



westsidecouncils.com

Bel Air-Beverly Crest Neighborhood Council  
Brentwood Community Council  
Del Rey Neighborhood Council  
Mar Vista Community Council  
Neighborhood Council of Westchester-Playa  
Pacific Palisades Community Council  
North Westwood Neighborhood Council

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 | November 20, 2019

### Location

**West LA Municipal Building – 1645 Corinth Ave., LA 90024**

### I. Welcome/Introductions.

- a. The WRAC Board met for its regular monthly meeting on November 20, 2019, Vice-Chair Larry Watts called the meeting to order and began introductions at approximately 8:30 a.m. Maryam Zar arrived during the introductions and assumed the Chair.
- b. The Chair suggested of holding a planning meeting in December in lieu of the regular monthly meeting. She will circulate an invitation and request for available dates and time for the December planning meeting.
- c. Representatives Present: Robin Greenberg (BABCNC; ); Larry Watts (BCC); Matt Wersinger (Del Rey NC); Paula Gerez (NC of W-P); Andrew Lewis (NWWNC); Eliot Hochberg (PNC); Ira Koslow (VNC); Jane Wishon (WNC); Steve Sann (WWCC); and Roozbeh Farahanipour (WWNC).
- d. **Alternates present:** Mark Ryavec (VNC); Sandy Brown (WWNC) and Barbara Broide (WNC).
- e. **Also present:** Steve Twining, Secretary (BABCNC) and the government representatives identified below.

### II. Approval of Minutes.

- a. The Chair noted two corrections to the October 2019 minutes had been received from Debbie Dyner-Harris and Member Broide. Thereupon a motion duly made and seconded, the October 2019 minutes were approved as corrected.

### III. Committee Updates

- a. *Land Use:* Sharon Commins was not present and the Chair noted the LUC had not met and that LUC had not finalized a resolution concerning Density Bonus for TOC projects was deferred.
- b. *Mobility:* Steve Twinning will send an electronic report.

- c. 501(C)(3): No discussion.
- d. *Events:* .

#### **IV. Presentation.**

- a. The Chair next introduced Michael Schull.
  - i. Personal background: He has worked for almost 30 years with the City, first with Department of Public Works and most recently as General Manager of the Dept. of Recreation & Parks.
  - ii. Mr. Schull gave an extensive report that included the following subject areas: budget; capital programs; youth sports programs; emergency operations; community engagement; Westside projects; and sustainability goals.
  - iii. He reported R&P no longer receives significant revenues from the general fund. The main components of the department's operation budget are 1) labor costs; 2) Maintenance costs and recreational programming. The department's deferred capital improvements requirements amount to about \$2 billion or \$40 to \$50 million annually. This includes Quimby funds, grants. There has been discussion of a possible bond measure for capital improvements.
  - iv. The City and the IOC recently agreed that the latter will provide the city \$150 million over 9 years for youth sports programming. The current plan will also involve a 10 fee per participant, except for low income participants.
  - v. Mr. Schull noted that the City Charter designates R&P as the City's emergency shelter provider.
  - vi. He described a pilot program involving the testing of a hands free, self-cleaning portable restroom underway at North Hollywood Park.
  - vii. The city currently has 500 parks comprising 60,000 acres. Currently only 56% of the population resides within 1/2 mile of a park. Mr. Schull stressed that the primary goal of R&P is park access equity, i.e. to assure there is a park within 1/2 mile of each resident. For the present this means the emphasis will be upon expanding parks in neighborhoods that are park poor, which generally are in the densely populated low income neighborhoods. R&P has opened 43 parks within past 6 years, but this includes pocket parks. There is a need for larger parks with sufficient space for playing fields. One way R&P is helping to provide park space in park poor neighborhoods is through a joint-use agreement with LAUSD to open elementary and middle schools as

community school parks during after schools hours, holidays and weekends. His goal is to open 12 additional schools next year and 30 over the next 5 years.

