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Westwood Neighborhood Council

MINUTES

WRAC Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 15th 2021 – 6:00pm

Webinar link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85804559642>
Or Dial 888 475 4499 (Toll Free) Webinar ID 858 0455 9642

ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE AT
<https://tinyurl.com/9hh9sdey>

1. **Welcome/Introductions:** Chair Wersinger called the meeting to order at 6:04pm.
9 Representatives present: Matt Wersinger (WRAC Chair) (DRNC), Christina Spitz (WRAC Vice-Chair) (PPCC), Robin Greenberg (WRAC Secretary) (BABCNC), Michael Lynn (SORONC), James Murez (VNC), Jane Wishon (WNC), Lisa Chapman (WWNC), Member Randell Erving (PNC); and Steve Sann (WCC). (*Member Handal was present briefly then left.*)
Nonvoting Alternates present: Barbara Broide (WNC) & Ravi Sankaran, (DRNC)
Also present: Deborah Hong, Senior PR Representative of LADWP and Sabrina Tsui from DWP; WRAC Land Use Committee Co-Chairs Marlene Savage & Kay Hartman; Michelle Persoff Representative of ASM Isaac Bryan; Angel Izard, Representative of CD5 Councilmember Paul Koretz and Veronica De La Cruz, LA City Neighborhood Prosecutor was also in attendance.
 - a. **Chair Updates** Chair Wersinger gave update on letters done and those still to be done.
 - b. **Upcoming Guests** – The next WRAC online Board meeting will take place on December 20, 2021, with our special guest, LA County District Attorney George Gascon. Senator Ben Allen is tentatively set as our guest speaker on January 17, 2022. Chair Wersinger has invited U.S. Representative Karen Bass for a future meeting (availability TBD). The Board briefly discussed having candidates running for CD5 & CD11.
2. **Government Reports -**
 - a. **Mayor's Office TBD** – Chair Wersinger noted that Vishesh Anand has moved on from Councilmember Bonin's office and will be the new *West Area* Representative for the Mayor.
 - b. **Council Reports:** Ms. Angel Izard from CD5 encouraged getting your booster. She noted that the ban on single plastic bags is actually not a ban but requires people requesting use of the bags. Regarding 41-18, two resolutions passed and they're working out when to get signage up – which has to be up for two weeks.
 - c. **Karen Bass** – Jacqueline Hamilton was not present.

- d. **LADWP** – Deborah Hong introduced Sabrina Tsui, DWP Manager of Resources Development, who shared a Power Point presentation on California’s water resources and water supply conditions. She noted that the Governor extended the drought emergency proclamation for the entire state; a call for conservation of 15%, as previously made by the Governor in the summer. We have been through two dry years and going into a third one. She discussed LA’s diverse supply portfolio. Most of our water supplies are imported from hundreds of miles away.

Ms. Tsui discussed current restrictions, including limitation of three-days a week outdoor watering; permanent restrictions that include no water should flow off your property or leak from pipes, no hosing of driveways, sidewalks or other surfaces, no washing vehicles without using a self-closing nozzle. They are going into Phase 3 with watering only two (2) days a week. There are penalties for unreasonable use of water.

They have various programs, and water rates are on a tier-level rate structure; information on programs for rebates and website on how to take advantage of rebates. They have future plans for storm water capture, ground-water remediation, and recycled water program, Purple Pipe, the ground water replenishment program, using treated recycled water. Operation NEXT recycles 100% of waste water to supplement water supply program within DWP.

Member Broide (WNC) asked how to get enforcement and how to create more awareness to which Ms. Tsui noted that there is a conservation number and they’ll send someone out to take a look at it. Call 1-800-544-4498; email waterconservation@ladwp.com

Member Murez (VNC) asked if she could share her slide on rebates, to which Ms. Tsui responded that she will along with fact sheets on different items available.

Ravi Sankaran, Vice Chair of DRNC, asked about conflicting information in terms of increasing recycling in the past five years to which Ms. Tsui noted that they are ramping up the recycling program to meet the Mayor’s targets/Green New Deal goals... In 2035 peaking at the 30,000 acre feet of recycled water. Next program will increase recycled water more. She noted that they have done quite a bit, working with LASAN on the Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant.

Member Broide asked regarding the availability of water for an additional 450,000 new housing units within eight years, and how DWP interacts with Housing & Planning. Ms. Tsui noted that they work with Planning.

- e. **Additional Government Reports** – Michelle Persoff, Field Rep for Assemblymember Isaac Bryan in District 54 gave brief updates: they have had Veterans Day events, the Ballona Creek cleanup last weekend, and the ASM got back from COP26, where he spoke on a panel on environmental justice. They are planning a winter event. She encouraged emailing him. <https://lcmspubcontact.lc.ca.gov/PublicLCMS/ContactPopup.php?district=AD54> They have a form for legislative items on their website. If you as an individual or part of a nonprofit have legislation that you want to propose, that form is the way to go. They’ll be back in the legislature in a few weeks. <https://a54.asmdc.org/there-ought-be-law-2022-submission-form-54th-assembly-district>

Member Broide related concerns to Ms. Persoff about institutional investors buying single family homes, for which City Council has introduced a motion to identify strategies to halt this process, and mentioned that Senator Hertzberg is introducing legislation for first-time homeowners buying a house near Rapid Transit. She asked if the Assemblymember's office would consider legislation helping people on security deposits, loans, to help people stay off the streets.

