



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

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## UNNC Executive Committee Meeting

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Tuesday, January 20, 2015  
Council District 10 Field Office  
1819 S. Western Ave.  
Los Angeles, CA 90006

### MINUTES

(approved February 17, 2015)

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Vice-President Billie Green opened the meeting at 7:07 p.m. A quorum was present.

**Members present:** Jeff Camp, Billie Green, Norman Gilmore, Sandra Paul, Marius Stelly.

**Members absent:** None.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

Norman Gilmore seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Jeff Camp said that the LA84 Foundation is having a session on the future of policing tomorrow.

Billie Green said that tomorrow at St. Sofia's Church, City Attorney Mike Feuer is introducing the new neighborhood prosecutor for the Olympic Station area at 7pm.

Councilmember Wesson had a float at the MLK parade, and he was joined by Mayor Garcetti and Speaker de Leon.

Debra Varnado said the CERT class has had great attendance of 59 attendees for the first two weeks of the seven week course. It is being held at Fire station #94, at Coliseum and MLK.

#### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

- A. Presentation 5 Mins EMD (Emergency Management Plan) – Debra Varnado

Debra Varnado said the City of LA Emergency Management Department will select a neighborhood council to recommend a neighborhood to get a disaster plan prepared and then a full neighborhood rehearsal as part of the October great shakeout. The grant application is due March 6, 2015.



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The Fifth Avenue Block Club presented a proposal requesting UNNC to put Fifth Avenue Block Club forward as a candidate for the disaster preparedness grant. This includes people from the Disaster Preparedness Group, including people from UNNC, MINC, and various stakeholders.

Debra Varnado is also the Chair of the Disaster Preparedness Group. Their track record includes organizing a successful CERT training class and a Disaster Awareness Course with 200 attendees.

UNNC will be asked to endorse Fifth Ave Block Club grant request to LA Dept. of Emergency Mgmt.

- B. Funding Request for Community Outreach – Harvard Heights HPOZ- Odel Childress and Mark Deman -ACTION

Odel Childress presented a funding request for Harvard Heights HPOZ outreach request.

**MOTION:** Norman Gilmore moved to recommend to the UNNC Governing Board that UNNC fund up to \$2135 for the design, printing and distribution of up to 2000 door hangers in English, Spanish, and Korean, which explain the Harvard Heights HPOZ.

Marius Stelly seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

- C. Funding Request NPG for Outreach– Kitty Bungalow – Matthew Schow and Leslie Tresun – ACTION

Shawn Simons presented a Neighborhood Purposes Grant on behalf of Kitty Bungalow, a 501(c)3.

The South LA shelter has a kill rate of 60% for felines. Kitty Bungalow is working to reduce the cat population without killing. The problem is not cats, but abandonment and allowing unfixed cats outside. Cats breed quickly.

Kitty Bungalow believes that a program to do outreach for responsible pet ownership will help. Kitty Bungalow also understands that some people don't have the resources to be responsible pet owners.

Kitty Bungalow is requesting \$2500 to present a school lunch program at local schools, including outreach and education materials, and veterinary services (primarily spay/neuter for school children's pets).

Kitty Bungalow has a good relationship with Foshay and Berendo schools in our area.

This educational program is targeting middle school to high school students. If cats aren't fixed, the kids would be able to request basic veterinary services for their pets.

The goal is to reach 500 students. The number of times the program will be put on is to be



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determined -- it's going to depend on how schools choose to schedule the program (e.g., during an after school program, etc.) and the number of students that can be reached at each event.

Trap-and-release is NOT part of this funding request in any way. (We are aware that there is an injunction against the city regarding Trap-and-Release programs.)

**MOTION:** Jeff Camp moved to recommend that UNNC grant \$2500 to Kitty Bungalow for an educational outreach program to local schools about responsible pet ownership, including veterinary services for pets of children who can't afford veterinary care.

Norman Gilmore seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

## D. Funding Request for Outreach- Street Poets – Michelle Sorgen – ACTION

Chris Henrikson and Taylor Maxie presented for Street Poets.

Street Poets empowers young people to tell their own stories using poetry and music. They are seeking support for the Beats & Rhymes recording studio workshop that they operate out of their location on Arlington, just north of the 10. Youth learn about digital recording technology, write music and poetry, and produce poetry and hip hop tracks for an annual album. Every other month all youth are invited to showcase their work at Eco-Logical Art Gallery. The Recording Studio has produced 7 CDs in the last 7 years.

They also are seeking support for their Poetry-in-Motion Van. They have a customized Mercedes Sprinter 2500 van outfitted as a mobile recording studio. It also serves as a performance venue and workshop space. The van is able to transform into a sidewalk concert stage. Or it can be closed to serve as a digital recording studio. This mobile recording van was initially funded by the Irvine Foundation two years ago.

