

WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Minutes – September 22, 2010

As Amended – October 27, 2010

The meeting of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) was called to order by Vice Chair Cecilia Moreno at 6:16 PM at the Wilmington Senior Center, 1371 Eubank Ave., Wilmington.

“All stakeholders including residents, property and business owners, people who work in Wilmington, members of non-profit, educational, church, and service organization, representatives of local labor unions and participants at local parks and museums are encouraged to participate in the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC). The WNC and you can make a difference in the delivery of City services to our community.”

“As provided by the Brown Act, person in the audience may address the committee in connection with any agenda item or during the public comments period. Anyone desiring to speak please complete a speaker card and submit it to the secretary.”

Vice Chair Moreno indicated there were no translation services available.

1. Pledge of Allegiance led by Cecilia Moreno
Roll Call of Governing Board Members (11) confirming a quorum.
Present: Jack Babbitt, Marisela Caraballo, Donna Ethington, Socorro Fimbres, Arthur Hernandez, Robert Jasso, Bobby McNeel, Cecilia Moreno, Susan Ogle, Hank Osterhoudt, Susan M. Prichard,
Late: Jacqueline Garcia, Patrick Wilson
Excused: Tom Dahlgren, Patricia Sullivan,
Absent: Nelson Williams
2. Approval of Minutes for Previous Meeting
Motion (Kern/Hernandez) the Minutes of August 25, 2010 be approved as presented
Passed (11-0-2)
3. Los Angeles Police Department/Port of Los Angeles Police Department
Officer Crabbe/LAPD (Garcinela on vacation)
Auto Theft – Still a problem – Older Toyotas, Nissans and Hondas
Those with theft device not normally taken
Illegal Vendor Task Force
Some think this is a victimless crime
County Health Dept. sees outcome of tainted food
LA City – takes business away from legitimate enterprises
Cart vendors - not local, usually transported from downtown LA, feel safe in Wilmington
Gang Injunction – is working – covers most of Wilmington
Therefore violent crime is down
Not doing business in public anymore – mostly in alleys
If you see such a congregation, report to LAPD
Board Comments
Kern – Dumping of Stolen Vehicles on Wilmington Athletic Complex
Once determined stolen – “storm log” should handle within ten (10) hours

4. Public Comment

Cathy Beauregard, Adopt-A-Storm Drain – cathy.beauregard@gmail.com – 424-772-6293

This Saturday, 9/25, 9:00 a.m. to Noon, will be cleaning the Dominguez Channel

Last year removed 1.7 tons of trash in three (3) hours

Thank California Sulfur and Fastlane Trucking for their support of this effort

Adopt-A-Storm Drain - donation to Mr. Lara's clean-up of Cruces area – also this Sat.

Raymond Yu – Los Angeles County Young Democrats – www.lacyd.com

Announced a number of meetings: 9/23 – 10th Anniversary of the Cicada Restaurant

9/25 – 5p.m.-Midnight – Celebration in Chinatown

10/6 – DONE Budget Day - 8a – 5p – City Hall

Hemley Ordonez – hemly.ordonez@gmail.com

Looking for support for a Diaper Drive

Vice Chair Moreno will contact

Roberto Monroy – roberto@robertomonroy.com

October 8 – 6-9 p.m. – 1033 N. Avalon Blvd.

“MesoAmerica – A Journey into Our Past” – art exhibition

Everyone is invited – 310-522-9348

Victor Medina – victor.medina@gangfree.org

Please come out to support the Cruces area clean up this coming Saturday.

Lunch will be provided

Don Compton

Spoke about Item #7 – Information Item – felt presenter was a conflict of interest

Jose Sigala, 1328 Island Avenue (In Spanish, translated by Ms. Moreno)

Why 200+ Sexual predators living in Wilmington?

Why are there no BQ grills in Banning Park?

Why are so many of the private parking lots allowed to be so dirty?

5. Government Representatives

Bill Orton, Senator Wright – 562-427-1028

Wright's district only covers the water part of Wilmington

Marinas, port tenants, etc.

