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Palms Neighborhood Council
South Robertson Neighborhoods Council
Venice Neighborhood Council
West LA-Sawtelle Neighborhood Council
Westside Neighborhood Council
Westwood Community Council
Westwood Neighborhood Council

Minutes

Board of Directors Breakfast | May 17, 2017, 8:40-10:00am

Lenny's Deli (Westwood), 2379 Westwood Blvd., Westwood, CA 90064

One hour free parking (with a restaurant validation) in the surface parking lot immediately north of Lenny's, on Westwood Boulevard.
After the first hour free (with validation), it is \$2 for the next hour.

I. Welcome/Introductions (2 mins)

- *Members present:* Larry Watts (BCC); Maryam Zar (PPCC); Steve Twining (BABCNC); Nickie Miner (BABCNC); Rob Kadota (MVCC); Ira Koslow (VNC); Doug Fitzsimmons (SORONC); Barbara Broide (WNC); and Sharon Commins (MVCC).
- Also present: Sharon Commins (ReCodeLA); Debbie Dyner-Harris (CD-11); Ileana Wachtel (a Measure S Supporter); Janet Turner (Congressman Lieu); Stephanie Cohen (Sheila Kuehl) Veronica de la Cruz Robles (Dep. City Atty.); Jason Stinnett (LA DWP) and Daniel Tamm (Mayor's Office).

II. Approval of Minutes (1 min) — The draft minutes for April were approved with one correction to reflect attendance of Member Maryam Zar.

III. Government Rep. Updates

- *Mayor Garcetti's Office:* Daniel Tamm — Reported on roadwork in Century Cit in preparation for Purple Line Westwood extension. He next discussed mayor's goal of adopting a balanced approach to Measure M funding for infrastructure and Vision Zero. Concerning affordable housing, he next described the Mayor's support for legalizing existing illegal units in multi-family dwellings and a linkage fee for developers to pay to fund affordable housing.
- *LA City Councilmember Koretz Office (CD-5)-* Not present.
- *LA City Councilmember Bonin's Office (CD 11):* Debbie Dyner-Harris —Reported Cindy Cahill will be joining Councilman Bonin's staff to replace Sharon Shapiro.
- *LA City Attorney Feuer's Office:* Veronica de la Cruz Robles — not present.
- *Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment- Mike Fong.--*Not present.
 - *Board of Neighborhood Commissioners- Eli Lipman--*Not present.
- *CA Senator Ben Allen's Office:* Samuel Liu/Eugene Tseng — Not present.
- *CA Assemblymember Autumn Burke's Office:* — Not present.
- *CA Assemblymember Sebastian Ridley-Thomas's Office:* Patrick MacFarlane — Not present.
- *Re-Code LA Zoning Advisory Committee:* Sharon Commins — The Re-Code LA committee will meet in June, but not in May or July. A revised Re-Code draft should be released August. Many in DTLA and the Eastside consider the Westside to be elitist NIMBY's fighting more affordable housing in their neighborhoods.
- *BONC:* Eli Lipmen — Not present.
- *LA DWP-* Jason Stinnett reported on tour of DWP facilities in Owens Valley and water conservation enforcement.

IV. **Committee Updates** (6 mins)

- *Land Use*: Sharon Commins (2 mins) — Reported on importance of cooperation among Westside communities to assure solving affordable housing crisis without destroying existing residential neighborhoods.
- *Mobility*: Steve Twining (2 mins) — Gave short update.

V. **Discussions & Presentations**

The Chair next introduced Jeff Baker, Director of Clinical Education at Pepperdine University Law School. His departments acts as general counsel for a number of NGO social justice/community benefit entities. He described in options and benefits should WRAC decide to incorporate. He discussed differences between IRC § 501 (c), (3) and § 501 (c), (4) and suggests that WRAC qualify under IRC § 501 (c), (3), but this decision requires thought concerning the activities to be engaged in by WRAC. There was general discussion concerning WRAC's compliance with corporate formalities and how WRAC would have the ability to receive and maintain funds to carry-out events, such as recent candidate forums. There was also discussion concerning the greater flexibility this would provide to WRAC's NC member organizations. No action was taken at this time.

VI. New Business

A. The Chair next introduced Ileana Wachtel who was a supporter of Measure S. Ms. Wachtel described how the current general plan update procedures are advancing without sufficient transparency and community input. After discussion the following motion was adopted for action by WRAC members.

RESOLVED, that Planning Department Work Group meetings now underway about our shared ideas and ideals for the Los Angeles General Plan and its many Elements be made fully transparent, be set at evening and weekend hours; be open to the public as of now; include representatives chosen by the Neighborhood and Community Councils; and expand from the four meetings, now nearly completed in closed-door meetings, to four additional meetings that follow the above prescription.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that effective immediately the Mayor's Planning Task Force and Transportation Infrastructure Steering Committee for the General Plan meetings be made fully transparent, be set at evening and weekend hours; be open to the public; that its closed-door meetings be expanded to several additional meetings that follow the above prescription; and that it forthwith publish a summary of all meetings.

B. Discussion and possible action on the following agenda item was tabled: How can WRAC be more effective in strengthening its member councils?

- Idea: Creating a truly transparent / public way to keep track of policy issues/measures and to keep them moving, including a definition of adequate notice for important measures and hearings.
- Idea: Collecting and distributing best practices. Sharing training resources. How best to implement?
- Idea: Creating more regional co-operative committees: public safety, public policy, others? Encourage Council committee chairs to participate and take ideas back.

VI. **Updates on Pending Motions** (2 min each) — Full motion text available at westsidecouncils.com/pending.
Asterisk = Council passed a modified version of the motion.

- Support for LA Dept. of Public Works Memorandum of Understanding**
July 2017 passage deadline / Passed by
- Proposal to extend NC notice for City motions** (Fitzsimmons / SORO NC)
July 2017 passage deadline / Passed by

- c. **Support for 2017 Budget Advocates white paper** (Handal / WLASNC)
June 2017 passage deadline / Passed by SORO NC, PNC, WNC, VNC
- d. **Support for LA County Sharps Collection and Disposal Ordinance** (Fitzsimmons / SORO NC)
June 2017 passage deadline / Passed by PNC, SORO NC, VNC, BCC
- e. **Request for baseline data on population density and zoning capacities for growth** (WRAC LUPC)
Note: incorporates both requests for maximum build-out and population density
May 2017 passage deadline / Passed by WWNC, SORO NC, WNC
- f. **Support for Back to Basic Car proposal** (Twining / BABCNC)
May 2017 passage deadline / Passed by BCC, SORO NC, WNC

VII. **Adjourn:** Next meeting: June 21, 2017 at 8:30am

Respectfully,
Larry Watts, Secretary