The van has already had 150 event dates at various Los Angeles locations where youth and adults have written, recorded, and performed their poetry from the van.

They have done events at Washington Irving Library and Leslie Shaw Park in the past.

The project proposal includes weekly Street Poets Spoken Word (poetry) and Hip Hop (music) performances and workshops for low-income youth and adults in Los Angeles at our Street Poets office (3 hours/week) and various street locations, including outside community centers and parks with the Poetry in Motion van (2 hours/month). Youth will get hands on experience writing, performing, and learning digital recording tools.

Goals include increasing self-confidence and literacy skills, building community, and reduce self-destructive behavior in at-risk populations.

Assessment done by Street Poets includes pre-and-post workshop self-assessments, attendance records, and listening to the work produced to understand where individuals are in their lives.

They are requesting \$2500. Chris Henrikson is asking for support for four excursions of the Poetry-in-Motion van within UNNC as well as support for the weekly workshops. They are also



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receiving \$2500 from California Community Foundation. The total projected cost of the proposed program events is \$9000.

**MOTION:** Norman Gilmore moved to recommend that the UNNC Governing Board grant \$2500 to Street Poets, Inc. for outreach, marketing communications, materials, supplies and gas.

Sandra Paul seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

E. Funding Request- EnrichLA- Garden Ranger Program Elementary Schools - Shana Baiz – ACTION

Shana Baiz presented photos of the students, gardens, and harvests from the garden program at Carson-Gore Elementary and Sixth Avenue School, which was partially supported by a \$5000 UNNC grant in 2014.

**MOTION:** Norman Gilmore moved to recommend that the UNNC Governing Board provide \$5000 to EnrichLA for their weekly Garden Ranger program at Sixth Avenue Elementary and Carson-Gore Elementary through June 30, 2015 (to be apportioned equally between the two schools).

Jeff Camp seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

F. Funding Request for Community Outreach – Public Safety Committee – Denise Jackson, Chair – ACTION

Denise Jackson, as Chair of the Public Safety Committee, presented a funding request for a Block Club summit.

The proposal is to have an event that brings various stakeholders together. The event is proposed for April 18, 2015 from 8am to 1pm, and would be held at Holman United Methodist Church (3320 W. Adams Blvd.)

The goal is to bring the UNNC community, block club leaders, LAPD, LAFD, and other public safety resources together to increase collaboration of UNNC stakeholders on public safety issues.

The budget presented included \$400 for printing/copying, \$350 for signage and banners, \$850 for the venue, \$500 for marketing and advertising, and \$375 for refreshments, for a total of \$2,475.

The goal is to have from 75 to 100 attendees.

The summit will have five main topics:

1. Block Club Organizing and Best Practices
2. Community Police Advisory Board, Senior Lead Officer introductions and information.
3. Certified Emergency Response Training, Fire Safety demonstrations and information.
4. Cyber Security / Identity Theft Prevention
5. Basic Self Defense instructions and information.

Members from LAPD CPAB organizations in Wilshire, Southwest, and Olympic Divisions will



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be invited to participate, as well as Fire Department and CERT experts.

**MOTION:** Jeff Camp moved to recommend that UNNC fund up to \$2475 for the public safety event.

Sandra Paul seconded.

Vote: Approved unanimously.

## G. Discussion on Procedures for appointments of vacant Seat – ACTION

If there is a vacancy in a residential board seat, the normal procedure is to announce the vacancy, interview candidates at Executive Committee which recommends a candidate to the Governing Board, and then the Governing Board may appoint that candidate or someone else to the seat. An existing at-large board member can be appointed to an open residential seat if that person agrees to resign their at-large seat concurrently with appointment to the residential seat. (A person cannot hold more than one board seat at a time.)

No action was taken.

## H. Review Board Members' absences.

No board members have 3 consecutive absences.

Some board members are attending every third governing board meeting.

## I. Plan agenda for next Governing Board meeting

Items noted above will be on the Governing Board agenda.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Sandra Paul reached out January 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> to Kathleen Quinn and Claude Gonzalez regarding the requirements for NPG requests and the timing of sponsored events. She has not heard back.

## COMMITTEE UPDATES

Norman Gilmore noted that BONC is considering mandatory availability of online voting for all neighborhood councils.

## UPDATES ON PROJECTS

Jeff Camp is planning to organize the board retreat for March.

## NEW BUSINESS

None.

## APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The Secretary presented minutes for approval.



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**MOTION:** Marius Stelly moved to approve the December 16, 2014 minutes as presented.

Sandra Paul seconded.

Vote: 4 in favor, none opposed, 1 abstention.

Meeting adjourned around 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Gilmore

UNNC Secretary

February 17, 2015

Attachment: None.