



## MINUTES OF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

January 17, 2018

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

- I. The Chair welcomed the various attendees.
- II. Doug Fitzsimmons acted as Chair and called the meeting to order at about 8:35 a.m.
- III. Members present: Members present: Larry Watts (BCC); Steve Twining (BABCNC); Nikki Miner (BABCNC); Robert Schleisinger (BABCNC); Nick Greif (PNC); Maryam Zar (PPCC); Chris Spitz (PCC) Ira Koslow (VNC);; Doug Fitzsimmons (SORONC);; Barbara Broide (WNC); and Sharon Commins (MVCC); Steve Zann (WCC); Mitch Keitner (WNC)
- IV. Also present: Patrick Frank the government representatives noted below.
- V. There were no minutes available for the November 2017 meeting.
- VI. Government Rep. Updates
  - *Mayor Garcetti's Office*: Daniel Tamm reported the economic growth in the City, developments in the homelessness issue, including the short term use of trailers in Skid row and the need to build community support for long term supportive housing.
  - *Dept of City Planning*: Lisette Covarrubias reported on the Planning 101 training, part 2..
  - *LADWP*: Deborah Hong .
  - *LA City Councilmember Koretz's Office (CD 5)*: Joseph Galloway not present.
  - *LA City Councilmember Bonin's Office (CD 11)*: The chair reported that Debbie Dyner-Harris has resigned from the CD 11 staff to work on a State Assembly seat campaign.
  - *LA City Attorney Feuer's Office*: Veronica de la Cruz Robles announced the City Attorney will be sponsoring a Town Hall. A formal announcement will be forthcoming shortly.
  - *Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment*: Mike Fong announced there will be a February 16, 2018 meeting at the Fecia Mahood Center in West LA on the subject of Equity Funding for NCs.
  - *Board of Neighborhood Commissioners*: Commissioner Eli Lipmen discussed the matter of permanent supportive housing and urged WRAC members to invite affordable and low cost housing builders such as Tom Safran to address them.
  - *LA County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl's Office*: Stephanie Cohen not present.
  - *U.S. Representative Karen Bass's Office*: Jacqueline Hamilton not present.
  - *U.S. Representative Ted Lieu's Office*: Janet Turner announced the third Annual Multi-District Service Academy Day will be held at LAAFB on February 10, 2018 for persons interested in an appointment to a service academy..
  - *CA Senator Ben Allen's Office*: Samuel Liu / Eugene Tseng not present.
  - *CA Assemblymember Richard Bloom's Office*: Josh Kurpies.
  - *CA Assemblymember Sebastian Ridley-Thomas's Office*: Brian Ross Adams not present.

- *Re-Code LA Zoning Advisory Committee*: Sharon Commins gave an update and urged people to attend Re-Code LA planning meetings and pay attention to new and proposed state legislation that may limit local land use decisions. The next meeting will be on January 24, 2018.

#### VII. Guest Presentation

- a. Sophi from City Clerk's office discussed NC Election Workshops.
- b. Commissioner Jon Merritt of the Innovation and performance Commission described city's efforts to identify potential ways to make the city a better place for all. He stated the City has funds to support creative ideas. Pilot projects. So far the Commission has solicited city employees only, but will eventually will reach out to the public generally.
- c. Patrick Frank of Ban Billboard Blight reported that after years of study and proposals to restrict billboards, the billboard industry has been successful in lobbying for a draft ordinance that would effectively eliminate most, if not all ability to restrict billboards, including within public parks.

#### VIII. Committee Updates

- *Executive Maryam Zar* briefly discussed forming a non-profit WRAC corporation and said the subject will be discussed at a future WRAC meeting. She noted that Pepperdine Law School representatives have agreed to assist on a pro bono basis, including assisting with corporate record keeping formalities and filings.
- *Land Use and Planning*: Sharon Commins Discussed SB 827 and the risk that the State will preempt local land use decision making.
- *Mobility*: No report..
- *Events*: No report..
- *Homelessness*: Member Watts reported on a presentation by Tom Safran to the BCC on permanent support housing projects, including projects in the Westside.

#### IX. New Business — Additional motion background information available at [westsidecouncils.com/pending](http://westsidecouncils.com/pending).

