



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

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UNNC Governing Board Meeting

Thursday, August 7, 2014
Council District 10 Field Office
1819 S. Western Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90006

MINUTES

(approved September 4, 2014)

CALL TO ORDER

President Jeff Camp opened the meeting at 6:40 p.m. A quorum was present.

Members of the new board present: Jess Bravo, Sandra Paul, Bettye Smith-Anderson, Denise Jackson, Billie Green, Heidi Cabero, Elizabeth Fenner, Jeff Camp, Talicia Raggs, Norman Gilmore, Ophelia Daniel, Marius Stelly, William Hernandez, Anthony Carter, Rosie Brown, Helen Indrani Chaudhuri, Laura Meyers, Dolores Spears. (18 total).

Members absent: Sandra Pruitt, John Arnold, Carlton Stubbs, Andrea Dunlop, Betty Walton (5 total).

There were about 15 audience members at the start of the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: Billie Green moved to approve the agenda with Planning and Zoning Item 1 moved to Item 4. Dolores Spears seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Elizabeth Fenner reminded everyone to water the street trees that are dying from the drought. Keep some gallon jugs of water in your car and stop safely to add water when you see one of our street trees that is struggling.

Brenna Norton with Food and Water Watch gave an update on the Los Angeles Fracking Moratorium which is being drafted for consideration by City Council now. She passed out a petition to get names of people interested in keeping up on the issue.

Council President Wesson congratulated Jeff Camp on being elected President of UNNC. He announced that Stevie Stern would be appointed soon to the South Los Angeles Area Planning Commission.

Council President Wesson announced that he was obtaining a grant for \$1,000,000 for Leslie Shaw



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Park!!! This project is anticipated to begin in the middle of 2015. Council President Wesson loves a meeting where he gets to deliver good news.

Tyler Barham, Chief Strategy Officer for Bright Star Schools, introduced himself. They were founded 12 years ago in West Adams. They now have 5 schools. They have been busing students to the 98th St. School near LAX, but are looking for a new site. They have identified a site at 2905 Exposition Place, which is Contractor Building Supplies and a truck parking lot. It is a three acre site. They would need a Conditional Use Permit to do so.

Bettye Smith-Anderson reported on a Public Works meeting she attended in Hollywood.

Rosie Brown encouraged everyone to use the 311 App to report illegal dumping and bulky item pickup.

Mehrnoosh (“Nooshi”) Zahiri introduced herself as the neighborhood prosecutor for Wilshire Division (which overlaps Arlington Heights and Angelus Vista). mehrnoosh.zahiri@lacity.org, (213)-978-2220. The Southwest Neighborhood Prosecutor is Alvan Arzu. alvan.arzu@lacity.org, (213) 978-2228.

ETHICS/FUNDING TRAINING STATUS

President Jeff Camp reminded board members about the requirements for ethics training.

ELECTION/CONFIRMATIONS OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS – ACTION

Jeff Camp opened the floor for nominations for Chair of the Economic Development Committee.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved that UNNC appoint Jess Bravo and Bettye Smith-Anderson to Co-Chair Economic Development.

Laura Meyers seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved to appoint John Arnold as Chair of Historic Preservation Committee.

Marius Stelly seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Rosie Brown moved to appoint Dolores Spears as Chair of the Outreach Committee.

Bettye Smith-Anderson seconded

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Dolores Spears moved to appoint Laura Meyers as Chair of Planning and Zoning.

Seconded by Elizabeth Fenner.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved to appoint Denise Jackson as Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Dolores Spears seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

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

Rosie Brown seconded.



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Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Dolores Spears moved to appoint Sandra Pruitt as Chair of the Parks Committee.
Rosie Brown seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Helen Indrani Chaudhuri moved to appoint Elizabeth Fenner as the Chair of the Tree Committee.

Laura seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Elizabeth Fenner moved to appoint Carlton Stubbs as Chair of the Youth Committee.
William Hernandez seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Laura Meyers moved to appoint Norman Gilmore as Chair of the ad-hoc Website committee.
Billie Green seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

MOTION: Laura Meyers moved to appoint Marius Stelly as the Chair of the Sub-Committee on Oil & Gas Reform.

Anthony Carter seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS

A. Funding Request – Disaster Awareness Course (DAC) in conjunction with LAFD - ACTION

Debra Varnado presented a funding request for the Disaster Preparedness Group, a neighborhood based volunteer group.

