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DRAFT MINUTES

WRAC Meeting of the Board of Directors
November 21st 2022 – 6:30 pm

Webinar link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87275111207>

Or Dial (669) 900 9128 **Webinar ID** 872 7511 1207

ALL SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS AVAILABLE AT

<https://tinyurl.com/nhhu354p>

1. Welcome/Introductions

- a. Call to order and certification of quorum:** Chair Robin Greenberg called the meeting to order at approximately 6:30 pm, gave welcoming comments, and quorum was met.

10 Present: Robin Greenberg (WRAC Chair) (BABCNC), Chris Spitz (Co-Chair) (PPCC), Carolyn Jordan (BCC), Steve Sann (WCC), Lisa Chapman (WWNC), Ravi Sankaran (DRNC), Matthew Wait (PalmsNC), Michael Lynn (SORONC), James Murez (VNC), and Jane Wishon (WNC). [Andrew Lewis (NWNC), appeared at the very end of the meeting, had a screen up on the Zoom call but was otherwise absent.]

Nonvoting Alternates Present: Nickie Miner (BABCNC) and Barbara Broide (WNC).

Also Present: Jarrett Thompson CD5 Representative, Veronica de la Cruz from the LA City Attorney's office, Neighborhood Prosecutor for the WLA Police Station, WRAC's PSEPC Chair Judie Hulett, and WRAC's MTC Chair, Selena Inouye.

- b. Chair Updates – None.**

- c. Discussion and possible board action regarding potential future WRAC “meet and greet” events with newly elected officials** Member Sann (WCC) opened this item up for discussion and suggested holding these meetings in person at the Belmont Senior Living facility on Wilshire Blvd. in Westwood. He offered to make arrangements. Vice-Chair Spitz (PPCC) suggested trying for a Monday morning in January or February, when City Council meetings are not scheduled, starting with our new CD 11 and CD 5 Councilmembers Traci Park and Katy Young Yaroslavsky. She offered to reach out first to Traci Park (with whom she has already communicated) after Park is sworn in on December 12, since Park is now setting up her staff, as is Yaroslavsky. Once a date is decided for the event with Park, we can then reach out to Yaroslavsky. The WRAC board would later determine which additional elected officials we would invite to speak to the board. Member Jordan (BCC) suggested that these should be meet and greet events without regular business conducted. There was general consensus to hold these events on Monday mornings at 8:30am, separate from regular WRAC board meetings. As to the venue, Member Sann noted that the Belmont facility would not charge a fee, has parking and is a nice room, but it would be fine if WRAC members wished to consider another location. Other locations were discussed. Chair Greenberg and Vice-Chair Spitz agreed to proceed to make

arrangements for meet and greet events, beginning with Park and Yaroslavsky, on Monday mornings in January and February, likely at Belmont (exact dates and venue to be determined).

- d. **Discussion on whether to have a meeting in December:** Chair Greenberg asked and following discussion there was a unanimous vote to *not* have a meeting in December. If something comes up before the January meeting we can take action.

2. **Government Reports –**

- a. **Mayor's Office –** TBD – None
- b. **Council Reports –** Jarrett Thompson noted that the CD5 office is coming into their final weeks and to reach out to him if we have questions. He expressed thanks to this body and noted that CD5 is actively working until 12/09. Questions were asked and answered, with Jarrett noting that he would reach out to Jim Bickhart and respond to Member Broide's question.
- c. **Additional Government Reports –** City Attorney & Neighborhood Prosecutor Veronica De La Cruz noted that we have a new City Attorney coming, Hydee Feldstein-Soto, and that once she comes on board, Ms. de La Cruz will let us know if there is a new direction for the City Attorney's office.

- 3. **Board Member Updates –** None. Vice-Chair Spitz asked if Andrew Lewis was present as he had a screen picture up but had not been responsive. She requested that the minutes show that he is *not* here until we hear from him.

4. **Committee Reports –**

- a. **WRAC Transportation & Mobility Committee –** MTC Chair Selena Inouye noted that the MTC had been meeting regularly and voted to meet on Wednesday December 21st to talk about issues that come up before the year's end. They have two outstanding motions awaiting council votes, the speed limit reduction motion, extended to December, and the Venice Boulevard motion, for January, in addition to two motions on tonight's agenda. She'd like the councils that have not appointed a representative to the MTC to do so as soon as possible.

- b. **WRAC Public Safety & Emergency Preparedness Committee –** PSEPC Chair Judie Hulett gave an update, noting that the committee has been busy brainstorming on various issues, and writing up little vignettes or paragraphs with information about LAPD, public safety and/or emergency preparedness matters. The PSEPC members are writing two to four a month, trying to be proactive, and she asked for permission to send these to individual member Councils to decide if they want to use or not in newsletters. The board approved the PSEPC proceeding with this proposal. Judie also stressed the importance of CERT training and will be reaching out to member Councils to share information. She'd like to contact the five councils who are not represented on the PSEPC to find out what they are doing, starting in January.

- c. **WRAC Land Use & Planning Committee** has not met.

- d. **WRAC Homelessness Committee** has not met.

