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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 February 19, 2020

Location

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

I. Welcome/Introductions.

- a. The WRAC Board met for its regular monthly meeting on February 19, 2019, Chair Maryam Zar called the meeting to order and began introductions at approximately 8:40 a.m.
- b. **Representatives Present:** Robin Greenberg (BABCNC;); Larry Watts (BCC); Matt Wersinger Del Rey NC; Stacy Shure (MVCC) Andrew Lewis (NWWNC); Chris Spitz (PPCC); Ira Koslow (VNC); Jane Wishon (WNC); Roozbel Farahanipour WWNC; and Steve Sann (WWCC).
- c. **Alternates present:** Nickie Miner (BABCNC); Mark Ryavec (VNC) and Barbara Broide (WNC).
- d. **Also present:** Steve Twining, Secretary (BABCNC), and the government representatives identified below.

II. Approval of Minutes.

- a. The draft minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting were approved.

III. Committee Updates

- a. *Land Use:* No report..
- b. *Mobility:* No report.
- c. *501(C)(3):* No discussion.
- d. *Events:* None were announced.

IV. Member Updates.

- a. Member Watts announced BCC will host a homeless forum on March 25, 2020 at the Kaufman Library at 11820 San Vicente Boulevard.

V. Presentation.

- a. The Chair introduced Captain Jonathan Tom, the new Commanding Officer of the WLA Police Station.
 - i. He summarized his lengthy history with the WLA area and though it is outside his control, he hopes to remain in this position until his retirement in 6 years.
 - ii. Since assuming his new position he has visited with four Neighborhood and Community Councils and looks forward to meeting with additional councils and other community groups.
 - iii. He explained that the LAPD West Bureau encompasses 64.7 square miles and has 240 officers of all ranks.
- b. He reported generally on the general reduction in both the level of crime in Los Angeles and that the area covered by the WLA Police Station was No. 1 in Part One Crime reduction in 2019, with a 13% drop. He said this has been accomplished with a 25% reduction in officer involved shootings.
- c. The Chair next introduced City Attorney Michael Feuer.
 - i. Neighborhood Prosecutors: There are now 28 versus 8 when he became City Attorney, with one in each LAPD Division plus 5 additional regional NP's in hot spots.
 - ii. Neighborhood Justice Program: The NJP is a neighborhood-focused restorative justice initiative addressing root causes of criminal behavior, reducing recidivism, enhancing community relationships and promoting public safety and quality of life. NJP is a pre-filing diversion program in which first-time offenders and other eligible individuals are given an opportunity to repair the harm they caused through a community-based process, instead of in a courtroom. It allows the individual to take responsibility while avoiding having a criminal record. The goal is that they have no future contact with law enforcement.
 - iii. Homeless Crisis: He described a personal interaction he experienced with a homeless woman in his own Fairfax neighborhood. He learned she was a member of the Texas Bar who had fallen on hard times. He has been able to link her up with a California lawyer who is now helping her prepare for the California Bar. He used this as an example of why we all need to relate to the homeless and to advocate for them to receive the necessary services that address the underlying circumstances that have contributed to their becoming homeless. He also stressed the need to help people before they become homeless. The City submitted a brief in *Boise* supporting review by the Supreme

Court. In addressing homelessness, the focus should be on housing, services, how people comport themselves on the street and distances between encampments, homeless shelters and schools.

1. There were numerous questions concerning this issue from members, a proposal VNC, the impact of short term rental properties upon long term residential housing rentals.
2. Feuer said 4700 initial STR enforcement warning letters and 1700 second warning letters have been sent.
- 3.

iv. .

VI. 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 the concerning pending projects.
- d.** Office of L.A. City Councilmember Mike Bonin (CD 11): Ben LaZebnik stated Councilman Bonin.
- e.** Office of L.A. City Councilmember Paul Koretz (CD 5): Debbie Dwyer-Harris not present.
- f.** Office of L.A. City Attorney Mike Feuer: Veronica de la Cruz Robles was present.
- g.** Los Angeles Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment: Semee Park not present.
- h.** Los Angeles Board of Neighborhood Commissioners: Eli Lipmen not present.
- i.** Office of L.A. County Supervisor Sheila Kuehl: Zachary Gaidzik was present.
- 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 Assembly member Richard Bloom: Josh Kurpies was not present.
- m.** Office of U.S. Representative Karen Bass: Jacqueline Hamilton not present.
- a.** Office of U.S. Representative Ted Lieu: Janet Turner reminded members that 33rd Cong. District residents can compete in an art competition and that students interested in attending a Service Academy should attend an event with Military recruiters on February 29.
- b.** Office of U.S. Senator Dianne Feinstein: Jeanette Christian not present.

VII. New Business: There was discussion of various possible motions, including a Del Rey NC motion relating to dockless scooters, a MVCC motion regarding data sharing concerning accidents, school fencing rules, a VNC motion supporting an ordinance with the *Martin* decision with respect to the homeless. No action was taken and the secretary suggested proponents of motions first submit them in writing so they can be circulated in advance of meetings.

VIII. Old Business- None.

IX. Updates on Pending Motions— There were no updates.

X. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at about 10:30 and the next regular meeting will be on March 18, 2020; 8:30 a.m. at the WLA Municipal Building.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Twinning, Secretary