They are planning a Disaster Awareness Course (DAC) on September 27, Saturday morning from 9:00 am to 12:30.

DAC focuses on individual preparedness. LAFD Captain Stacy Gerlich will be teaching the class. There will also be discussion of evaluating compromised buildings and some basic medical skills. In addition to the actual course, they'd like to have a breakfast for attendees. They are getting many in-kind services. The class is free. They are hoping for 200 to 250 attendees.

They are requesting \$294.12 for refreshments and outreach materials from UNNC, and the same amount from Mid-City Neighborhood Council.

UNNC supported this group earlier in the year when they held a successful seven week CERT training with 35 people finishing the course.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved to recommend that the UNNC Governing Board that UNNC fund up to \$294.12 for refreshments, coffee and flyer reproduction for the Disaster Awareness Course to be presented in September 2014 by Disaster Preparedness Group.



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Dolores Spears seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Vote: 15 in favor, none opposed, 3 ineligible.

- B. Funding Request – addition of “heavy –duty” bike pump station at Benny H. Potter Park – ACTION

Michael Macdonald presented a funding request to replace the low quality, now broken, air-pump permanently installed as part of the Dero Bike Fixit station at Benny Potter Park. The new pump would be much more durable and resistant to damage.

He will personally install it. Marie Tropet, the Park Director at Rec & Parks, supports this, and Jose the groundskeeper is also supportive.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved to recommend that UNNC fund up to \$506.15 for a heavier duty air pump at the Dero Fixit Station at Benny Potter Park, which includes an amount that was past due for last year’s repair which UNNC previously approved.

William Hernandez seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Vote: 14 in favor, 1 opposed, 3 ineligible.

- C. Funding Request – participation in CD10’s Movies in the Park at Benny H. Potter, Queen Anne, Reynier Park, Westside Park – ACTION

Sylvia Lacy presented a funding request for the Movies-in-the-Park program. They present free movies (with free popcorn and snacks) in local neighborhood parks. UNNC has supported this program annually for the last several years.

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved that UNNC fund up to \$1,500 for this year’s Movies-in-the-Park.

Dolores Spears seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Vote: 15 in favor, none opposed, 3 ineligible.

TREASURER’S REPORT

- A. Approval of expenditures and bank statements – ACTION.

The Treasurer presented the UNNC US Bank statement for approval.

MOTION: Jeff Camp moved that UNNC approve the June 23, 2014 US Bank statement.

Billie Green seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Vote: 14 in favor, 0 opposed, 1 abstentions, 3 ineligible.



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B. Approval of NC Monthly Expenditure Report – ACTION

The Treasurer presented the NC Monthly Expenditure report for approval.

MOTION: Denise Jackson moved that UNNC approve the Monthly Expenditure Report corresponding to the US Bank Statement dated June 23, 2014.
Billie Green seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Vote: 15 in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, 3 ineligible.

C. Approval Operational Expenditures for the fiscal year (2014-2015)

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved that UNNC approve payment of up to \$350 per month to NextGraphics for month-to-month web maintenance fees, and up to \$40 per month Linode for webserver fees, and up to \$120.00 to RingCentral for voicemail fees per year.
Laura Meyers seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Vote: 15 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstain, 3 ineligible.

D. DONE Financial Update

Jeff Camp reported that DONE took over 10 months to raise questions about our September 2013 submission (stamped received by DONE on October 2013).

COMMITTEES' REPORTS/UPDATES (AS NEEDED)

A. Planning & Zoning

1. ZA-2014-1144-CUB-ZV

3170 West Pico Blvd.

CUB-CONDITIONAL USE BEVERAGE (ALCOHOL)

Proposed new restaurant/sports bar with beer and wine sales of alcohol beverages, for on-site consumption; to allow 8 spaces in lieu of the required 14, and one billiard table as an ancillary use. – ACTION

Laura Meyers discussed the context of this CUB request.

The project has been re-designed to include visibility through the windows, trees to be planted, and they will lease parking nearby.

The applicant presented a letter with 16 conditions that they will agree to comply with. The conditions were projected for review by the board.

A sign can be placed on the parking lot that they are leasing across the street to encourage his customers to park in the leased lot and not in the neighborhood.



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MOTION: Laura Meyers moved that we support ZA-2014-1144-CUB-ZV provided that this list of 16 conditions is adopted by the ZA, and that two security guards be on the premises during business hours, and that there be signage on the leased parking stating visibly from the street that parking is available for the business, and that there be consideration for signage requesting that patrons please use the leased parking lot and not neighborhood streets to park, and that at closing, one security guard should monitor outside activity to help ensure a peaceful wind-down.