- 5. **Public Comment –** Barbara Broide alerted the WRAC board that Metro has released the EIR for the Metro Transportation Communication Network project to put digital billboards on the streets, which she noted is being pushed through with little public outreach. They've scheduled a December 2nd (sic) [1st] board meeting, and only just released the Final EIR which gives people little time to review it.

She would have letters go out that say there has not been adequate outreach, this program should have more review and discussion and they should not be trying to get a board vote on December 2nd.

<https://www.metro.net/projects/transportation-communication-network/>

Jim Murez noted that a few years ago he had floated an idea before VNC to try to get other City departments to participate in an MOU similar to that which NCs have with the DCP, to notify us of project permit requests. He noted that WRAC did not get enough votes for this at that time but he continues to think we should get that type of information from departments such as Transportation, Public Works, Filming, etc., as per the City Charter, Sec. 907. Vice-Chair Spitz noted that we have a standing rule that we expect notice of any type of projects or development planned in our neighborhoods. Member Murez noted this involves having an early notification system rather than us having to pull that information.

6. Approval of Minutes –

a. Motion (Robin Greenberg) – Approval of 1) October 24, 2022 meeting minutes and 2) October 26, 2022 special meeting minutes, moved by Chair Greenberg (BABCNC), seconded by Vice Chair Spitz (PPCC). There was no discussion, and **both sets of minutes were approved**, with 3 abstentions on the 10/24 main meeting minutes from Members Murez, Wait, and Lynn, and 3 abstentions on the 10/26 special meeting minutes from Members Chapman, Murez, and Jordan.

7. New Business

a. Motion (Chair) to approve appointment of Maryam Zar as co-chair of WRAC LUPC **passed** unanimously, as moved by Vice Chair Spitz and seconded by Member Jordan (BCC).

b. Motion (MTC) regarding the IKE (interactive kiosk) program

____ NC/CC opposes the IKE program as present in Council File 22-1154 for the following reasons:

- There is no local competitive bidding process.
- This project needs a financial analysis, as it is using public space to generate revenue.
- This project has negative environmental impacts and there is no environmental review (CEQA).
- This project creates visual pollution and takes away space on the sidewalk that could be used for trees.
- This project is a source of driver distraction, which is contrary to the City's Vision Zero policy.

The above motion was moved by Vice Chair Spitz (PPCC), seconded by Member Lynn (SORONC) and **passed** by 9 yeses, 1 no from Member Wait (PalmsNC) & 0 abstentions.

c. Motion (MTC) regarding bus lanes violations enforcement

____ NC/CC supports Council File 21-1224 regarding Bus Lane Violation Enforcement.

Chair Greenberg introduced this as she had read up on it and noted that it is for parking violations only, *not* moving violations for people using the bus lane. Two traffic officers would

be hired to issue parking citations for illegally parking in bus lanes during rush hour. This was approved a year ago, directing a report back from LADOT. The motion was moved by Member Murez (VNC), and seconded by Member Wishon (WNC). There was no discussion and the motion passed by 8 yeases, 0 noes and 2 abstentions from Vice Chair Spitz and Member Lynn.

8. Old Business

- a. **22.28. Support for Position re Ordinance 187427 (Speed Limit Reductions)** – July 18, 2022 (passage deadline October 2022); 2 councils have adopted: PPCC, WNC* (*modified version*). It was noted that Venice and Westwood NC also passed this, and we will add these to the list. A motion to extend this to January passed as moved by Vice Chair Spitz (PPCC) and seconded by Member Jordan (BCC).

- b. **22.31. Support for Letter re Mistreatment of Animals at City Animal Shelters** – August 15, 2022 (passage deadline November 2022); 7 councils have adopted: BABNC, BCC, DRNC, MVCC, SORO NC, WNC, WWNC. *Possible motion to extend passage deadline one month.*

Motion to extend this to January awaiting one more council passed unanimously, as moved by Vice Chair Spitz and seconded by Member Wishon (WNC). It was noted that Venice will have this on the December meeting.

- c. **22.32. Venice Blvd. Improvements Project Concerns/Withhold Support (CF 22-0694)** - October 24, 2022 (passage deadline January 2023); 2 council have adopted: VNC, WNC* (*modified version*).

- d. **22.33. Call for Resignation of CMs de Leon and Cedillo** – October 26, 2022 (passage deadline January 2023); 9 councils passed motions calling for the CMs' resignation, thus authorizing WRAC position letter: BABNC, DRNC, MVCC, PPCC, NCWP, VNC, WNC, WWNC, WWNC. *Letter sent November 14, 2022: <https://westsidecouncils.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/WRAC-letter-re-CM-Resignations.pdf>*

Member Lynn noted that SORONC passed this. Andrew Lewis just appeared at this point and related that NWNC has passed it.

We will add SORONC & NWNC.

9. **Adjourn** – The meeting adjourned at 7:27pm to January 16, 2023 at 6:30 – MLK Day. Chair Greenberg was asked to consider that this is a holiday, to which Vice Chair Spitz noted that we have had our meetings on MLK Day for the last three years, and Chair Greenberg noted that she will consider it but for now the next meeting will be on January 16, 2023.