- viii. He took a number of questions and the Chair suggested that members send her their additional questions and she will forward them to Mr. Schull.
- b. The Chair introduced \_\_\_\_ from the L.A City Attorney's Office who addressed illegal tobacco sales etc. She was accompanied Gloria Pardo of the City Attorney's Tobacco Enforcement Unit.
  - i.

## **V. Government Rep. Updates**

- a. Office of Mayor Garcetti: Ami Fields-Meyer was not present.
- b. Dept. of City Planning: Fipe Leilua was not present.
- c. Los Angeles Department of Water & Power: Deborah Hong gave a brief report, concerning requests for tree trimming. She stressed that while DWP will trim trees that are within a 4' radius of a DWP power line, it is not a landscaping service.
- d. Office of L.A. City Councilmember Paul Koretz (CD 5): Jasmine Shamolian described a new low-cost HHH project at Santa Monica Blvd. and Veteran that will provide housing for homeless senior veterans.
- e. Office of L.A. City Councilmember Mike Bonin (CD 11): Ben LaZebnik I commented on the response of the City and community to the recent Getty Fire.
- f. Office of L.A. City Attorney Mike Feuer: Veronica de la Cruz Robles ...
- g. Los Angeles Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment: Semee Park....
- h. Los Angeles Board of Neighborhood Commissioners: Eli Lipmen ""
- i. Office of L.A. County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl: Erin Seinfeld described recent action by the Board of Supervisors establishing rent control ordinance.
- j. Office of LA County Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas: Omar Prioleau not present.
- k. Office of CA Senator Ben Allen: Colby Harriman/Lauren Robinson not present.
- l. Office of CA Assemblymember Richard Bloom: Josh Kurpies not present.
- m. Office of U.S. Representative Karen Bass: Jacqueline Hamilton not present.
- n. Office of U.S. Representative Ted Lieu: Janet Turner not present.
- o. Office of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein: Jeanette Christian not present.

**VI. New Business-** Following the presentation on the proposed tobacco restrictions, the Chair entertained a motion to oppose any exceptions to the proposed ban on flavored tobacco products. Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the motion was unanimously adopted. Although there will not be time for the WRAC member organizations to act on the motion, given the strong feelings of the WRAC members present, she will convey the sentiment to the City Council and suggested that individual representatives should consider expressing their views to the City Council.

**VII. Old Business-** None.

**VIII. Updates on Pending Motions—**

Full motion text can be available at [westsidecouncils.com/pending](http://westsidecouncils.com/pending).

\*Council passed a modified version of the motion.

- a. Supporting City Sign Ordinance, Version B+, from PLUM, regulating billboard signage on buildings and moving vehicles, in digital or traditional formats, so as to guard against blight and maintain community integrity as well as public safety.
- b. Deny business license or dockless mobility permit, or revoke such license or permit, to any operator or provide which fails or refuses to cooperate fully with law enforcement in providing information about the user of its device, if/when involved in a an accident causing injury.
- c. Requesting that they State mandate the gathering and sharing of ride-share data/information with cities and towns in order for communities to be able to better asses of ride-share services add to or detract from traffic, and/or impact mobility.
- d. Requesting ZA Deny drill site approval for CEB Industrial equipment within Rancho Park Public Golf Course.  
Table due to temporary halt issues to operator... pending update...
- e. LA River motion
- f. Support for Wildland Motion proposed by CM Bonin

- g. Support for Campaign Contribution Motion by CM Ryu
- h. Support for the CEQA Appeals Code Amendment of June 6, 2018  
Tabled
- i. Density Bonus tracking
- j. Oil drilling safety conditions at Rancho Park Golf Course  
Passed by BCC, MVCC, WNC

***IX. Adjourn***

The meeting was adjourned at about 10:30 and the next regular meeting will be on January 20, 2019; 8:30 a.m. at the WLA Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Twinning