Board Comments

Kern – Mid October – Senior Center will close due to the lack of a State budget

Prichard – Felt all incumbents should be voted out if budget not passed soon

Celina Luna, Councilwoman Hahn's office - late – came from another meeting:

Things happening in Wilmington

1. Cruces Community Clean-Up – 9/25 – 8a – GAP, Tesoro, Watson Land all helping the residents
2. Rotary Garage Sale, 9/25, at the Wilmington Senior Center
3. Wilmington Chamber Mixer – 9/29 – 4:30 p.m. – Announce New Honorary Mayor – at the Drum Barracks/Councilwoman Hahn – co-hosting
4. PCH/Sanford signalization – full report is forthcoming
5. Alameda Buffer Improvements Celebration – 9/27 – 10a at Wilmington Industrial Park
6. Casual Hall concerns – ILWU/PMA meeting with Councilwoman Han – 9/23
7. New Harbor College President to speak to WNC
8. Senior Citizen Housing/Dana Strand – groundbreaking in October
9. Water & Power Commission to meet in POLA Building on 10/5

10. Truck Task Force will monitor Cruces area to make sure correct route used

Board Comments

Kern – ADA Ramps –

Appears crews are replacing current ramps rather than creating new ones –
see Eubank/PCH, Avalon/“E” Street

Wilson – PCH Speed Limit Signs – who responsible

CalTrans sets speeds

Need to look at 25mph sign

Lara – Feels CalTrans should also reset speed limit in front of Tesoro – speed trap

Ogle – Chamber Mixer next Wednesday

Hosted by Drum Barracks and Councilwoman Hahn

Hernandez – Sanford, Colon, Cruces and “O” Street

Trucks are cracking all the curbs – can the City fix?

6. Presentations

a. Griffith Company Award – Sadaqat Rana

Oscar Espinoza presented with a plaque and \$1000

Called 911 at 2:00 a.m. in the morning while witnessing someone stealing copper conduit
from a subcontractor’s site.

Mr. Sadaqat considered Mr. Espinoza involvement heroic and thanked WNC for allowing
him to publicly acknowledge this young man in a public forum.

b. Homeless Outreach Program – Kevin Driscoll – kdriscoll@hopics.org

City effort, federally funded - \$30 Million

He provided brochures to the Board and left others for the public

This group can help with moving costs, security deposits and rental assistance

They can also help with homelessness prevention issues

c. BNSF Improvements to Watson Rail Yard – Donna Ethington

WNC Board Member. Chair of the Transportation Committee

See attachment for information

Board Comments

Caraballo – Thank you for presentation

Hernandez – Thank you for presentation and BNSF for their efforts

Public Comment

Compton – Susan Nakamura – BNSF Study

indicates carcinogens in the air due to their operation

d. Residents Quick Reference Guide – Donna Ethington

Worked on this effort with City Attorney Neighborhood Prosecutor, Justin Houterman

Needs to be translated into Spanish – Annabell Romero offered her talents to this task

Will be posted to the WNC website

e. Overweight Truck Corridor – Celina Luna

Provided map of the area – PCH, Sanford, “M” Street

Will only go into effect once the signal at PCH/Sanford installed

This is to accommodate trucks servicing businesses in the area

Board Comments

Wilson – State trucking requirements

80,000 lbs. need special permit from CHP

LA City permit, biennial inspection, 25mph max, placards on truck

Fimbres – Is company responsible for street, underground pipe damage?

Public Comments

Chris Shaw – Map – area – ABCD – is this part of discussion?

Not at this time

Laura Espinoza – 310-834-3242

Who is responsible for sidewalk clearance?

Avalon sidewalks from Harry Bridges to Banning’s Landing impassable

Celina Luna will follow up on this matter

7. Action Items

a. Planning and Land Use Committee

i. **Motion Committee/Hernandez** - that the WNC send a letter to the Los Angeles Harbor Department indicating our support to berthing the USS Battleship Iowa in Los Angeles Harbor for its cultural, educational, historical and economic benefits to San Pedro and surrounding communities, provided all concerns and conditions are resolved with the Harbor Department.

Board Comments

Hernandez – PCAC when they address issue – thinks there will be no cost.

If USS Iowa comes to Wilmington, our community should benefit.

Fimbres – “Middle of the Road” on this one

Public Comment

Richard Diaz – 310-835-8854 – how determine if we are pro/con

Babbitt – last part of motion, starting “provided” is the qualifier

Motion Passed – 11-1-3

ii. **Motion Committee/Kern** – that the WNC approve the proposed sign and marquee along Avalon Blvd., at the new K-8 grade school site at “L” Street, as presented by Thomas Hoerstman, Senior Project Engineer.

Where is this sign to be located – it could not be decided by those present.

Therefore, a Motion (Babbitt/Osterhoudt) to Table the above motion, with the approval of Kern until better information is available at the next meeting.

