



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 6, 2012
Council District 10 Field Office
1819 S. Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

MINUTES

(approved February 7, 2013)

CALL TO ORDER

Vice-President Billie Green opened the meeting at 6:44 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members present: Bettye Smith-Anderson, Betty Phillips, Myrna Allen, Chris Carlson, Carlton Stubbs, Fletcher Kauffman, Sandra Pruitt, Betty Walton, Andrea Dunlop, Jess Bravo, Anthony Carter, Norman Gilmore, Stevie Stern, Billie Green, Wesley Todd. (15 total).

Members absent: Jeff Camp, Laura Meyers, Dolores Spears, Ed Turner, Elizabeth Fenner, William Hernandez, John Arnold, Roy Amemiya. (8 total).

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Fletcher Kauffman moved to approve the agenda.
Sandra Pruitt seconded.
Vote: Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mark DeMan announced that the Harvard Heights Monument Restoration grant was approved by LANI. He expects the project to be completed by the end of January. Billie Green will be the UNNC Board contact.

Gus Harris, Jr. announced that the Jefferson Park Entrance Monument grant was approved by LANI for \$3000.

Donna Jones asked each neighborhood to work to donate toys to the South Seas House for the holiday event on December 22nd. Ten dollar Target gift cards or iTunes cards for older kids would be appropriate.

Neeasha Rooshongo(sp?) – Neighborhood Housing Services of Los Angeles County is a non-profit that works to provide services to people who are homeowners or want to become homeowners. They have classes on foreclosure, debt management, and homebuyer workshops. On Saturday there will be a Hope Homebuyer Workshop at the CD10 Field Office where this meeting is being held. <http://www.lanhs.org/>



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They organize house painting for those in financial distress, and also organize street cleanups.

Maryam Hosseindazeh thanked UNNC for supporting the Dragon's Flight Exhibition with \$1500 for the projector and monitor used for art exhibition.

Attendance was over 2000 people over the duration of the exhibit. William Grant Still was a polling place on November 6 and as a result many voters were exposed to the art exhibition as well. Maryam read a letter from Ami Motevalli thanking UNNC.

Maryam announced that the next exhibit will be the doll show.

Billie Green said she really enjoyed the Dragon's Flight Exhibition and it looked great.

Jessica Bravo announced that both of the grant requests for the banners were partially awarded by LANI.

Sandra Pruitt reported on the November 15th community meeting with Park Superintendent Mike Shull and Dana Valdez, Community Program Director.

Sandra has done outreach to the five schools along that street to see if they would be interested in adopting a community garden plot at Leslie Shaw Park.

Luther Waters, Principal of Frederick Douglass High School asked if he could be on the agenda at an upcoming meeting to discuss school performance. They are currently going through an accreditation process. He said that he has an open door policy for neighbor issues. He also said that there were opportunities for volunteering at the school.

Norman Gilmore announced that LANI was unable to fund the Jefferson Park HPOZ signs. The grant application received positive feedback, but there were more worthy grants than available funds.

Sandra announced that Betty Phillips father had passed away yesterday.

COUNCIL DISTRICT 10 UPDATE

Stevie Stern arrived.

There will be a Job Fair is December 13th at Leslie Shaw conjunction with West Angeles Development Corp., Thomas Safran Associates, Mercy Housing, Metro Line, and Community Build.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

A. Appointment of Region 6 Resident Representative – ACTION

Billie Green announced that Bettye Smith-Anderson has presented herself as a candidate for Region 6 Seat 1.

The Executive Committee interviewed Ms. Smith-Anderson on November 20th, and recommended that she be appointed to the Governing Board. No other prospective candidates presented themselves for interviews at the November 20th meeting.



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MOTION: Stevie Stern moved that Bettye Smith-Anderson be appointed to Region 6 Seat 1. Wesley Todd seconded.

Bettye Smith-Anderson has lived in the community since 1968. She attended USC and has worked in medicine and law for 33 years.

