

WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Minutes – September 24, 2014

The meeting of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) was called to order by President Cecilia Moreno at 6:03 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, Marisela Caraballo, Anabell Chavez, Dan Domonoske, Arthur Hernandez, Gary Kern, Cecilia Moreno, Alberto Ramirez, Michael Sanborn, Jim Stephenson, Patricia Sullivan, Patricia Valladolid, Patrick Wilson.

Absent/Excused: Maria De Jesus, Richard Whearty, Socorro Fimbres, Robert Jasso, Juanita Naranjo, Hank Osterhoudt, Robert Trani

2. Approval of Minutes for Previous Meeting

Approved with Corrections: 3 abstentions, 10 yes, 0 no

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

LAPD - No representative attended

LAHD – Officer Ramirez

- Updated on the port fire - has been extinguished, waterways in use again, use caution in the area because there is a lot of floating debris in the water.
- Film festival at Waterfront park this Sunday 1-8:30
- AQMD monitoring air quality because of Fire

4. Government Representatives:

Gabriela Medina and Heather Anderson, Reps from Joe Buscaino’s office

- Update on the homeless encampments

- Will be cleaning up Marine Avenue (50% of the buildings are vacant and attract homeless)
- Update on sidewalk repairs
- Update on Utility box painting
- Honorary Mayor of Wilmington will be announced on 9/25: 5pm at YMCA
- Air quality from fire was within state limits.

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

- a. Cesar Cruz - WINTER Charter school, programs to help students 16-24 that have no HS diploma or GED to earn a Diploma, and also offer job skills training.
- b. Albert Ramirez - Wilmington Improvement Network (“WIN”), outlined the Community Needs Assessment that was completed by WIN.
- c. Chris Shaw - Resident since 1966, Wilmington doesn’t get its fair share. We need more community involvement.
- d. Sylvia Arredondo - Communities for a Better Environment, based in Wilmington. Reported on Climate actions supported by her organizations. Highest rates of cancer and asthma in the nation.
- e. Diana Medel - I Heart Wilmington, updates on the success of the Family picnic that happened this year - after a 5 year absence. Over 30 organizations participated, had a voter registration booth, fed 2000 people at the picnic, 1300 surveys received - all with good comments.
- f. Obdulia Valencia - Wilmington resident, Concerned that De La Torre was not closed down due to the port fire. Was the school district notified of the fire? Students and teachers were sickened by the smoke. What is the city going to do??
- g. Irene Alcala - Wilmington resident, Concerned that De La Torre was not closed down due to the fire. The news said that the school was closed, but it was open - who do we believe?
- h. Amardeep Gill - Los Angeles Alliance for a New Economy - Don’t waste LA campaign. Increase recycling and reduce dependence on land-fills.
- i. Mary Tello - Community member, at the De La Torre campus the classrooms were like gas chambers. Asking board to make a motion to ask Dr. Vladovic to work with Dr. Deasy and create communication and procedures to deal with a similar situation.

- j. Ramona Flores - Community member, we have a serious problem, on Sandison street there are businesses and they are draining water on the streets that is stinky. We need a real sewer system that will take the water where it needs to go - it piles up now and the odors are very strong. We need help to work with businesses to fix this problem. Happens daily starting at 5-5:30. Where should I go to report this problem? I can do a petition if needed.

6. Presentations

1. Alan Kwan, Storm Western Development (residential project @25416 Mc Coy, Harbor City)

- Presented information on the project and asked the Council to support the project.
- Unimproved lot - just over 1 acre that used to be overflow church parking
- Zoned for 33 units, Storm is proposing that 21 single family detached homes will be built.

Developer will be proposing a zoning variance concerning a 100 square feet public open space per unit requirement to be changed to allow 100 square feet private open space per unit and a height variance for two units due to the elevation of the land.

- Units will be approximately 1600 square feet, 3 bed, 2.5 bath, approximately \$500,000 if sold today.
- Have already gotten support for Harbor City Neighborhood Council

Public comment by Mary Gant: Has a traffic study been done, because it is in an area with heavy traffic.

Response from Storm rep: A traffic study has not been done, if the planning commission requires it Storm will do it.

2. David Somers, City of Los Angeles, Bicycle Lane Concepts for Anaheim Street

- Pedestrians and Bicyclists are involved in a disproportionate number of collisions
- Anaheim has a collision rate 3 times higher than the city average for both autos and bicycles
- Possible solution: Road Diet - reduce 4 lanes to 3 lanes. Reduces speed, increases safety, and can add bicycle lanes. Road Diets reduce all collisions by 29% per Federal statistics.
- The process is transparent and if delays are expected to occur due to the road diet they will be reported.

Public comment by Sylvia Arredondo: I like the idea of the Road Diet, rides a bicycle on Anaheim, and it is scary. Road diet may slow the pace of life, and help businesses because they will be noticed.

7. **Action Items:**

- a. Monthly Funding Report - No Action at this time
- Council Quorum is based on the total number of seats (24), not the number of seats filled (20); therefore, our quorum for voting on items is 13.
- Could not vote on funding report because a quorum was not present.

8. **Informational Items**

- None

9. **Report of Officers**

- Chair
- Vice-Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer - we are behind in our reporting, but will be back on track next month

10. **Standing Committee Reports**

- Executive Board
- Bylaws - Will be meeting with DONE to go over the bylaws item by item to ensure that our WNC bylaws fall within the BONC guidelines.
- Finance - nothing to report
- Land Use/Planning/ Gateway Beautification: Monday, October 6th at 5:30pm at Banning's Landing is the Second quarterly meeting for public, including Wilmington Waterfront Forward.
- Public Works - meeting last Saturday held at the Parent Center at Banning HS. Talked to Gaby Medina about projects that have been done in other communities that may be possible for

Wilmington - such as improving the look of local businesses, bike corrals, lighting, etc... Will meet the 3rd Saturday of every month.

- Publicity - Did not meet
- Transportation - Did not meet (will meet at 12pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month at WNC office)

10. **Report from Officers**

None

11. **Unfinished Business**

- None

12. **New Business**

None

13. **Reports from Caucus Groups**

None

14. **Reports from Members-at-Large**

None

15. **Announcements from Governing Board**

None

16. **Adjournment**

Meeting Adjourned at 8:30pm

Next meeting will be Wednesday, September 24, 2014
Minutes submitted by Matthew Adair, Secretary