

# WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

## Minutes – December 9, 2009

The meeting of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) was called to order by Chair Cecilia Moreno at 6:02 PM at the Wilmington Senior Center, 1371 Eubank Ave., Wilmington.

Ms. Moreno indicated there was a translator present. If anyone present needs translation services, she will help. We would not have any electronic display of information because no one brought a computer.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Patrick Wilson

The following statement was read: “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.”

1. Roll Call of Governing Board Members (14) confirming a quorum.

Present: Jack Babbitt, Marisela Caraballo, Tom Dahlgren, Donna Ethington, Socorro Fimbres, Arthur Hernandez, Ramon Iniguez, Robert Jasso, Gary Kern, Salvador Lara, Bobby McNeel, Ana Medina, Cecilia Moreno, Hank Osterhoudt, Susan Ogle, Marcus Perez, Susan M. Prichard and Patrick Wilson

Excused: Jacqueline Garcia

Absent: Patricia Sullivan

2. Approval of April minutes. (M/S –Medina/Lara) **Passed: 15-0-2**

3. Public Comment

Gary Sands, Resident

Thanked WNC for sending him information about the meeting.

Don Compton, Resident

BNSF meeting on 3/22/09

Susan Nakamura – from where? Indicated BNSF rating was 170

Acceptable Level – 25

North yard responsible for 95%, south yard for 5%

Know where the problem occurs, need resolution

4. Public Forum Discussion – WNC Decertification to create two NCs in Wilmington

This was taken out of order because City Attorney, Tom Griego, had recently broken his foot.

Ms. Moreno introduced subject by indicating we were the first NC certified.

We began our journey in 2001, celebrating our 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary tonight

Mr. Griego indicated there were two (2) matters to be discussed

Subdivision and Boundary Adjustment.

There is no decertification

BONC has not developed rules to change boundary, reduce size of NCs

Suggested we open procedure to Board questions/answer session

Fimbres – No policy in place to divide? How then?

Griego -BONC needs to create a subdivision policy

Griego - Boundary adjustments are allowed

If we do split, would WNC be a force?

Griego – this is a policy/political question

Dahlgren – How would a boundary adjustment work?

Griego – Could be done concurrently or simultaneously

Hernandez –

Statements – Needs to be fair, use Avalon Boulevard, more money for Wilmington

Question – how would schools be divided?

Kern – We need to cooperate

Statement – New group – what will be its purpose, what boundaries

Ogle – Have other NCs increased/decreased their boundaries

Griego – yes

Wilson – Was a group left without representation?

Griego – No, no area has been orphaned

Ethington (arrived late) What would happen with decertification?

Griego – You would not decertify – create either a subdivision or boundary adjustment

Babbitt – If WNC goes with smaller boundaries, can this happen simultaneously?

Griego – Certification takes time, suggest concurrent method

Public Comment on the issue of creating a second NC for Wilmington:

Don Compton, resident

Suggests the East Neighborhood Council (ENC) use Avalon as division line

Suggests cooperation with existing structure until new group formed

Then both created using simultaneous method

Dan Hoffman, resident

Congratulations on WNC's 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary

Like the idea of more funds for Wilmington

East/West division not good for community

Not enough people support existing WNC, where would support be for 2<sup>nd</sup>?

Ken Melendez, lived in Harbor area for 35 years

Does not support a 2<sup>nd</sup> NC

Vaglia Davis, resident and works at Fries Avenue Elementary

Suggests creation of a SubCommittee to address concerns

Too much East/West division currently

Lucia Moreno-Linares, resident, works at Family Credit Union and served on WNC until '08

Helped with the formation of the WNC in 2000

Spent over a year creating with numerous meetings, time and energy

Formation group worked strenuously to make sure all facts of community represented

Glenda Sands, resident

Thinks a 2<sup>nd</sup> NC is a good idea

Suggests PCH as boundary (N/S division)

Julian Burger, resident

Supports a 2<sup>nd</sup> NC

Believes WNC is not representative

More money

More community people involved

Nelson Williams, Deacon, New Hope Missionary Baptist Church

Suggests moving meeting around Wilmington – perhaps quarterly

Moreno responded: This could be discussed

Information: During early years met at Merchant Marine Hall, Banning Rec. Ctr.

Laura Espinoza, resident

Thanked Board for their time and felt WNC was doing a good job

She herself has been a volunteer for the last 6 years

Feels another Council would be beneficial because would bring more funds to Wilmington

Would like more information about WNC

Chris Shaw, resident

Everyone needs to keep the best interest of Wilmington in the forefront

Perhaps the first 15 minutes of each meeting could be an open agenda

More publicity needed – use Banning High and Anaheim ???

Response: Moreno – each month mail out 605 informational packages

Email hundreds of notices

#### Back to Board

Caraballo – suggests we give floor to Rosa Arcada for DONE information

Funding – no longer \$50,000, now \$45,000

This is subject to change with City's current budget problems

DONE will be taking a 20% cut with new budget

San Pedro's three (3) Neighborhood Councils

When citizens first met, settled on three councils after much discussion

BONC has a policy agenda – Grievance, Orphan, Bylaws

Currently no subdivision policy

DONE currently working with city areas that have no NCs

Four new ones currently in process

Two to be approved at next BONC meeting

Hollywood and Northridge South

Hernandez – feels split is in community's interest

Fimbres – opposes split

Ethington –

#### 5. Land Use Committee

As applicant is not present – suggest we carry over matter to January meeting

#### 6. WNC Church Vacancy Position

Mr. Nelson C. Williams, Jr. took floor informing body of his involvement of the community, and his union background.

#### 7. Action Items

a. Item delayed until January meeting

b. Prichard/Hernandez moved that the appointment of Mr. Williams as a Church representative be approved.

Prichard indicated that Mr. Williams had taken ethics training before even being appointed

Lara supported because of Mr. Williams help with their neighborhood clean-ups

Approved: 18-0-0

6. Continued

c. Wilmington Buffer Name Suggestions

Item will be discussed at January meeting – no names came through Board

**PCAC suggestions**

Heart of the Harbor Park (or Parkway or Greenbelt)

Parque Corazon del Puerto

Wilmington Waterfront Park (or Greenbelt)

Puerto Park

Wilmington Heart of the Harbor Waterfront Park

8. Informational Items

Holiday Decorating Contest

Board members on subcommittee – Garcia, Lara, Medina, Moreno, Ogle, Prichard

If anyone has a nominee, please inform one of the above

Transportation Committee – Ethington

Passed out information regarding support of light rail into the harbor area

Item will be discussed at January meeting

Refreshment – reminder to S. Prichard for January meeting

DONE announcements – None

9. Prior to Adjournment

Bobby McNeel introduced Chef Giovanni Delrosario, Director, Culinary Arts, LAHC

Chef Giovanni indicated he and his class were delighted to participate in WNC's 8<sup>th</sup> anniversary

If he and his students can be of service to Wilmington, please let him know

Adjourned at 7:25 p.m. – Next meeting will be January 27, 2010

Minutes taken by Susan M. Prichard, Secretary

Approved, Cecilia Moreno, Chair