



Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council General Meeting
September 12, 2012

MINUTES

Approved by the Board, 10-10-12

1. **Call to Order** (Owen Smith)

A duly noticed meeting of the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (“GWNC”) Board of Directors was held on Wednesday, September 12, 2012, at the Ebell of Los Angeles, 743 S. Lucerne Blvd., Los Angeles. President Owen Smith called the meeting to order at 7:05 p. m.

2. **Roll Call**

The Minutes Writer called the roll. Board Members in attendance at the roll call were: Charles D’Atri, Mike Genewick (Alternate for Alex Jones-Moreno), John Gresham, Frances McFall, Caroline Moser (Alternate for Jack Humphreville), Clinton Oie (Alternate for David Lunzer), Mary Rajswing, Owen Smith. Yigal Arens, Bill Funderburk (Alternate for Steven Katz), Patricia Carroll, Joane Pickett (Alternate for Jane Gilman), Jane Usher, Greg Wittman and James Wolf arrived later. Board Members absent and not represented by an Alternate: Larissa Alarcon, Charles Dougherty, Elizabeth Fuller, Barbara Kumetz, Jason Peers and Benjamin Rosenberg. Also attending: 16 Stakeholders and guests.

Eight of the 21 Board Members or their Alternates were present at the roll call, which is not a quorum. The GWNC quorum (the minimum number of Committee Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is 13, so at this time the Board could only have discussions without making any Motions or taking any binding votes.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #4.

3. **Approval of the Minutes** [*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #12.*]

MOTION (by Mr. D’Atri, seconded by Mr. Arens): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its August 8, 2012 General Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #5. A.

4. **President’s Report** (Owen Smith) [*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #2.*]

A. Board Vacancies

Mr. Smith noted the vacancies:

Area 1 – Brookside – Alternate

Area 2 (Citrus Square) – Alternate

Area 9 (Oakwood-Maplewood-St. Andrews) – Alternate

Area 12 (We-Wil) – Alternate

Renter – Alternate

- B. Ethics Training – Board Members and Alternates who have not yet completed the training: D’Atri, Funderburk, Kumetz, Rosenberg, Dwyer, Fox, Katz, Lombard, Rubin. You MUST complete the course at <http://ethics.lacity.org/education/ethics2007/?audience=done>.
Mr. Smith noted the above. Mr. D’Atri announced that he submitted his quiz.

5. Community Concerns / Public Comments

Stakeholder Joan Taylor was concerned regarding cell towers.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #6. A.

- A. Motion of Support requested for Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council’s efforts to restore the Griffith Park Youth Ball Field (Mark Mauceri).

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #3.] Mark Mauceri (MFMauceri@ggpnc.org, 323-985-6900), Greater Griffith Park Neighborhood Council Board Member, distributed a photo of the existing ball fields, displayed a map and diagram, and requested support along with other NC’s regarding proposed Griffith Park ball fields. He said that L.A. City Councilman Tom LaBonge supports it “100%.” Some neighbors oppose it and want the ball fields further away.

Board Member Joane Pickett (Alternate for Jane Gilman) arrived at this time, making 14 Board Members present.

Nearby baseball leagues are filled up while Griffith Park is “having a population explosion.” Mr. Smith read aloud the following Motion:

MOTION (by Mr. Smith), seconded by Ms. Pickett): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council supports the following “[GWNC] Resolution September 12, 2012”:

WHEREAS, Los Angeles’ Griffith Park was gifted to the City with the specific intent it be “a place of rest and relaxation for the masses, a resort for the rank and file, for the plain people” and it currently contains an abundance of golf courses, tennis courts, equestrian and hiking trails, as well as attractions such as merry-go-round, pony rides, a miniature railroad, etcetera; and

WHEREAS, the majority of youth ball fields that once served the entire City as well as the communities abutting Griffith Park were torn out by the construction of the ‘Golden State (#5) Freeway’ and never subsequently replaced; and

WHEREAS, the Greater Wilshire Neighborhood has experienced marked growth in the number of families with children over the past ten years, and

WHEREAS, physical education programs have been eliminated from our public grammar schools and lack of exercise has been scientifically linked to the growing problem of childhood obesity; and

WHEREAS, a Los Angeles Department of Recreation and Parks (RAP) Citywide parks needs assessment report (2008) specified a goal of providing one (1) baseball field per 12,000 persons by 2013 requiring the addition of seventy three (73) new ball field installations; and

