

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

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UNNC Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, February 2, 2012
Council District 10 Field Office
1819 S. Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

MINUTES

(approved March 1, 2012)

CALL TO ORDER

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

Members present: Ruth Jones-Sawyer, Fletcher Kauffman, Sanjiv Bhattacharya, Ed Turner, Betty Walton, Andrea Dunlop, Steve Wallis, Jeff Camp, Betty Phillips, Myrna Allen, Wesley Todd, Jess Bravo, Billie Green, Laura Meyers, Norman Gilmore, Stevie Stern, Chris Carlson. (17 total).

Members absent: Roy Amemiya, William Hernandez, Gus Harris, Jr, John Arnold, Evangela Anderson. (5 total).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Billie Green moved to approve the agenda, noting that there are minutes for both January 5th and January 7th to be approved.

Jeff Camp seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

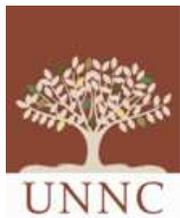
This coming Wednesday, 2/8, West Adams Avenues are having a reception to honor our local police officers.

There is an e-Waste pickup at LACES this weekend.

Betty Phillips thanked Albert Lord for his work in coordinating post windstorm cleanup and street light fixes.

CD 10 UPDATE

There were 800 or 900 people at the last major public hearing about the city wide redistricting proposal. Comments are being taken for two more weeks.



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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Funding Request – Dinner for SLAANC meeting – Myrna Allen

Myrna Allen is UNNC's representative to the South Los Angeles Alliance of Neighborhood Councils. SLAANC participants share responsibility for meeting refreshments on a rotating basis. It is now UNNC's turn.

MOTION: Jeff Camp moved to fund up to \$60 for UNNC's turn at funding the SLAANC refreshments.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

- B. Revised Event and Project Funding Forms – N. Gilmore

The UNNC Executive Committee has developed three new funding request forms for stakeholders interested in applying for UNNC funding support. The previous single-purpose form did not address all the questions that are commonly raised by board members. The new forms help guide the applicant through the UNNC requirements and suggestions about what items to include. The forms are on the UNNC website in Word and PDF formats.

The forms are:

UNNC Funding Request-Events

UNNC Funding Request-Neighborhood Improvement

UNNC Funding Request-Outreach

Fletcher Kauffman arrived.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- A. Planning & Zoning Committees – Laura Meyers

1. Mercy Housing (Fatburger site) project – Case No. ZA-2008-4818-CU-ZV-DB-SPR – 3001 S. Western Avenue – approval of landscaping plan and exterior colors: Previously approved project to building 100% affordable housing condominium project with the retention of the historic Fatburger structure incorporated into the new building. The original approval required that the developer bring the exterior colors and landscaping plan back to UNNC for approval - ACTION.

The project has been changed since it was last before UNNC in 2008. In 2008, the proposal was for 66 condominium units and 119 parking spaces, specifically 82 parking spaces including 37 car lifts. The project has been changed to be 60 apartments with 62 parking spaces. Because of the change from condominium to apartments, and the dramatic reduction in parking spaces, this project does not match the publicly noticed agenda, and we are limited in how we can address this project at tonight's meeting.

Mee Heh Risdon and Ben Phillips presented for Mercy Housing.



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Ron Nestor, the architect for William Hezmalhalch Architects presented six boards, illustrating detailed landscaping plans, color renderings, and renderings showing neighborhood context.

The original Fatburger that is being preserved on the lot will have a preservation plan and colors approved by the Office of Historic Resources.

The architect confirmed that the main building windows will be recessed. Also, the horizontal bands will be aluminum colored metal.

The building will have a full time manager on-site, and full time maintenance person on-site, and a part-time event coordinator. The Western side will have windows from the laundry room, the office, and other rooms. There will also be a computer lab in the building.

Ben Phillips stated that Mercy Housing policy is to paint out graffiti within 24 hours.

There will be closed circuit surveillance cameras with DVRs.

Steve Wallis expressed concern about landscaping looking great for a few months, and then dying and not being maintained further.

Technically the project is still entitled as condos, and could be converted to condos any time over the next 18 years.

MOTION: Laura Meyers moved to table this item to March 1st, so that the agenda item can be updated to reflect the project as now proposed.

