

# WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

## Minutes – October 22, 2014

The meeting of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) was called to order by President Cecilia Moreno at 6:10 PM at the Wilmington Senior Center, 1371 Eubank Avenue, Wilmington.

Pledge of Allegiance by Chair Cecilia Moreno

*“As provided by the Brown Act, persons in the audience may address the neighborhood council on any issue they may have during the public comment period or when public comments are solicited during the discussions of an agenda item. Speakers are limited to 3 minutes, unless otherwise allowed by the chair person. Speakers may address the council as a group. Any personal derogatory remarks to a specific council member or persons in the audience will not be tolerated. Anyone desiring to speak please fill out a speakers card found on the back table and hand it a council member or the Council’s Secretary.”*

### 1. Roll Call of Governing Board Members

Present: Matthew Adair, Dan Domonoske, Arthur Hernandez, Cecilia Moreno, Marisela Caraballo, Maria De Jesus, Alberto Ramirez, Michael Sanborn, Robert Trani, Robert Jasso Patricia Valladolid, Patrick Wilson and Socorro Fimbres.

Absent/Excused: Richard Whearty, Juanita Naranjo, Hank Osterhoudt, Jim Stephenson, Anabel Chavez.

### 2. Approval of Minutes for Previous Meeting

- Arthur Hernandez made a motion to approve, Patricia Valladolid seconded the motion
- Minutes approved: 11 yes, 0 no, 2 abstentions

### 3. Los Angeles Police Department/ Port of Los Angeles Department:

LAPD - Senior Lead Officer Sean Crabbe

- Wilmington is poised to meet its reduction of crime by 3% this year.
- Thefts from unlocked vehicles is our most frequent crime.
- No arrests from the weekend shooting in San Pedro.

LAHD – Officer Ramirez

- Was not able to attend the meeting - sent his apologies

### 4. Government Representatives:

- Gabriela Medina and Heather Anderson, Reps from Joe Buscaino’s office
- Mayor Garcetti - Executive Directive for Emergency Drought Response

- Replace lawns, high flow faucets, etc...
- Update on minimum wage/living wage proposals in City of L.A.
- Next Wilmington Coffee with Councilman is approx. 3 months away.
- Update on upcoming community events.
- Homelessness update: Marine Avenue encampments have been disbanded and are being cleaned up.
- Council District 15 has only 40 permanent supportive housing opportunities for approximately 1500 homeless.
- Machado Lake project is looking good and is on schedule.

#### 5. **Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

Janet Grothe - Phillips 66: Continuing the 62 year tradition of Smilin' Jack, and the refinery will hand out popcorn on Thurs/Fri 10/30 and 10/31.

Salvador Lara - Clean Wilmington: Sandison projects, Eubank and Opp Street, cleaning downtown Wilmington, Community garden at Avalon HS, irrigation projects and beautification projects are being focused on now.

Demetrio Gomez - Federacion Oaxaquena: living in Wilmington since 1993, impressed with the projects that have been taking place in Wilmington. When I came to Wilmington it didn't seem safe, I am very happy with the projects and I think that businesses will continue to improve in Wilmington.

Diana Medel - I heart Wilmington: Will be at pedal to port, be at B and G club for Dia De Los Muertos, doing voter registration at all events, SBCC parent organization is having their second fund raising activity, working on a toy drive for community children.

Susan Prichard - Hawaiian Ave. EL: commend I heart Wilmington for their work. 10/4 two buses of students went to the Jet Propulsion lab. Thank the councilman's office for help with the walk to school day. Next Friday is the Hawaiian Halloween carnival. Banning HS pool is open Tues - Sunday.

Sylvia Arredondo - Communities for a Better Environment - having an open house on Sea Level Rise at the Senior Center 5:30pm-8:00pm Tues October 28, 2014. Participating in Cycle to the Park.

Glenda Sands - Resident: Asking the neighborhood council about the del Lago project next to the Denny's on PCH.

Mary Gant - Update on oil tanks off of 110 across from Boys and Girls Club: full of graffiti. Ms. Gant is in contact from the corporate office to clean the tanks.

## 6. Presentations

1. Holly Benson, Abode Communities, Ed Holder, Mercy Housing CA- Dana Strand Housing Project  
phase 4 Proposal

- 176 new apartment homes (1, 2, and 3 bedrooms)
- Over 300 parking spaces (about 75% more parking than required by code)
- Affordable Housing (Income restrictions: \$24,450 - \$48,900 for a 4 person family)
- Reduced original proposal to fewer units due to community feedback
- Outlined some of the variances requested (setback, height, etc...)

