



# 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, May 3, 2012  
Council District 10 Field Office  
1819 S. Western Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90006

### MINUTES

(approved June 7, 2012)

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

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

**Members present:** Dolores Spears, Sandra Pruitt, Laura Meyers, Steve Wallis, Betty Phillips, Ruth Jones-Sawyer, Jeff Camp, Betty Walton, Gus Harris, Jr., Billie Green, Andrea Dunlop, Myrna Allen, Wesley Todd, Norman Gilmore, Stevie Stern, Chris Carlson. (16 total).

**Members absent:** Jess Bravo, William Hernandez, Ed Turner, Roy Amemiya, John Arnold, Fletcher Kauffman. (6 total).

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION:** Jeff Camp moved to approve the agenda.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

#### **UNNC'S 10<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY**

Stevie Stern spoke about the formation of UNNC, and recognized some of those present who were instrumental and involved in UNNCs formation, including Sylvia Lacy, Odel Childress, and Donnie Hall.

Los Angeles City Council President Herb Wesson was introduced and thanked everyone for working to improve the community. Mr. Wesson acknowledged Sylvia Lacy and Donnie Hall for staying up till 3 a.m. ten years ago to finish the papers for UNNC formation. He also recognized Billie Green and Stevie Stern for their long service to the neighborhood council. He also recognized former UNNC Board member Rene Gunter for her service on the Expo Rail Design Review Board. The Ralph's on La Brea and Rodeo is going to get an \$8 million upgrade. (The Midtown Crossing Ralph's was a \$5 million upgrade.) Herb spoke about Marlton Square possibly finally getting a massive redevelopment with a nationally known healthcare organization.

Stevie Stern announced that Bong Hwan Kim and the Neighborhood Council Commissioners had sent a certificate of appreciation. Mark Ridley-Thomas and the County Board of Supervisors acknowledged our



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10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary.

Stevie Stern acknowledged Greg Nelson, first head of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, and past and present staffers Christina Labatique, Lisette Covarrubias, Taneda Larios, and Stephen Box.

Stevie Stern also thanked Marisha Corinne for putting together our 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Powerpoint presentation.

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

- A. Appointments to the Governing Board to fill vacant positions – two At Large positions and one Residential Representative for Region 3 (West Adams Avenues) – **ACTION**

Billie Green introduced the candidates recommended for the open board seat appointments.

Board members had an opportunity to ask questions of the candidates.

**MOTION:** Norman Gilmore moved that the UNNC Governing Board appoint Dolores Spears to the At-Large, Group B seat (replacing Sanjiv Battacharya).

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

**MOTION:** Norman Gilmore moved that the UNNC Governing Board appoint Sandra Pruitt to the At-Large, Group A seat (replacing Allen Lulu).

Laura Meyers seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

The new board members were seated.

- B. Funding Request – Eco-LogicalART Project ReStore Mural Program – P. Schulberg – **ACTION**

Peter Schulberg presented Project Restore from Ecological Art Gallery. Peter went through a presentation showing examples of the art produced and testimonials.

They recycle the vinyl from billboards as paintings made by local youth and hang the vinyl billboards in temporary locations. Previous projects have put up the art on recycled backing on bus stop displays. They are working specifically on a new series for Mid-City. Schools and construction fences are prime spots for mitigating visual clutter. He would like to bring a proposal to various Neighborhood Councils to support murals over the course of one year.

Project Restore has received grants from the Lia Fund, the Vinyl Institute, and The Los Angeles Neighborhood Initiative. Eco-LogicalART is a 501c3 non-profit located at 4829 W. Pico Blvd, LA 90019. 310-525-0676 or [www.eco-logicalart.org](http://www.eco-logicalart.org)

Peter showed pictures of a billboard being painted a few weeks ago at the Beverly Hills Earth Day event.

He is proposing LAUSD sites, such as fences around schools, as well as around construction sites. He has had discussions with Kurt Lowery (formerly Carson-Gore, now Crescent Heights?)



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and Ms. Hawkins? (now at Carson-Gore?).

Peter presented a total budget of \$5016 for a 15 month program. These artworks would be created at UNNC events or other local events. Part of the budget is a grant from LANI.

The budget includes:

\$1,450 for material costs and permits.

\$3,480 for labor

\$493 as 10% contingency

\$5,423 Grand total.

LANI is providing \$600, and EcoLogicalART is providing \$1,423.

The proposal is that four of the pieces will be installed within UNNC boundaries for 15 months. Two of the works will be original, created in partnership with UNNC schools within UNNC boundaries. The art is rotated every three or four months, rotating in art works created in other neighborhoods. The creation of the works could be done in partnership with Carson-Gore or Johnnie Cochran schools.