3. Board Member Updates - None

4. Committee Reports –WRAC's Land Use Committee Co-Chairs, Marlene Savage and Kay Hartman, gave report: Marlene noted that they were very fortunate to have Stacy Shure back with them for the last two months, and Lisa Hart, who gave good updates, suggestions and guidelines on how to work with developers for sustainability. Kay noted that they entertained three motions, two of which passed and are on the agenda here, one about SB330 and the double counting of affordable units, and the other about SB9, being able to amend the housing element to include SB9 as to Adequate Sites Housing Inventory. They discussed AB1401 re parking minimums for developments. Next meeting is Dec. 5th. Chair Wersinger noted that there will be a Transportation Meeting. He noted that Member Handal is not here to give update on the Homelessness Committee.

5. Public Comment – Louis Abramson introduced himself as being a board member on the Central Hollywood Neighborhood Council, who is running for Assembly District 50. www.louisforca.com

6. Approval of Minutes —

a. **Motion (Matt Wersinger)** – Approval of October 2021 meeting minutes
Moved by Wersinger/Lynn; **approved** with **1 abstention** by Member Chapman.

7. New Business

a. **Motion (DRNC/Matt Wersinger)** – The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils supports CF 21-1115, which calls for legislation to ban ‘chop shops’ from City streets.

Moved by Wersinger/Spitz. Wersinger noted that this calls for drafting of legislation, looking at what Long Beach put in place; prevents doing business on public right of way. Member Murez (VNC) noted that his council put this on their agenda and checked the City Council motion which provided specified exceptions for licensed businesses and individuals making repairs or present while repairs are being made to their own bicycles. **10-0-0; passed**

b. **Motion (WRAC LUPC/Matt Wersinger)** - The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils requests that the City of Los Angeles, through the Council's Government Affairs Committee, include in its Sacramento legislative priorities the following request for revisions to SB 330, and implement local regulations in conformance with such revisions, if enacted, as follows:

- i. When RSO units are demolished and replaced pursuant to the provisions and protections in SB330, any units that must be provided pursuant to a density bonus under SB1818 or SB1222A shall be additive to those numbers of replacement units that are required pursuant to SB330 (instead of “inclusive”).
- ii. All replacement units shall be of comparable size and configuration (i.e. they shall have the same number of bedrooms and at least the same square footage).

Moved by Wersinger/Wishon. Kay Hartman gave background on this motion,

noting that when we are building a project with a density bonus, they have to give so many units to affordable housing and SB330 says that they have to replace RSO units 1:1. She noted that they are counting those units as the same, so we are replacing RSO units instead of adding new affordable units. There is a one-word mistake in the bill that was passed, that said “should” instead of “should *not*” be counted. We need to get it fixed so the affordable units are additive, because we are tearing down and not increasing affordable units. No questions were asked nor discussion held. **Passed** by **10-0-1**, with Vice Chair Spitz abstaining. This goes out to member councils.

- c. **Motion (WRAC LUPC/Chris Spitz)** - The Westside Regional Alliance of Councils supports Council File 21-0002-S186 which seeks to support any Sacramento legislative or administrative action that will allow the City to include SB 9 sites in an addendum to the Housing Element thus allowing for the inclusion of these SB 9 sites in the Adequate Sites for Housing inventory. **Moved** by Spitz/Wishon. Vice Chair Spitz noted that Kay went over this earlier. Vice Chair Spitz noted that she is on that committee but it was Member Broide who brought it to the committee. Member Broide gave some detailed background on this, and noted that that the addendum will give us time to take into account SB9. Member Murez (VNC) asked if the addendum would be saying something to the effect that subdivided lots occurring during the first phase would be counted before or after they were subdivided, to which Member Broide noted that she could not tell us how they would be allowed to count them... **10-0-0; passed unanimously**. Vice Chair Spitz clarified that when you agendaize these motions they are not already a WRAC position. It is a WRAC-recommended motion not a position yet.

8. Old Business

- a. **21-11 City Attorney Opinion re Financial Interest of Developer** – May 17, 2021 (*passage deadline November 2021*); 5 councils adopted: BABCNC, PalmsNC, WLASNC, WNC, WWNC
- b. **21-16 Oppose Misuse of Specific Plan Process** – June 21, 2021 (*passage deadline November 2021*); 5 councils adopted: BABCNC, NCWP, WLASNC,* WNC, WWNC (**modified version*)
- c. **21-17 Support for ACA 7** – June 21, 2021 (*passage deadline November 2021*); 6 councils adopted: BABCNC, NCWP, PPCC, WLASNC, WNC, WWNC
- It was noted that **a, b & c are due to expire** this month. Vice Chair Spitz noted that Mar Vista has all three of these on the agenda, and **moved** to continue the deadline another 30 days, to the end of December. Member Lynn (SORONC) also has all five on his NC’s agenda. (*Say it is a recommendation from WRAC.*) **Seconded** by Wersinger; **10-0-0; passed**.
- d. **21.19 Support for CF 21-0929 (Buscaino/Koretz)** – Sept. 20, 2021 (*passage deadline December 2021*); 6 councils adopted: BCC, NCWP, PPCC, VNC, WNC, WWNC
- e. **21.20 Request for CMs to cooperate with Member Councils re designation of sites under 41.18** – Sept. 20, 2021 (*passage deadline December 2021*); 6 councils adopted: BCC,* MVCC, PPCC, VNC, WNC, WWNC (**modified version*)

9. Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 7:00pm

Next meeting will be held on December 20th 2021 at 6pm.