



MINUTES

WRAC Meeting of the Board of Directors April 17, 2023 – 6:30pm

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/5n8wnm3z>

Items on the Agenda may be taken in any order at the discretion of the Chair

1. Welcome/Introductions

- a. Call to Order and Certification of Quorum:** Chair Greenberg (BABCNC) called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM, welcomed everyone, and noted that quorum was met. Secretary/Treasurer Laferriere-Holloway called the roll.

11 Present: Robin Greenberg (WRAC Chair) (BABCNC), Chris Spitz (WRAC Vice-Chair) (PPCC), Tyler Laferriere-Holloway (WRAC Secretary & Treasurer) (MVCC), Carolyn Jordan (BCC), Ravi Sankaran (DRNC), Andrew Lewis (NWNCC), James Murez (VNC), Jane Wishon (WNC), Steve Sann (WCC), Lisa Chapman (WWNC) Walton Chiu (WLASNC). (Michael Lynn was present briefly near the end of the meeting.)

Nonvoting Alternates Present: Nickie Miner (BABCNC)

Also Present: Barbara Broide, Immediate Past WNC Alternate, continued WNC Board Member, and continued Member of WRAC committees, and Veronica de la Cruz, WLA Div. Neighborhood Prosecutor, City Attorney’s Office.

b. Chair Updates –

- (1) **WRAC Board Member Roundtables –** Chair Greenberg noted that we have had successful roundtables and thanked Steve Sann who has made it possible for us to hold these roundtables at the Belmont. Vice-Chair Spitz thanked Member Jane Wishon who was very instrumental in securing the Mayor for June 26th. Chair Greenberg thanked everyone who helped us secure the upcoming guests speakers.

Upcoming:

May 22 – County Supervisor Lindsey Horvath

June 5 – City Attorney Hydee Feldstein Soto

June 26 (*new*) – Mayor Karen Bass

Date TBD (*new*) – Congressman Ted Lieu

- (2) **Board Meeting Guest Speakers/Presentations –**

Upcoming:

May 15 – Assemblymember Tina McKinnor; *also invited:* Capt. III Michael Applegate, Commanding Officer, LAPD Pacific Division

Dates TBD: Congressmembers Brad Sherman & Sydney Kamlager-Dove; State Senators Ben Allen & Lola Smallwood-Cuevas; Supervisor Holly Mitchell
[Attention was turned to Michael Amster, CD11 while awaiting the Assemblymember.]

2. Government Reports/Speakers

a. Assemblymember Isaac Bryan (AD 55) assemblymember.bryan@assembly.ca.gov.

Chair Greenberg welcomed Asm. Bryan, who represents several member council areas, including Mar Vista, Palms, Del Rey, South Robertson and parts of Westside and Westchester. He greeted us and related a list of his many roles and positions. The Assemblymember noted that they introduce bills in January/February, and that he has close to 27 bills on issues included but not limited to green jobs, smoother elections, and the referendum process. He also related recent accomplishments. He is chair of the Elections Referendum Committee, which is working with partners to change that process. Next Weekend on Earth Day they are opening the Climate Justice Center at WLA Community College (CA Center for Climate Change Ed & Earth Day Event on Saturday April 22, 2023.) He discussed his legislative items involving the Child Welfare System, working with Senator Ben Allen and Assemblymember Rick Zbur on some bills. He and the Assemblymember are championing an ALS bill this year, (Asm. Zbur's sister died after a three year battle with ALS.) He discussed his goal is to bring home the resources to build up community infrastructure, to get more folks housed, noting that they will audit a lot of the homeless money given out to make sure every penny spent is going towards the solution. Questions were asked and answered. Member Wishon asked and he noted that the bill number for Referendum Reform was AB 421 which would be heard in Elections Committee this Wednesday and AB 1512 was the bill involving Foster Youth Benefits. Assemblyman Bryan noted that we all recognize that there are problems to fix and it is about finding solutions, e.g., on commercial streets, housing for teachers; in Sacramento the biggest conversation is about labor, how to build and what does affordability really mean? If we root these conversations so folks can continue to live in the neighborhoods they grew up in. He noted that he'll come back and have a conversation about it. He noted that our transit corridors are not up and moving yet. We can't do it without an entire community infrastructure; otherwise we will create urban heat zones. He promises to work with everyone at the table including us. He thinks the LA we want to live in is beautiful. Chair Greenberg thanked the Assemblymember for being with us. He thanked us and wanted us to know that we have Michelle, whom he noted is the best there is.

b. Mayor's Office – Randall Winston, Deputy Mayor of Infrastructure

randall.winston@lacity.org

Chair Greenberg introduced Deputy Mayor of Infrastructure, Randall Winston, who thanked her for the introduction and noted that the Mayor just delivered her State of the City address. He emphasized that the Mayor's priorities include repairing and maintaining the public right-of-way (streets and sidewalks) in Los Angeles, which we are behind in, rebuilding trust in and improving City services and response times, including communications via the 311 app, which they are now "replatforming," filling numerous vacancies in public works positions as well as planning for future necessary capital infrastructure improvements. Mr. Winston answered numerous questions about infrastructure issues. Some comments included that the re-platforming of 311 will include a whole new set of services, filling gaps in feedback in the ways they communicate with us. As to transportation, he noted that we have had the worst year of traffic fatalities in LA history despite the launching of Vision Zero in 2015. Questions were asked and answered. He noted that he took our issues to heart. Vice Chair Spitz introduced herself asked that he tell the Mayor that we are thrilled that she is coming to our roundtable and that we'd love it if she could appoint a Westside deputy. He

thanked Chris for inviting him. We thanked Mr. Winston and look forward to more productive communications moving forward.

