

WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Minutes – June 23, 2010

The meeting of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) was called to order by Chair Cecilia Moreno at 6:07 PM at the Wilmington Senior Center, 1371 Eubank Ave., Wilmington.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Pat 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.”

There was no interpreter present.

1. Roll Call of Governing Board Members (15) confirming a quorum.

Present: Marisela Caraballo Tom Dahlgren, Donna Ethington, Socorro Fimbres, Robert Jasso, Gary Kern, Salvador Lara, Bobby McNeel, Ana Medina, Cecilia Moreno, Hank Osterhoudt, Susan M. Prichard, Patricia Sullivan, Nelson Williams and Patrick Wilson

Excused: Jack Babbitt, Jacqueline Garcia, Susan Ogle, Marcus Perez

Absent: Arthur Hernandez, Ramon Iniguez

2. Approval of May Minutes. As corrected – Page 3, Item Transportation – should read (M/S – Dahlgren/Ethington) **Passed: 14-0-1**

3. Los Angeles Police Department/Port of Los Angeles Police Department - Officer Garcenila

Report given with assistance by Ofc. Morris, Port Police

Cruces shooting – Victim in hospital - critical condition

Gang detectives – working the incident

Fireworks – LA City has a zero tolerance policy on all fireworks

Harbor Department provides a free pyrotechnic display at Cabrillo Beach

Grand Theft Auto – major problem until caught those felt responsible

Juvenile Crime – starting to see an increase with school out and no summer school

Mostly crimes of opportunity – so be watchful

Officer Morris, Los Angeles Port Police

Continue to work with enforcement teams on Commercial Trucks, Illegal Dumping and Trains

Investigator Aaron Harris, Investigator with LA City Public Works, Bureau of Street Services

General – 213-847-6078, Hours 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

There are 35 investigators for the entire City at this time, respond to all complaints

Inspect all public right-of-ways and public lands

Illegal dumping, illegal vending, construction permits

Board Questions:

Gary Kern – Can hours be adjusted – This is a budgetary issue

Wilson – Are you Peace Officers – Yes, we have the power to arrest

4. Public Comment

Kat – 1427 Ravenna Avenue, Wilmington

Recently graduated from Berkeley, recently returned to community

Concerned that two (2 – Tesoro and Valero) of Wilmington’s four (4) refineries have not signed on to comply with State regulations to reduce Green House gases

by 25%, thus taking air quality back to 1990. This issue is going to be on the November ballot. We need to educate the community.

Don Compton, 233 East “M” Street, Wilmington
Concerned about election process and lack of participation

5. Government Representatives

None present

6. COPE Preparedness Report and LA Floodplain Management Plan - None

7. Presentations

a. SR-47 Update/Renderings

Connie Rivera, ACTA; Ron Kosinski, CalTrans, Dept. of Environmental Planning 213-897-0703, ron.kosinski@dot.ca.gov, Manny Hernandez, Community Outreach, Alameda Corridor Engineering Team, 310-816-0460, Hernandez@trenchteam.com

Schuyler Heim Bridge is seismically unsafe – proceeding as rapidly as possible

Environmental document completed in 2009

Bridge at highest point is 52’ above mean tide

All information available on ACTA website – www.acta.gov

Board answered questions

Extension of this project to PCH is in litigation

Process: Build new bridge just East of the existing bridge, Complete half of the bridge to allow for traffic, then knock down existing bridge and build the remaining half of the structure.

Expect staging area to be on Pier A. Will not be on Henry Ford.

All existing on/off ramps will remain the same

This project will not provide pedestrian access – continuation of existing situation.

b. Harry Bridges Boulevard Street Improvements

Leilani Walsh, Senior Construction Manager, POLA, 310-732-3225, lwalsh@portla.org

Daniel Samaro, Civil Engineering Associate, POLA, 310-732-7673, dsamaro@portla.org

Mark Rose, Asst. Chief Harbor Engineer, POLA, 310-732-3919, mrose@portla.org

Tom Berg, Project Manager, Berg & Associates, Inc., 310-548-9292, tom@bergcm.com

Mr. Samaro gave an overview of all work to be done

Ms. Walsh indicated the project had been awarded to:

1. This is an 18-month project and must be completed by March, 2012 in order to receive reimbursement through the federal stimulus funds.
2. Phase 1 – already in effect – reduce traffic to one lane in each direction
3. Phases 2/3 – reduce traffic to East bound only. (DWP involved)

Detour all traffic around site

This plan submitted to DOT for waiver approval

Broad Avenue between Anaheim and Harry Bridges

Board answered questions

This is one of three (3) projects related to TraPac improvements

The street surface will be asphalt with a grid underlay

Life expectancy of new surface – 20 years

7. Presentations – continued

“C” Street resurfacing no included in this project

A new water main will be trenched in “C” Street

Talking about repaving after this effort

No repaving of Broad Avenue planned after project waiver completion

Project does not have a PLA because of federal rules; however, company did sign contract with a local union. Harry Bridges Buffer does have a hiring contract

When project is complete will have two striped lanes in each direction with left-hand turn pockets. There is enough room for three (3) lanes when the need arises.

Board appreciates and are looking forward to the improvements

c. Rail Line Updates/Blockages

Artrie Gatewood, Pacific Harbor Lines, 310-830-0753, www.anacostia.com

Trini Jimenez, BNSF, www.bnsf.com

Pacific Harbor has been the switching system for the Port since 1987

If train is at a standstill across an intersection for more than 10 minutes call

Pacific Harbor Lines – 877-250-4745

BNSF – 800 – go to website

RR’s distribute product throughout the United States from LA Basin, the 2nd largest port complex in the world.

