns regarding the survey, please call the City Clerk-Election Division at (213) 978-0444 or email us at [clerk.electionsnc@lacity.org](mailto:clerk.electionsnc@lacity.org).

In addition, the City Clerk has extended an opportunity to any and all NC stakeholders to submit their comments by completing an individual survey which is available on the City Clerk's website.

**Once again, your NC Board Survey must be completed and submitted to the City Clerk-Election Division no later than January 6, 2012 in order to be included in the final report to the Mayor and City Council.**



# NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (NC) ELECTION ALTERNATIVES SURVEY

## INSTRUCTIONS

1. Please print clearly and legibly.
2. Please complete and sign the "Board Action and Approval" section at the end of this survey.
3. Please submit this survey to the City Clerk-Election Division by **JANUARY 6, 2012**.

## POSSIBLE 2012-2013 NC ELECTIONS

**1) Is your NC willing to postpone elections until 2014, as determined by the City's 2011-2012 Budget and Administrative Code restrictions placed on the City Clerk?**

- Yes (Skip to Question 3)  
 No (Please explain)

**2) If your NC Board would like to hold a non-City Clerk election prior to 2014, what is your Board willing to consider in terms of cost of the election? Please check all that apply.**

- Contribute a limited amount of funds toward the cost of the election (e.g., outreach)  
 Cover the full cost of the election  
 Utilize the Town Hall selection process and forgo the election process\*

*\* According to the City Attorney's Office, an election requires a mandatory secret ballot whereas a selection only requires an open or public ballot.*

## FUTURE NC ELECTIONS

**3) Who would your NC Board prefer to administer your elections in the future? Please rank the options below in the order your NC would most prefer.**

1<sup>st</sup>

A) Your NC (using a Town Hall Selection Process)

B) The Office of the City Clerk

C) The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)

2<sup>nd</sup>

D) Independent Election Administrator\*

*\*Supervised by the City Clerk or DONE.*

E) Hybrid administrator (Any combination of options. Please specify.)

3<sup>rd</sup>

F) Other:

**4) Which method does your NC Board prefer for electing board members?**

- At-Polls Elections
- Vote-By-Mail (VBM) Elections with Neighborhood Voting Centers (Pre-registration required)
- Internet Voting Elections with Neighborhood Voting Centers (Pre-registration required)
- Telephone Voting Elections with Neighborhood Voting Centers (Pre-registration required)
- Hybrid method (Any combination of options). Please specify

At-Polls Elections with Vote-By-Mail for pre-registered handicapped voters only.

Other:

**5) As an alternative to the methods above, would your NC Board prefer a Town Hall Election or Town Hall Selection?\***

- Town Hall Election (Mandatory secret ballot)
- Town Hall Selection\* (Open or public ballot)

*\*Due to logistical restrictions, the City Clerk is unable to oversee the Town Hall "selection" method.*

**6) Please include specific comments from your stakeholders or Board Members that you feel would be valuable as part of this survey:**

Our last election had 550 voters. Finding a public, non-religious, venue for Town Hall would be difficult. There is no cost reduction for the town hall election over at-polls. It would be too chaotic.

**BOARD ACTION AND APPROVAL INFORMATION (Required)**

United Neighborhoods of the Historic Arlington Heights, West Adams, and Jefferson Park Communities NC

Neighborhood Council Name

Stevie Stern

President

(323) 394-4525

Name of person completing this form

Title

Phone Number

Jan 5, 2012

Signature

Board Approval Date

**RETURN THIS FORM BY FRIDAY, JANUARY 6, 2012, 5:00 P.M.**

To: City of Los Angeles, City Clerk-Election Division  
P.O. Box 54377, Los Angeles, CA 90054-0377

This survey may also be submitted via fax at (213) 978-0376 or by email to [clerk.electionsnclacity.org](mailto:clerk.electionsnclacity.org).

For more information, please visit the City Clerk-Election Division website at <http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/>.

For any questions regarding this form, contact the City Clerk-Election Division at (213) 978-0444.