### Questions:

- Did you do outreach to homeowners in the area? Ms. Benson said that they have been actively outreaching to the community.
- Do you think 300 parking spaces are enough? Ms. Benson said that the ratio of car ownership with low-income housing is lower than the higher socio-economic families. They feel it is more than adequate.
- Public Comment on the item:
  - Susanna Camacho - will overcrowd Hawaiian Ave. EL, streets not designed for the additional traffic, parking is not sufficient. This is a profit making endeavor, not a benevolent action.
  - Nathan Sherry - Property owner close to Hawaiian Ave EL. Concerned for the Children, what will this do to their school? I am going to be fighting traffic, we are getting overcrowded.
  - Mary Murillo - An important project, lives at the site, is very happy, feels that the project is needed for the community.
  - Susan Prichard - Not in favor of this project. Met with councilman's staff, and do not support the project. The original agreement with the Housing Authority was only 411 units. This project will be more dense than housing projects in other areas such as Jordan Downs. The bungalows will have to come back to Hawaiian Avenue EL.
  - Mary Gant - Oppose the project. The proposed changes were made by the City of L.A. Without coming to the community. What benefits will Wilmington gain from this change?? Are Wilmington residents given priority at the housing?

- David Esparza - resided in Wilmington since birth, former honorary mayor, currently live about 3-4 blocks from the site and I oppose the project. Over the years we have watched the area deteriorate with drugs, crime, gang activity, and other stuff because of the old Dana Strand project. Traffic will have to go through the neighborhood to get to the site, parking is already a problem in the area.
- Ken Cowan - Where I live people from the current housing units are parking in our parking lot, taking our spots. This has led to problems with break-ins in our cars. Families in the current housing have 3 and 4 cars.
- Laura Espinosa - Madres de Wilmington. We need to take care of the open space in this community, and if the project was less dense and had a magnet school to keep students in the community I would support it.
- Diana Medel - Requests that Wilmington residents are assured placement or given priority in the new units.
- Bonnie Claxton - Lives by D and Hawaiian and I was not given any notice of the meetings about this project. The parking on D street is horrible.
- Betty Esparza - Long time Wilmington resident. We have a huge problem with the density at Dana Strand. There is filth/graffiti on your property. There are already traffic problems in the area. What activities are there to keep the new children that will be moving in off of the streets.

**7. Action Items:**

- a. Monthly Funding Report - No report at this time because we didn't spend money last month. No Action at this time.
- b. Request to support a windmill being built at the Banning Residence Museum. Motion made to table the item. Motion by Dan Domonoske, seconded by Arthur Hernandez. Motion carries: 11 yes, 0 no, 2 abstentions.
- c. Motion to support the Western Development housing project at 25416 McCoy Avenue. Motion carries: 11 yes, 1 no, 1 abstention

**8. Informational Items**

- Mexican Tall Ship visiting the Port of LA

**9. Report of Officers**

- Chair - Nothing to report
- Vice-Chair - Nothing to report
- Secretary - Nothing to report
- Treasurer - Nothing to report

## 10. Standing Committee Reports

- Executive Board - nothing to report
- Bylaws - Requested DONE to provide the changes to their by-law rules
- Finance - nothing to report
- Land Use/Planning/ Gateway Beautification - going to have a meeting at the Wilmington Senior Center on Monday Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30pm. Item on the agenda is the Wilmington Waterfront development project. Will re-visit traffic on Drum Ave.
- Public Works - Nothing to report
- Publicity - Did not meet
- Transportation - Nothing to report

## 11. Unfinished Business

- Will bring back the Friends of Banning Museum Windmill project next month.

## 12. New Business

None

## 13. Reports from Caucus Groups

Arthur Hernandez - Seniors - 1<sup>st</sup> concern of seniors is environment, 2<sup>nd</sup> concern is transportation, 3<sup>rd</sup> is housing.

## 14. Reports from Members-at-Large

Maria De Jesus - November 29<sup>th</sup> is the kick-off of the Saints Peter and Paul 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Looking for 150 volunteers to help release 150 balloons in front of the church on 11/29.

Socorro Fimbres - Labor day parade was great, good turnout

## 15. Announcements from Governing Board

None

## 16. Adjournment

Meeting Adjourned at 8:52pm

Next meeting will be November 12, 2014

Minutes submitted by Matthew Adair, Secretary