- a. Motion opposing Transit-rich Housing Bonus Bill [Wiener, SB 827] from WRAC LUPC adopted to send to WRAC members
  - i. Whereas the City Charter-mandated Neighborhood Council system of Los Angeles, and the Community Councils of the City of Los Angeles, represent grass roots democracy,
  - ii. Whereas the newly introduced California State Senate Bill 827 [Scott Weiner] as written constitutes a top down pen stroke planning measure which completely removes land use and planning authority within one half mile of high quality transit from jurisdictions and charter cities,
  - iii. Whereas removal of said authority clearly abolishes local input into land use planning and therefore constitutes an attack upon local democracy, upon neighborhoods, and upon the Neighborhood Councils and Community Councils in the City of Los Angeles,
  - iv. Whereas SB 827 as written trashes the density bonus and wage provisions of the JJJ TOC ordinance which were recently enacted by the people of Los Angeles—in good faith—in order to guarantee transit close housing opportunities would actually be available to working and low-income persons and families in the City of Los Angeles,
  - v. Whereas the lack of analysis of infrastructure and other costs associated with this pen stroke planning creates grave uncertainty that a local agency would be able to “levy enough service charges, fees or

assessments sufficient to pay for the program or level of service mandated by this act within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code”,

- vi. Whereas, given the aforementioned lack of fiscal analysis, Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution “No reimbursement” clause is cited inappropriately in this legislation,
- vii. Therefore, the \_\_\_\_\_ Council opposes SB 827 in its present form.

b. Discussion and possible action: Expo Corridor Transit Plan and adoption of Dept. of City Planning recommendations (Broide / WNC) No action taken.

c. No action was taken on a motion to amend Westside Multi-Family Q Conditions (Commins / WRAC LUPC)

“The \_\_\_\_\_ NC/CC requests that the City amend the draft Westside Multi-Family Q Conditions with the following revisions:

- i. The boundary in the West L.A. and Brentwood area shall be extended south to I-10 freeway to cover any R3/R4 or RAS3/RAS4 parcels and multi-family buildings that are constructed in C zones.

- 1. The plan boundary shall be extended to include the following community plan areas: West L.A. (east of 405 in CD5 district), Venice, Westchester/Playa del Rey, Palms/Mar Vista and Pacific Palisades.

- ii. The front setback shall be lowered to above the 2nd story (so the 3rd and 4th stories have setbacks). [The draft plan proposed above the 3rd story.]

- iii. At-grade garage parking shall be wrapped by units, not simply cloaked by landscape and façade décor.

- iv. Driveways (unscreened) shall not make up more than 24 ft. along the frontage.

- v. All setbacks shall comply with underlying zone, with no by-right reduction.

d. No action was taken on motion concerning changes to proposed Small Lot Subdivision Amendment (Broide / WRAC LUPC)

“The \_\_\_\_\_ NC/CC requests that the City revise the proposed Small Lot Subdivision Amendment as follows, and complete the on-going planning process in the near future:

- i. Retain all of the setbacks for the underlying zone.

- ii. No fake grass. Green landscaping (trees) must be planted in dirt (not pots).

- iii. Rear setback of 10 ft. required for the 3rd floor and above. Rear setback of 15 ft. required for 3rd floor and above when abuts low-density zone (R1, R2).

- iv. Roof decks shall not substitute for ground-floor open space with grass in high-density zones.

- v. Roof deck shall be set back at least 5 ft. from edge of roof to increase safety and reduce privacy intrusion on neighbors.

- vi. Guest parking of 1 space per 4 units (or minimum of 1 space if fewer than 4 units).”

e. *There was not sufficient time to discuss and consider possible action on the following suggestions to make WRAC more effective in strengthening its member councils?*

- i. *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.

- ii. *Idea:* Collecting and distributing best practices. Sharing training resources. How best to implement?

- iii. *Idea:* Creating more regional co-operative committees: public safety, public policy, others? Encourage Council committee chairs to participate and take ideas back.

X. Updates on Pending Motions — Full motion text available at [westsidecouncils.com/pending](http://westsidecouncils.com/pending).

*Asterisk = Council passed a modified version of the motion.*

- a. Recommendations for the Sidewalk Repair Program (Greenberg / BABCNC) December 2017 Passage deadline / Passed by BABCNC and SORO NC
- b. Issues with RecycLA Franchise Waste Program (Fitzsimmons / SORO NC) December 2017 Passage deadline / Passed by —SORO NC
- c. Divestment from Wells Fargo (Fitzsimmons / SORO NC) December 2017 Passage deadline / Passed by —
- d. Reduced Parking Requirements for Therapy Practices December 2017 Passage deadline / Passed by — SORO NC
- e. Reserved Seating for Board Reps with a CIS of Board Resolution (Greenberg / BABCNC) October 2017 passage deadline / Passed by BABCNC, WNC, SORO NC, BCC, PPCC, PNC
- f. Support for LA Dept. of Public Works Memorandum of Understanding (Watts / BCC) February 2018 passage deadline / Passed by BCC, SORO NC, VNC, WNC, WCC
- g. Party house regulation (Watts / BCC) March 2018 Passage deadline / Passed by —
- h. City promotion of Neighborhood Council system (LANCC) March 2018 Passage deadline / Passed by —
- i. Impact of commercial cannabis activity on inventory of manufacturing/industrial zoned properties (Broide / WRAC LUPC) March 2018 Passage deadline / Passed by —

XI. Adjourn: Next meeting: February 21, 2018 at 8:30am