At one recent event, over 100 kids participated in the creation over the course of a weekend.

The following have provided letters in support of this project:

City Council President Herb Wesson

CRA Senior Cultural Planner; Susan Gray

CRA Community Affairs Liaison Yonah Hong

LAPD West Bureau Captain Eric Davis

(Ex)Carson-Gore Learning Center Principal Kurt Lowry

Carson-Gore Learning Center Teacher: Laura

Peter requested \$4000 from UNNC to fund the creation of two original murals and the installation of temporary murals at four locations with murals at each location rotated every three to four months for a period of 15 months.

This includes 4 sets of mural canvases measuring 8 x 16 feet. Installation and display for a period of 3 months. Quarterly change-out/rotation of the mural works quarterly. Programming/creation of 2 of the 4 murals from within NC boundaries. Supervision/expertise of Eco-LogicalART and Lead Artist for 12 months. All paints, brushes, projection equipment, permit fees, as required.

LAUSD has the ability to mount murals on an ad-hoc basis.

**MOTION:** Gus Harris, Jr. moved that the Governing Board fund the above project for up to \$4000 for materials and labor for the following goods and services:

Four sets of mural canvases measuring 8 x 16 feet; installation and display for a period of 15 months; quarterly change-out/rotation of the mural works; programming/creation of 2 of the 4 murals within NC boundaries; supervision/expertise of Eco-LogicalART and lead artist for 12 months; and all paints, brushes, projection equipment, permit fees, as required.

Andrea Dunlop seconded.



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Laura Meyers offered a friendly amendment that the project shall strive to avoid placing murals on walls facing residential streets. The amendment was accepted by Gus Harris, Jr. and Andrea Dunlop.

Peter stated that there would be a separate placard that will identify the sponsors of the various works. Peter stated that he has had work on the outside walls of his gallery at Pico and LaBrea for as long as five years without being tagged or paintballed.

Vote: 13 in favor, 3 opposed.

- C. Funding Request – Trap/Neuter/Return, a program of the Kitty Bungalow Charm School for Wayward Cats, a 501c3 non-profit that serves the South Los Angeles area. They deal with the cat overpopulation issue by offering free Trap/Neuter/Return, outreach, education, socialization and adoption issues. The funding requested would help pay for outreach materials, transportation, and veterinary care – L. Tresun and M. Schow – **ACTION**

(handled out of order after Item D.)

Matthew Schow and Leslie Tresun presented a funding request for Trap/Neuter/Return, a program of the Kitty Bungalow Charm School for Wayward Cats, a 501c3 non-profit that serves the South Los Angeles area. They deal with the cat overpopulation issue by offering free Trap/Neuter/Return, outreach, education, socialization and adoption issues. The South LA Shelter has an almost 75% kill rate of felines. Kitty Bungalow rescues straight from the street. They have been spaying/neutering over 150 community cats and counting.

The request is for \$2,500 out of a total project cost of \$6,500. UNNC is being asked to fund \$1500 of outreach materials, \$500 of transportation, and \$500 of veterinary care.

They will be able to use these funds exclusively in the UNNC area.

Since this organization is a 501c3, we may be able to do a Neighborhood Purposes Grant.

~~**MOTION:** Dolores Spears moved that UNNC provide the Kitty Bungalow Charm School for Wayward Cats, a 501c3 non-profit, \$2,500 to be used for outreach materials, transportation costs, and veterinary care for a trap/neuter/return program in UNNC neighborhoods.~~

Wording clarified and corrected by a vote of the UNNC Board on September 6, 2012 with concurrence of the original movant and second:

**MOTION:** Dolores Spears moved that UNNC provide the Kitty Bungalow Charm School for Wayward Cats, a 501c3 non-profit, \$2,500 to be used for outreach materials, transportation costs, and veterinary care for a cat care and adoption program in UNNC neighborhoods. Funds shall be used for medical care of their adoptable cats and kittens, transportation, carriers, and free spay/neuter surgeries for owned cats, and outreach and educational material promoting an indoor lifestyle for pet cats.

Steve Wallis seconded.

Steve Wallis said that Kitty Bungalow has done outstanding work in Harvard Heights. Stevie Stern said that one of Jeff Camp's neighbors said that Kitty Bungalow had done great work.



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Vote: 15 in favor, none opposed, 1 not present.