She has worked under Yvonne Burke-Braithwaite for the Children's Planning Council. She has served on the board for the state of California for Education and Early Childhood Development. She owns three properties in Region 6. She also provides housing for homeless foster children, including homeless teenage mothers. She has worked with the Los Angeles Department of Child Services. She has worked with the Red Cross for 12 years and 6 years on the board. She has also worked as a commissioner for Karen Bass. She was nominated for woman of the year in California. She has four children, all in professional careers. One of her daughters works as a domestic violence counselor.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

Stevie Stern swore in Bettye Smith-Anderson and she joined the board.

B. Funding Request – annual CD 10 Winter Wonderland – S. Lacy – **ACTION**

Sylvia Lacy presented a funding request for \$1500 to cater food for the Winter Wonderland event for children who otherwise won't have a cheery holiday.

The event will include breakfast and lunch for children and their parents. There will be a snow slide, games, arts & crafts and a bike raffle. Each child will receive a toy and get their picture taken with Santa. The event is scheduled for December 15, 2012. The event is sponsored by Council District 10, Community Build Inc and 101 Enterprise Foundation. Other participating NCs include West Adams NC, Olympic Park NC, Pico NC, and Soro NC.

The total event budget is \$25,000. G/S Catering has been selected as the caterer.

MOTION: Stevie Stern moved that UNNC fund up to \$1500 for catering the December 2012 Winter Wonderland event for children and families.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: 14 in favor, none opposed, 1 abstention.

C. Funding Request – 2nd Call Jefferson Boulevard clean up and community gathering – S. Townsend – **ACTION**

Skipp Townsend, of 2nd Call, presented a plan for a Jefferson Blvd. cleanup from 9th Avenue to 3rd Avenue along Jefferson Blvd, ending at Leslie Shaw Park. The cleanup will be Sunday afternoon, February 24th.

2nd Call is requesting \$100 for a brown bag lunch with water for the volunteers who work on the street cleanup.

2nd Call's mission statement states "2nd Call is a community based organization designed to reduce violence and assist in the personal development of individuals who are proven at-risk



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youth, ex-felons, parolees, and others who society disregards.” <http://www.2ndcall.org/>

UNNC previously partnered with 2nd Call on a job fair about three years ago.

MOTION: Carlton Stubbs moved that UNNC fund up to \$100 for brown bag lunches and water for volunteers at the Jefferson Boulevard Cleanup event organized by 2nd Call.

Andrea Dunlop seconded.

Stevie Stern made a friendly amendment to increase the amount from \$100 to \$150. Carlton and Andrea accepted the amendment.

AMENDED MOTION: Carlton Stubbs moved that UNNC fund up to \$150 for brown bag lunches and water for volunteers at the Jefferson Boulevard Cleanup event organized by 2nd Call. Andrea Dunlop seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

D. Appointment of UNNC Committee chairpersons – **ACTION**

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Economic Development Committee.

Jessica Bravo nominated herself.

MOTION: Stevie Stern moved to appoint Jessica Bravo as Chair of the Economic Development Committee.

Fletcher Kauffman seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Historic Preservation Committee. Billie Green nominated John Arnold.

MOTION: Stevie Stern moved to appoint John Arnold as Chair of the Historic Preservation Committee.

Fletcher Kauffman seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Outreach Committee.

Billie Green nominated Dolores Spears.

Gus Harris, Jr. nominated himself.

ACTION: Billie Green called on board members to vote for each candidate.

Vote: 6 for Gus Harris, Jr., 7 for Dolores Spears, 2 abstentions.

Dolores Spears is elected Chair of the Outreach Committee.

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Planning and Zoning Committee.

Billie Green nominated Laura Meyers.



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MOTION: Jessica Bravo moved to appoint Laura Meyers as Chair of the Planning and Zoning Committee.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Stevie Stern nominated Jeff Camp.

MOTION: Fletcher Kauffman moved to appoint Jeff Camp as Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Sandra Pruitt seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee.

Sandra Pruitt nominated herself.

MOTION: Chris Carlson moved to appoint Sandra Pruitt as Chair of the Recreation and Parks Committee.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Youth Activities Committee.

Carlton Stubbs nominated himself.

MOTION: Sandra Pruitt moved to appoint Carlton Stubbs as Chair of Youth Activities.

Andrea Dunlop seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Public Works Committee.

Bettye Smith-Anderson nominated herself.

MOTION: Stevie Stern moved to appoint Bettye Smith-Anderson as Chair of the Public Works Committee.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the ad-hoc Tree Committee.