WHEREAS, a Proposition K (“K for Kids”) funded project to restore two (2) youth ball fields in Griffith Park’s easily accessible Crystal Springs area is currently being contemplated by the Bureau of Engineering and the Department of Recreation and Parks; and

WHEREAS, 2009 census data projections indicate 25% of the population within a 3.0 mile radius of the project site are categorized in the 15- 34-year age range; and

WHEREAS, these facilities serving the adjacent Griffith Park neighborhoods will effectively reduce the number of families traveling to other neighborhoods to participate in organized recreation, particularly baseball; and

WHEREAS, Griffith Park, as a Los Angeles Historical-Cultural monument, enjoys the benefit and protection of having significant projects undergo a thorough review/approval process by the City's Office of Historic Resources and Cultural Heritage Commission to ensure their appropriateness within the confines of the park;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council (GWNC) supports the project (BOE – K277) to restore youth ball fields in Griffith Park's Crystal Springs area so sorely missed by the nearby communities' children and the City of Los Angeles as a whole.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Mauceri described proposed and alternate plans. Ms. Pickett and other Board Members spoke in support.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #6. B.

- B. Update on possible relocation of Nat King Cole Post Office.
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #11.] Mr. D'Atri discussed the Post Office plan to keep a small retail presence in the area. Ms. Carroll described the sell/lease process.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #13.

6. Local Government Updates

A. CD4 Update (Ben Seinfeld)

Ben Seinfeld, Field Deputy for L.A. City District Four Councilman Tom LaBonge (213-485-3337; cell 213-804-2388; Ben.Seinfeld@LACity.org), reported that repaving of Wilshire Blvd. between Wilton and Fairfax has started.

Board Members James Wolf, Patricia Carroll and Yigal Arens arrived at this time, making 11 Board Members present.

Mr. Seinfeld continued that trees will be planted on Sycamore.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #12.

B. CD5 Update (John Darnell)

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #5. A.] John Darnell, Field Deputy for L.A. City District Five Councilman Paul Koretz (310-289-0353; John.Darnell@LACity.org), announced the Saturday, October 14th AIDS Walk LA and that LaBrea between Rosewood and Beverly will be resurfaced.

C. 42nd Assembly District Update (Nicole Carcel)

Ms. Carcel could not attend and there was no report at this time.

7. Treasurer's Report and Budget Items (Patti Carroll)

A. Monthly Budget Report/approval.

Ms. Carroll distributed and reviewed the "Monthly Spending Report – Aug 1-Sept 8 2012."

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Gresham, seconded by Mr. D’Atri): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves its “Monthly Spending Report – Aug 1-Sept 8, 2012.”

DISCUSSION: Ms. Carroll reported that \$7,200 remains to be allocated this Fiscal Year for community projects.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

B. YTD Budget Report.

Ms. Carroll distributed and reviewed the “[GWNC] Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 . . . YTD 09/08/12.”

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. Usher, seconded by Mr. D’Atri): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council approves its “[GWNC] Budget for Fiscal Year 2012-2013 . . . YTD 09/08/12.”

FUNDING MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

C. 2011-2012 Funding/Demand Warrants Status.

Ms. Carroll reported that the GWNC is still waiting for Demand Warrants to be paid by DONE, which shows and is researching a \$2,400 Budget discrepancy.

D. Budget Adjustments.

i. Transportation Committee Special Meeting - \$25

Ms. Carroll reviewed this.

FUNDING MOTION (by Ms. McFall): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council will stop paying \$25 per month for its Land Use Committee Meeting space.

FUNDING MOTION FAILED for lack of a second.

ii. Election advertising, etc.

Ms. Carroll reviewed this.

iii. Other? (to cover possible unpaid DW from 2011-2012)

Ms. Carroll reviewed this.

8. **DWP Oversight** (Jack Humphreville)

Mr. Humphreville could not attend and there was no report at this time.

9. **City Budget Issues** (Humphreville)

Mr. Humphreville could not attend and there was no report at this time.

10. **Old Business**

There was no old business at this time.

11. **New Business**

Mr. D’Atri addressed an issue.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #5. B.

12. Election Committee (John Gresham) *[This Agenda Item was addressed after Mr. Seinfeld's report in Item #6. A.]*

Mr. Gresham reported on the Sunday, October 28th 2:00 – 6:00 p.m. GWNC Election. Candidates are needed to register by September 28th. E-mail JGrsh1@gmail.com or see <http://empowerla.org/gwnc/greater-wilshire-nc-elections> for information. He reminded that there are two positions, Board Member and Alternate, for each Board Seat.