Motion Passed – 15-0-0

b. Transportation Committee

i. **Motion – Committee/Fimbres** – that the WNC send a letter to the LA Planning Department and Councilwoman Hahn that the 2010 Bicycle Plan include the following:

(a). Add a green bicycle lane on Avalon Blvd from Banning’s Landing to the City of Carson to offset the number of areas with curbside or diagonal parking.

(b). Initiate a study to connect the Wilmington marinas with the bicycle lanes.

(c). Provide bicycle racks in key store front areas within the Wilmington business district.

(d). Designate Lomita Blvd. as a bike route from Figueroa to Avalon.

Board Comments

Fimbres – Harry Bridges – is it currently marked – Yes\

Lara – Anaheim bike route is dangerous

Motion Passed – 14-0-1

c. Consideration to fill WNC Board Vacancies

- i. Ana Medina – indicated that she has enjoyed being a part of the information network enabled by her past participation in the WNC and would like to return as a Member at Large.

Motion – Ogle/Prichard – that the WNC approve Ana Medina as a member of the WNC Board as a Member-At-Large for the 2010-12 term

Motion Passed – 15-0-0

- ii. Annabell Romero – would like to participate and contribute to her community.

Motion – Hernandez/Babbitt – that the WNC approve Annabell Romero as a member of the WNC Board as a Member-At-Large for the 2010-12 term

Motion Passed – 15-0-0

d. WNC Board member replacement for Dahlgren on the PCAC, effective October 2010

Motion – Babbitt/Fimbres to table this issue until the October meeting

Motion Passed – 17-0-0

RECESSS – Pizza from Domino’s

9. Report of Officers

Secretary – Susan Prichard

Boys & Girls Club – thank you letter for summer funding

10. Reports of Standing Committees

Finance – Wilson

City has new forms to use

Still working on complying with the new requests

Gateway & Beautification – Babbitt

Next meeting Tuesday, October 12 at Noon

Working with Dana Strand on remaining bus benches

Hawaiian Avenue will be taking remaining two (2) trash cans

Board Comments

Lara – City is now requesting \$300/bin for community clean-ups

Kern suggested working with local trash collection companies

Hernandez – Gum on sidewalk need to be removed

Land Use – Babbitt

Next meeting on Monday, October 4, Noon at Senior Center

Transportation – Ethington

Denni Street rail crossing improvements approved

Board Comments

Garcia - DASH – route needs to be extended to include Wilmington Athletic Complex

Prichard – such a petition is currently circulating

PCAC – Ethington

Ken Melendez – elected President

Water Resources Action Plan (WRAP) awaiting report

Emergency Evacuation Plan

Board Comments –

Fimbres – Who is in charge?

Moreno – Chaired by the Captain of the Coast Guard

11. Wilmington Marina Planning Study Steering Committee

Community Meeting on September 11

Twenty (20) people in attendance

Everyone liked the plans as presented

Next community meeting will be held on Monday, November 4 at 6p at Wilmington Recreation Center

12. CRA Wilmington Redevelopment Plan Amendment Steering Committee

Meeting next Tuesday, September 28

Board Comments

Hernandez – senior housing issues need to be addressed

13. Unfinished Business - None

14. New Business

Kern – ByLaws Committee – Caraballo

Check with DONE - can WNC use paddle system (yes/no sides) rather than roll call votes

WNC should consider a public meeting to discuss general issues and graffiti

15. Reports from Caucus Groups

Labor – Fimbres – Labor Day Parade was a success

However not much participation

Education – Wilmington Middle and Wilmington Park Elementary have new principals

Recreation – Garcia

Youth groups need access to lighted field

Kern – CRA – can funding be used on private fields?

16. Members-At-Large Caucus

No Report

17. Announcements

Photography Contest – “We Depend on Energy”

Anyone interested – contact Prichard for more information

COPE – Map your Neighborhood – 10/2 at Providence, 1300 W. 7th St., SP, from 10a-2p

Chamber Mixer at the Drum Barracks on Wednesday, September 29 beginning at 4:30 p.m.

New Honorary Mayor to be announced.

Cruces Clean-Up

Area to be covered – Lomita Blvd (Eubank to Blinn) and Blinn (Lomita to “Q” Street)

Watson Land donating a tractor to support the effort

Juanita’s Foods donating Menudo for 50 people

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Adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Next meeting will be October 27, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Susan M. Prichard, Secretary

Approved, Cecilia Moreno, Vice Chair