Andrea Dunlop nominated herself.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved to appoint Andrea Dunlop as Chair of the ad-hoc Tree Committee.

Carlton Stubbs seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.

Billie Green opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the ad-hoc Education Committee.

No nominations were made.

Billie Green asked if anyone in the audience was interested in chairing the Education Ad-Hoc.

No nominations were offered.



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PRESENTATION: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA GAS COMPANY'S ENERGY SAVINGS PROGRAMS

Saba Michelle Firoozi of Breath California of Los Angeles presented. They work on Asthma and Chronic Obstructive Disease.

They are working with Southern California Gas on two programs. They have a 20% off program as well as a weatherization program for qualified applicants. Recipients of benefits under the following programs would qualify: MediCal or MediCaid, WIC, CalWorks, CalFresh, National School Lunch, or SSI public assistance program. Alternatively, applicants may also qualify based on income levels.

SoCal Gas does not evaluate citizenship status.

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Committee Reports (as needed)

Norman Gilmore summarized some things learned at the UNNC Planning and Zoning meeting last night, where Reuben Caldwell and Arthi Varmi discussed the Community Plan Implementation Overlays for the proposed West Adams - Baldwin Hills - Leimert Community Plan.

January 15th, 2013 will be the Draft EIR public hearing with the Planning Staff. Planning is not required to respond to comments received out of the written comment period. They say they will consider responding to them since they don't have to have them done by April 11th. On April 11, 2013, City Planning Commission will consider the Community Plan, but not the final EIR. The PLUM committee will consider the EIR if they are inclined but may not take testimony.

Sandra Pruitt stated that she had invited Valerie Shaw to the next Leslie Shaw Park meeting. She also noted that one idea under consideration is a short fence so that parents can feel secure that kids won't be able to run out into Jefferson Blvd. Another idea is to improve the acknowledgement of Leslie Shaw, the park namesake, who was the first African American Postmaster for Los Angeles.

TREASURER'S REPORT

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

MOTION: Billie Green moved to approve the December 21, 2012 US Bank statement.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 1 abstention.

MINUTES

Norman Gilmore presented the November 1, 2012 Governing Board Minutes for approval.

MOTION: Billie Green moved to accept the minutes, noting the correction that Myrna Allen seconded the motion to re-appoint the officers.

Betty Walton seconded.

Vote: 13 in favor, none opposed, 1 abstention.



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PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

A. New, Continuing, and Old Business

Stevie Stern reminded board members that if they are emailing a group of neighbors to please be respectful of people's email privacy and to use the "Blind Carbon Copy" field.

If board members are sending out letters or communications that are on behalf of UNNC or that appear to be on behalf of UNNC, those communications need to be approved by two UNNC officers. Board members are welcome to ask members of the UNNC Executive committee to proofread and review for accuracy any writings to be made public that are about UNNC policies and actions. Stevie Stern said that she also abides by the rule and always requests review by another officer on UNNC related communications before sending them out.

Stevie Stern discussed the Public Storage Building at Crenshaw and Pico which came before UNNC earlier this year to discuss the remodeling of that building.

It was UNNC's understanding that Public Storage would not renovate or change the historic "Bekins" letters. However, they have taken down the historic "Bekins" letters and put up the word "Public" instead. They are now approved for 9 lit signs, up from perhaps 4 lit signs.

Stevie and Laura Meyers have been emailing and calling extensively with CRA and the Council Office to discuss how this amount of change to the project was able to occur without a new review.

Apparently the whittled down Community Redevelopment Agency has a staff person who single-handedly approved this large change despite the previous extensive public comment process.

Community members should contact Public Storage and the Council Office if they feel that bypassing neighborhood input on major changes is unacceptable.

In addition, these changes also disregard the findings regarding the impact of the lit signs on the neighborhood.

Thanks to Sandra Pruitt for bringing the food from Tim's Kitchen on Edgehill and Jefferson. Betty Phillips has volunteered to arrange food for January 2013 per Sandra Pruitt.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sandra Pruitt announced that Frederick Douglass School will be having a blood drive January 25th. It will be in partnership with UNNC.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Gilmore

UNNC Secretary

January 12, 2012

Attachments: None.