- D.** Funding Request – beautification project in Western Heights – historic posts for the yellow traffic signs in the bump-outs on Arlington at 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> streets – K. Johnson – **ACTION**

Karlyn Johnson presented a funding request for decorative sign post covers to be placed over existing signposts at 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> streets.

Laura Meyers asked a question about whether the HPOZ Board had an opportunity to review.

**MOTION:** Andrea Dunlop moved that the UNNC Governing Board fund the four decorative posts and installation materials for up to \$2697; provided that the project pass muster with the Western Heights HPOZ Board.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: 12 in favor, 4 opposed, no abstentions.

- E.** Funding Request – UNNC Outreach – pop-up tent with UNNC logo – S. Stern – **ACTION**

Stevie Stern presented a funding request for a pop-up tent customized with the UNNC logo for use at events that UNNC participates in.

Stevie received a bid for \$1,099.00 from one vendor.

She thinks she can get a quote for less than that from another vendor, and will follow up on that.

**MOTION:** Gus Harris, Jr. moved that the UNNC Governing Board fund the Outreach pop-up tent for up to \$1,248.00, including graphic imprinting, weight bags and graphic design services. Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: 16 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

## COMMITTEE BUSINESS

- A. Planning & Zoning Committees – Laura Meyers

2715 S. Western Avenue, Suite D, Case No. ZA-2012-594-CUB - Proposed Conditional Use Permit (alcoholic beverage) for the sale of beer and wine for offsite consumption for existing convenience market, in the C2-1 Commercial Zone, having the hours of operation from 7 AM to 9 PM daily; proposed hours of beer and wine sales are the same **DISCUSSION AND ACTION.**

Tabled until next month.

- B. Committee Updates

None.



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## TREASURER'S REPORT

### A. Approval of monthly expenses and Bank statement – W. Todd – **ACTION**

Wesley Todd presented the April 23, 2012 US Bank Statement for approval.

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

Chris Carlson seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

### B. Encumbering funds from current budget to carry over for upcoming October election expenses – S. Stern – **ACTION**

Stevie Stern presented a proposed budget to be used for outreach purposes for the next UNNC elections which are anticipated to occur in late 2012.

**MOTION:** Norman Gilmore moved that UNNC encumber up to \$9,950 dollars for outreach for the next UNNC Election, providing that any UNNC funds previously allocated which are unspent before the end of the fiscal year shall be applied toward this encumbrance.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: 16 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions.

## MINUTES

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

**MOTION:** Gus Harris, Jr. moved to accept the minutes as presented.

Chris Carlson seconded.

Vote: 11 in favor, none opposed, 5 abstentions.

## PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

### A. New, Continuing and Old Business

1. Proposal to show support for adult education in our community in reaction to LAUSD voting to not fund any adult education next year ([www.saveadulted.org](http://www.saveadulted.org)) - **ACTION**.

Chris Carlson noted that Adult Education is on the chopping block at LAUSD. LAUSD is trying to close a budget deficit of more than \$300 million.

LAUSD's core mission is K-12, and with that kind of budget hole, they are considering completely cutting Adult Education.

Tabled.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

Dolores Spears noted that the mayor has said that the city has a \$200 million dollar deficit. The mayor is asking for more employee concessions. Previously employees have been asked to give 1, then 2 unpaid days per month. The employees have also made concessions on pension payment amounts since then.



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Dolores states that the employees have made concessions and shouldn't be portrayed as the problem in the media.

Betty Walton asked how she can get cleanup tools for a cleanup project she is organizing on Washington Blvd.

Betty Walton also noted there had been a murder on Gramercy and 18<sup>th</sup> St. The victim was not a gang member.

Sandra Pruitt announced that this weekend is Big Sunday, the annual community participation weekend for cleanup and neighborhood improvement.

Chris Carlson announced the Western Heights Garden Plant sale and tour, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 11am to 4pm.

Steve Wallis announced that the Sprouts grocery store is going to pass on the space at the Mid-town Lowe's because it is a multi-level space, but they are interested in the neighborhood.

Laura Meyers announced that this Sunday is the annual West Adams Brunch, and it will be held at the Raphael-Soriano house from 11am to 2pm. From 11:00 to 12:15 the house is open for visiting.

Gus Harris, Jr. thanked those who showed up for the Easter Egg Hunt at the South Seas House.

Stevie Stern thanked Billie Green for arranging the dinner tonight.

Sandra Pruitt volunteered to arrange food for the June meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Gilmore

UNNC Secretary

September 7, 2012: Corrections made to the motion funding Kitty Bungalow approved on September 6, 2012 by a vote of the UNNC Board.

Attachments: None.