c. Council Reports –

- (1) **Fernando Morales, Deputy Chief of Staff – Council District 5/Yaroslavsky** gave quick update, noting that Jarrett Thompson, Transportation & Sr. Field Deputy could not be present this evening. He discussed the new Clean Team and would drop the link for the Clean Team within the newsletter for any requests. <https://bit.ly/CD5Newsletter> He related that the CD5 team is fully staffed. Jarrett will remain BABCNC's field rep, Patty Macias will focus on Westwood, and Vanessa Saldana will come in to the Palms and the Westside Neighborhood area. He gave an update including on the encampment at San Vicente in the Beverly Grove area; working with the Mayor for an Inside Safe for this location, and they have been coordinating with other districts regarding provision of services. He discussed the results of the heavy rains, including 20,000 pothole requests, and noted that the Councilwoman's motion passed in committee to stop the Bulgari Hotel. Questions were asked and answered. Comments and requests were made, to identify more sources for homeless housing, to get a working group on this. He noted that he discussed with the Councilwoman having a community working group.
- (2) **Michael Amster, Field Deputy – Council District 11/Park:** Michael related that he wanted to focus cleanups of homeless encampments, noting that the underpass at Barrington is as miserable as he has ever seen as a Field Deputy and it is a top priority for cleanup underneath the 10 Freeway early next week. He noted that when he started as Field Deputy for the Councilwoman, the encampment he had heard the most about was the Bundy Triangle. In the past week, the encampment he gets the most concerns and frustration about is in Brentwood, at San Vicente and Barrington by SorTino Restaurant. He has been in communication with SLO, Matt Kirk, LAHSA and LA Sanitation, and starting in May, and they'll clean up as frequently as they can, every time WLA gets a cleanup day. Working with Matt Kirk, in response to the community, this will get a lot of attention, in terms of homeless outreach and services as well as cleanup. Questions were asked and answered.

d. **Additional Government Reports –**

Janet Turner, Field Deputy – Congressman Ted Lieu: Janet noted the excitement about new housing that is opening, 230 units opened now, and on May 2nd the Congressman will be present for two new buildings, 205 and 208. The principal developer team is starting New Construction Buildings which will go up very fast, to provide 240 units, and they are in the planning stages for three more buildings. They expect 500 units by 2025, and a couple years after that 700. Janet related some of the congressman's legislative efforts, one of which is to advise Congress on AI; he has been writing letters to several agencies about the need for clean air in our area, and wrote to Medicare saying the nursing home standards need to be improved. Questions were asked and answered.

[Attention was turned back to #2.a., to hear from Assemblymember Isaac Bryan.]

3. Board Member Updates – Deferred

4. Committee Reports – Deferred

- a. **WRAC Transportation & Mobility Committee:** Chair Selena Inouye was not present.
- b. **WRAC Land Use & Planning Committee:** Chair, Maryam Zar (PPCC) was not present.
- c. **WRAC Homelessness Committee:** Chair Jay Handal (WLASNC) was not present.

5. Public Comment – There were no public comments on items NOT on the agenda.

6. Approval of Minutes

- a. The March 2023 meeting minutes were **approved** as **moved** by Chair Greenberg, and **seconded** by Vice Chair Spitz, with **11 yeases** from Chair Greenberg, Vice-Chair Spitz, Secretary/Treasurer LaFerriere-Holloway, and Members Jordan, Sankaran, Lewis, Murez, Sann, Chiu, Wishon, and Chapman, **0 noes, 0 abstentions; 3 absences.**

7. New Business

- a. **June 26th Board Meeting:** Discussion/possible action to change time, postpone or cancel meeting (in light of Roundtable with Mayor Bass now scheduled on same date)
Motion to skip the evening meeting June 26th, and have the Morning Roundtable that morning, and meet again on July 17th at our regular time was **moved** by Member Wishon and **seconded** by Vice-Chair Spitz. The motion **passed** by **10 yeases** from Chair Greenberg, Vice-Chair Spitz, Secretary/Treasurer LaFerriere-Holloway, and Members Jordan, Sankaran, Lewis, Sann, Chiu, Wishon, and Chapman, **0 noes,** and **1 abstention** from Member Murez.

8. Old Business

- a. **23.01. Request re RSO Housing Replacements** – February 20, 2023 (passage deadline May 2023); 4 councils adopted: BABCNC, WLASNC,* WNC, WWNC* (**modified version*).
- It was noted that Mar Vista will take this up and Venice may be taking this up.
- b. **23.02. Request for Audit of STAP Program** – February 20, 2023 (passage deadline May 2023); 6 councils adopted: BABCNC, BCC, PPCC, WCC, WNC, WWNC
- Member Sankaran noted that DRNC will be taking this up in May.
- c. **23.03. Community Plan Update Requests** – March 20, 2023 (passage deadline June 2023); 3 councils adopted: BCC, WWNC, WNC.
- Vice Chair Spitz noted that she believes PPCC will be taking this up.

[Attention was next turned to Item #2.c., to hear from CD5 Chief of Staff, Fernando Morales, representing Councilwoman Katy Yaroslavsky.]

Adjourn – Chair Greenberg adjourned the meeting at 8:32 PM, to May 15, 2023 at 6:30 pm.