Board Member Jane Usher arrived at this time, making 12 Board Members present.

Six potential Candidates attended tonight's Candidate Information Session. Ms. Usher reminded that Candidates must live, work or own property within GWNC boundaries, except for the one "Factual Basis Stakeholder" Seat.

Board Member Bill Funderburk (Alternate for Steven Katz) arrived at this time, making a quorum of 13 Board Members present. Now the Board could take binding votes on Agendized Items.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #3.

13. Traffic and Transportation Committee (Gerda McDonough)

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #5. B.] Ms. McDonough reported that the City is planning to create bicycle lanes on a number of local streets to comply with State laws. The Committee recommends that the Board help with outreach regarding the City Transportation Plan in process. Legislation regarding this includes State Assembly Bills 2245 and 1358, and Senate Bill 375. Mr. Smith recommended giving information to Cindy Chvatal-Keane for the Hancock Park Homeowners Association website.

14. Outreach Committee (Mary Rajswing)

A. Election outreach

Ms. Rajswing displayed the GWNC's Larchmont Chronicle ad.

B. Larchmont Fair

The Larchmont Fair will have a GWNC booth. Volunteers are needed. Ms. Rajswing will request GWNC banner funding.

C. Citizen Recognition Award

At next month's Meeting the inaugural GWNC Stakeholder Recognition Award will be awarded.

15. Board Member Comments

There were no other Board Member comments or new business.

16. Public Comments

Ms. McFall was pleased that the Ebell Theatre provided an American flag for this room. She requested that the GWNC later adjourn in memory of Americans who have served in the military.

Board Member Jane Usher had to leave at this time, leaving 13 Board Members present, still a quorum.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #17.

[This Agenda Item was returned to after Item #17.] Stakeholders Solomon Moore, Robert Ahn, Jeff Carpenter, Sue Horwitz, Federico Mariscal, and Joanne introduced themselves and are interested in being elected to the Board. Mr. Ahn was on the City Redistricting Commission. Mr. Mariscal attends

the monthly LANCC [L.A. Neighborhood Councils Coalition] Meetings with Mr. Humphreville. Mr. Gresham reminded current Board Members who want to continue that they need to be re-elected.

The next Agenda Item addressed was Item #18.

17. Land Use Committee (LUC) (James Wolf)

CUB Modification to allow sales of wine for off-site consumption at Mozza 2 Go Restaurant (6610 W. Melrose).

[This paragraph is directly from the Agenda.] Issue: GWNC voted to oppose a similar application a few months ago, but the City asked applicants to re-file the application for a separate CUB (not a modification of the existing CUB, as requested in the previous version). The Land Use Committee discussed the request with the applicants at its July meeting, but sought input from neighbors before making a recommendation. A group of neighbors attended the August Land Use Committee meeting and there was extensive further discussion, especially of the neighbors' ongoing frustrations with traffic and parking at the business. Several committee members expressed the opinion that the basic request did not seem unreasonable, but all agreed that neighbors' concerns should be addressed. One committee member suggested the application be withdrawn temporarily so they and neighbors could work out mutually acceptable solutions, but the applicants declined the suggestion. **LUC**

Recommendation: [see the below Motion].

Mr. Wolf described the project.

MOTION (by Mr. Wolf, seconded by Mr. Arens): The Greater Wilshire Neighborhood Council recommends that the GWNC Board oppose the application to sell wine for off-site consumption at Mozza2Go, 6610 W. Melrose.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

Mr. Wolf encouraged attending Committee Meetings. Mr. Genewick noted that the Committee has discussed cell tower issues for a year.

Board Member Greg Wittman arrived at this time.

Potential Agenda Items for September 25 LUC Meeting: Possible code violations at 610 S. Van Ness; review of proposed GWNC policy on liquor license applications; review of recent Early Planning Notices in the GWNC area.

The next Agenda Item addressed was again Item #16.

18. Announcements and Adjournment [This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #16.]

A. 2013 Homeless Count (see handout)

Mr. Smith noted this.

B. Next meeting: Wednesday, October 10, 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Smith noted the above; he offered and Ms. McFall spoke in honor of the U.S. diplomat and Libyans who died recently.

Mr. Smith declared and the Board agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
David Levin
Minutes Writer