Myrna Allen seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

2. Proposed Citywide Mural Ordinance – The Department of City Planning has prepared a draft ordinance that would remove artistic murals from the current regulations and ordinances governing signs, and create a process whereby certain artistic murals on private walls would be permitted. Comment period ends 02/08/12. The ordinance is posted to the department’s website: www.planning.lacity.org under “What’s New.” – DISCUSSION and ACTION

The board reviewed the presentation prepared by Tanner Blackman on the Mural Ordinance.

MOTION: Billie Green moved that UNNC write a letter including all of our comments on the proposed mural ordinance.

Betty Walton seconded.

Concerns: How exactly will HPOZs be involved in controlling which buildings are appropriate to have a mural?

How can certain architecturally or historically significant contributors to the neighborhood be limited from having murals?

Can there be a limitation on the total number of murals set by given corridor segment or



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areas?

Can there be a bond required to cover mural maintenance over the 5 year period?

Are we sure that the “no compensation restriction” is strong enough to prevent indirect compensation deals?

Does the ordinance as written prevent stores from using their own walls advertise the products and brands they carry?

Has the city benchmarked this ordinance against Culver City, Barstow, Lompoc and other cities with well known murals?

Vote: Approved unanimously.

B. Committee Updates

Jeff Camp, Chair of the Public Safety committee noted that the emergency certification training is coming up. Contact him for details on attending.

Myrna Allen reported that SLAANC is asking that people get involved with redistricting. You should also go if you endorse your neighborhood staying in CD10.

Myrna Allen reported that SLAANC is doing training on how to deal with land-use issues. If you would like to learn more about land-use, there will be speakers and training on that subject.

Supposedly, both of the Community Plans that intersect UNNC will be done this year.

Chris Carlson reported that school budgets have been cut for 7 consecutive years. She will let us know if there will be a special meeting to discuss these issues.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Wesley Todd presented the Treasurer's report, including the US Bank Statement dated 1-23-2012.

MOTION: Jeff Camp moved to approve the US Bank statement.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MINUTES

Norman Gilmore presented the January 5th, 2012 Governing Board Minutes for approval.

MOTION: Betty Phillips moved to approve the minutes as presented.

Billie Green seconded.

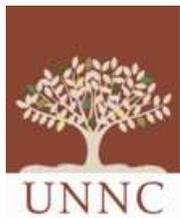
Vote: 13 in favor, 0 opposed, 4 abstentions.

Norman Gilmore presented the January 7th, 2012 Minutes of the UNNC Board Retreat for approval.

MOTION: Sanjiv Bhattacharya moved to approve the minutes with the following corrections: change title to “retreat” instead of “meeting”, note that we sang Happy Birthday to Sanjiv, and correct the time that Ruth had to leave.

Jess Bravo seconded.

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



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PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

There are neighborhood council regional trainings on February 11th, on a variety of topics, and February 25th, on ethics and open government training.

The city DOT is apparently proposing that Washington Blvd speeds be increased to 40 mph from Figueroa to Fairfax. The California Vehicle Code requires that a survey be made every 7 years for roads that can have the speed enforced by radar. The measured critical speeds range from 41 to 44 miles per hour. If the existing speed limit were retained, nearly 61% of the motorists would be in violation, therefore, the department recommends that the speed be increased from 35 mph to 40 mph. It states that where schools are, speeds will remain enforced at 25 mph. There are only 1 or 2 light industrial uses actually on this segment. So the DOT quoting land-use is inaccurately characterizing actual use.

Previous votes in UNNC regarding proposed specific plans for Washington Blvd have focused on the communities desire to slow traffic on this street, and we will write a letter to DOT regarding our prior positions.

UNNC funds will be frozen Mid-May. Funds that aren't used will revert to the city. UNNC Resident Reps especially must get moving on developing a project proposal for this year's available beautification funds.

Maybe a tree planting program would be a good option for making sure we use funds.

Thanks to Chris Carlson for arranging food from KayKays tonight. Roy Amemiya will arrange food for March.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

Meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Gilmore

UNNC Secretary

April 5, 2012 (corrected dates of approved financial statement and minutes)

Attachments:None.