Responses to Board questions

Federal law requires horns to be blown at every public crossing

Pattern – 3 short/1 long

RR’s are meeting with CD-15 and WNC’s Transportation Cmte.

Both Pacific Harbor Lines and BNSF are currently hiring

Encourage Wilmington residents to visit their respective web sites

Undergrounding of track is done by joint effort between RR and gov’t.

Responses to Public Comment

If operators are using horns to personal communication, please provide

RR’s with date, time and location so the issue can be investigated.

There is a different federal requirement for horns with a train speed under 15mph.

BNSF has signed two MOU’s with State regarding emission reductions.

Currently in the process of signing a third.

d. Presentation to Outgoing WNC Governing Board Members

This will be the last meeting for Ramon Iniguez, Ana Medina and Marcus Perez

Ana Medina received a certificate from the WNC and CD-15 for her years of service to the Wilmington community as a Member-at-Large.

8. Action Items

a. WNC 2010-11 Budget

Patrick Wilson, WNC Treasurer, provided overview

No carryover indicated at this time. Therefore, budget for next year – only \$45,000

Explained variance from last year’s budget

Response to Board’s questions/comments

Refreshment could be arranged with local business and then paid for after the fact.

8. Action Items - continued

Fiesta Corazon del Puerto will not be held in 2011

There is no set-aside for educational institutions

Motion (Kern/Ethington) to adopt budget as presented with the following changes - \$1000 for Fiesta del Corazon moved to Other in Community Outreach section and error on telephone (\$1200) be moved to Miscellaneous in Office Expenses section.

(Passed 13-0-0)

- b. International cargo Equipment (ICE) variance to permit continued use of a legal nonconforming container storage facility. City Zoning Administration - ZA 2009-4046(ZV) Mr. Paulsson, asking for WNC's support of the variance from 30' wall requirement along Eubank and boundary with Wilmington Cemetery.

Zoning Administrator agrees this would be an unsightly situation for the community

Instead will plant trees and add landscaping

ICE begun 30 years ago at present location

Tries to be good neighbor and good corporate citizen – allocates \$70,000/year to community

Banning High School this year received \$40,000 for new band uniforms and next year has asked for \$10,000 for a incentive program beginning 9/2010.

ICE does try to minimize effect on community

City, with CD-15 help removed truck traffic from Eubank

Containers only 4 high and 60' back from street (only required 37')

Limit working hours, rarely work on weekends

Work force – 60; 60% of which are Wilmington residents

Response to Board questions/comments

ICE could consider donations to local parks because of budgetary difficulties

ICE would consider cleaning the West-side of Eubank Avenue

Yes, ICE does minimize noise from RR yard on Banning High area

Response to Public questions/comments

ICE will not be removing existing fence

ICE is working with Cemetery District Board on beautification of common boundary

Fencing along Eubank is currently wrought iron, not chain link

Motion (Dahlgren/Osterhoudt) – WNC supports the issuance of a zoning variance to ICE

(Passed 14-0-1)

- c. Metro 30-10 Initiative – Overview - Ethington, Chair, WNC Transportation Committee

1) Voters approved Measure R, a 30-year ½-Cent Sales Tax to build approximately forty (40) transit projects

2) Measure R was not a bond measure.

3) Metro's 30/10 initiative would accelerate 12 transit projects through federal loans and bond sales to be repaid with the ½-Cent Sales Tax, and by borrowing from the Measure R highway funds.

4) Will put people to work sooner, but could potentially reduce funding for other projects and put Metro in debt.

5) Accelerated projects have no direct benefit to the Harbor Area.

6) Metro is proceeding with the 30/10 initiative without any outreach or input from Neighborhood Councils.

8. Action Items - continued

Response to Board questions/comments

WNC should express an opinion on this issue

No deadline to submit comments; Metro is not soliciting input

Metro appears to be lining up funding sources for shovel-ready projects

WNC Transportation Committee will draft a letter to Metro for consideration at next

WNC board meeting

Response to Public questions/comments

Closest project to the harbor area on acceleration list is the Green Line extension to LAX

9. Information Items

None

10. Report of Officers

Secretary

Correspondence:

Tesoro Family Day – Saturday, June 26

Chamber’s Heartbeat – monthly newsletter

11. Reports by Standing Committee

Executive Committee – New Hours - Municipal Building - beginning July 1, 2010.

7:30 a.m. until 5:00 p.m.

12. Census 2010 Ad Hoc Committee Report – Moreno/Prichard

Currently Wilmington is at a 70% return rate

13. Wilmington Marina Planning Study Steering Committee – Garcia/Prichard

Committee has been meeting on a regular basis

Public Input held on June 5 at Wilmington Recreation Center

Next meeting has not been scheduled at this point

14. CRA Wilmington Development Plan Amendment Steering Committee – Williams/Ethington

In the process of completing the Goals/Objectives for the 5-Year Study Plan

Many seemed concerned with City Code Enforcement in the area

Certain members of the Committee are monopolizing the microphone

Looking for the community to provide a list of undesirable uses that contribute to blight

15. Unfinished Business

WNC Benches –

Two (2) were installed on Pocket Park in the Cruces area

Hawaiian community would like some for DASH bus stops

Marijuana Facility status

Ask CD-15 to provide report at next meeting

16. New Business

None

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17. Reports from Caucus Groups

None

18. Members-At-Large Caucus – None

19. Announcements from Governing Board Members

Marisela Caraballo

6/24 at 6:00 p.m. – Unveiling of Diversity Statue, near water park area

Gift from Italian government in conjunction with Sister City program

7/2 – Stars & Stripes program near Gateway Fountain area

Adjourned at 8:48 p.m.

Next meeting will be July 22, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Susan M. Prichard, Secretary

Approved, Cecilia Moreno, Chair