Jess Bravo seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Vote: 12 in favor, 5 opposed, 1 abstention.

2. ZA-2014-2358-CUW

1560 South Western Ave.

Request for approval of a conditional use permit for the construction, use and maintenance of an unmanned wireless facility on the rooftop of a mixed-use residential/retail building located within the Harvard Heights HPOZ. Proposal calls for four sectors of four antennas located on the roof of the building behind rooftop screening. Outdoor equipment and generator to be located at grade within a CMU equipment enclosure with security lid measuring 19'4" by 16'-0" – all together representing 310 square feet of new project. – ACTION

MOTION: Laura Meyers moved that UNNC oppose this permit unless Verizon agrees to provide a schedule for installing FIOS in our neighborhood.

No second.

MOTION: Laura Meyers moved that UNNC support ZA-2014-2358-CUW, provided that a condition be added that (i) there be ongoing timely graffiti removal, and improved landscaping if feasible and (b) there be a signage program to improve the visual quality of the signage on the building, and (c) UNNC include a letter expressing our concerns about lack of delivery of high performance broadband by Verizon to our local neighborhoods, despite the years of federal subsidies received by Verizon and other companies for this purpose.

William Hernandez seconded.

A roll call vote was taken.

Vote: 7 in favor, 8 opposed, 3 abstain.

Motion fails.

MOTION: Jeff Camp moved to support ZA-2014-2358-CUW as presented by the applicant.

Norman Gilmore seconded.

Vote: 8 in favor, 7 opposed, 3 abstain.

3. Proposed South Los Angeles Community Plan Supplemental Use Oil District Discussion of proposal, and request to support draft letter prepared by Community Health Councils (CHC). – DISCUSSION AND ACTION



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Erin Steva from CHC presented a PowerPoint explaining how increased oversight of oil wells can be added to the in-process South LA Community Plan and West Adams-Leimert Park-Baldwin Hills Community Plan.

MOTION: Laura Meyers moved that the Planning Committee will draft a UNNC letter of support for the Community Health Council Letter on this subject, and that UNNC Executive Committee will finalize and approve the letter and deliver the entire package to the next Governing Board for full review.
Norman Gilmore seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

- 4. ZA-1959-15227-O-PA5
2126 West Adams Blvd.
Jess Bravo departed.

Submittal of new project request to install a CEB 800 clean enclosed waste gas burner and a surrounding sound wall at existing oil and gas production facility (Adams and Gramercy; 27th Street on the south of the parcel). Review of the plans and proposal. Discussion of proposed categorical exemption as the environmental clearance. –
DISCUSSION AND ACTION

MOTION: Norman Gilmore moved that the Governing Board prepare a letter (to be approved by the UNNC Executive Committee) to the Planning Department (Faisal Roble and Lynda Smith in the Case Processing Unit, and Linn Wyatt, Chief Zoning Administrator), reiterating our previously voted position **OPPOSING** the placement of a CEB waste gas burner or similar equipment in the landscaped, southerly portion of the property; and that UNNC does not support the use of a categorical exemption in this case, and rather, that a more complete environmental evaluation should occur, with mitigations as then deemed appropriate.

Dolores Spears seconded.
Vote: Approved unanimously.

B. Website Update

Norman Gilmore presented a PowerPoint showing the features of the new UNNC website which just went live.

SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Secretary presented minutes for approval.

MOTION: William Hernandez moved to approve the June 5, 2014 minutes as presented.
Dolores Spears seconded.
Vote: 15 in favor, none opposed, 2 abstentions.



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PRESIDENT'S UPDATE

A. New, Continuing, and Old Business

Jeff Camp thanked board members for their patience.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Gus Harris, Jr. provided Billie Green a copy of the permit for the Jefferson Park Sign Lighting Project.

August 16 is the West Adams Sugar Hill Block party from 1pm 5pm. UNNC is invited.

Friday, Saturday, Sunday before Labor day is big West Adams Avenues Fest.

Saturday, September 27th, will be the Living History Tour at Angelus Rosedale Cemetary, with a Civil War Focus.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 p.m. in memory of Brenda Marsh Mitchell.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Gilmore

UNNC Secretary

September 9, 2014

Attachments:

CUB Conditions

Roll call votes