

# **WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

## **Minutes – September 23, 2015**

The meeting of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) was called to order by Chair Cecilia Moreno at **6:12PM** 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, Sylvia Arredondo, Marisela Caraballo, Dan Domonoske, Socorro Fimbres, Robert Jasso, Gary Kern, Diana Medel, Cecilia Moreno, Albert Ramirez, Michael Sanborn, Robert Trani, Patricia Sullivan and Patricia Valladolid (14)

Absent/Excused: Janet Grothe, Arthur Hernandez, Patrick Wilson (3)

### **2. Approval of Minutes for Previous Meeting(s)**

- August 2015 Minutes: Approved (13 yes, 0 no, 0 abs)

### **3. LAPD/LA Port PD**

- LA Port Police: Not present
- LAPD, Senior Lead Officer Mora: Anaheim and Figueroa has a high number of accidents. LAPD will be in force in school hours to help ensure child safety. Highest crime rates in Wilmington: daytime: 1100 block of Wilmington Blvd. nighttime: 1600 block of PCH, 1300 N. Avalon, 1500 Wilmington. Honda and Toyota are highly targeted automobiles for theft. Officers have been assigned to foot beat in San Pedro (11am-2pm) - not in Wilmington (yet). City of LA is working on creating additional homeless resources to help address the homelessness problem in the Harbor.

### **4. Government Representatives Reports**

- Chris Wilson, Assy. Member Mike Gipson’s office - Legislature session just ended. Hosting a college sexual assault assembly at CSUDH on 9/24. Mr. Gipson will be attending the Wilmington Family Fiesta.
- Manny Lopez, representing Mayor Garcetti’s office - City Council declared a state of emergency due to homelessness. City is going to increase funding to create shelter/permanent housing for the tens of thousands of homeless in Los Angeles.
- Gabriela Medina, Councilman Buscaino’s Office - Councilman is working on finding solutions to the Harbor homeless problem. There are over 25,000 homeless people living in Los Angeles. Wilmington Family Fiesta this weekend. 10/11 Buscaino’s annual spaghetti dinner. Bus will be provided from 540 N. Marine.

- German Castilla, Congresswoman Hahn's Office - submitted a bill to create federal funding for officer body cameras. Has also worked on Pell Grant restoration legislation to help students that have attended defunct private schools/colleges.  
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## 5. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items

- Lisa Blod, Outreach Coordinator, LAHC Harbor Youth Source Center - Serves Harbor area youth 17-21 that qualify as low income that need assistance graduating from high school (diploma, GED, etc...), and transitioning to the next step (work force, college, trade programs, etc...)
- Darin Fields, Refinery Manager Phillips 66 - refinery will shutdown many units for refurbishment beginning late next week. Additional emission reductions will occur due to new equipment. 1000 additional people will be working at the refinery during this process. October 29th and 30th Smilin' Jack will be open for business.
- Cindy Savitt, Volunteer Harbor Animal Shelter - Asking that the WNC support the LA city spay/neuter rules, and that illegal breeding of pit bulls stop in Wilmington. Community should provide pressure to city government to provide the same mobile spay/neuter clinics that are offered in other parts of LA. There is a never-ending supply of pit bulls at the shelter that are being euthanized.
- Connie McOsker, Grand Vision Foundation - Let the public know about the activities going on at the Warner Grand Theatre. Foundation is also at 4 Wilmington elementary schools teaching music to community children.
- Steve Salas, Wilmington Waterfront Forward - Members of the WNC need to go to the meetings that are important to the community. Banning Park gym has no A/C, its small, we need the WNC to stand up for the community.
- Brenda Espinoza, community resident - has lived in Wilmington for the last 25 years. The traffic in the Sanford/Sandison area is excessive. The trucks run all day and night and the kids can't sleep. We want all of the trucks out of the area. Liquor store on PCH and Watson is dangerous, people are hanging around smoking marijuana and drinking alcohol - I have never seen a police officer. There is nothing for kids to do in East Wilmington - all the activities are in the West side of Wilmington.
- Magali Sanchez-Hall, community resident - Warehouse Workers rally happened today - there was a big turnout, and they are still rallying this evening. 46% of Wilmington residents are immigrants that don't speak English - can we have translators at the WNC meetings - it will increase attendance. There are over 20 Marijuana Dispensaries for Wilmington a community of 55,000 people.
- Susan M. Prichard, Community Emergency Response Team - Last Saturday we trained 25 new people in CPR. New CERT training offered 10/30 - 12/18/2015. November 6th there will be an anniversary dinner/party to celebrate 6th anniversary. Upset that Buscaino's homeless committee has no Wilmington members.

## 6. Presentations

- **Habitat for Humanity Project at L Street & Lecouvreur** - Veronica Garcia Davalos and Marcos Lopez
  - in every U.S. state and 70 countries around the world.
  - Provide home ownership opportunities, repair homes for low-income residents, community revitalization, volunteer opportunities, youth and veteran programs.
  - LA has seen rents rise 25% while income has dropped 9% between 2000-12
  - L St. and Lecouvreur development has been in work since 2005.
  - It will have 9 single family homes with a play area for the children.
  - 3 plans all 3 BR, 2 Bath, around 1150 square feet.
  - Should begin construction August/September 2016
  - Homeowners will need good credit to qualify for homes, income eligible, and will provide sweat equity.
  - There will be future meetings when applicants are sought for the homes.

Public Comment:

Steve Salas - can you have people live in the house 5-7 years and then offer the opportunity to another family.

- **Providence Wellness Center** (470 N. Hawaiian Ave.) - Rafael Garcia
  - We now have a Wilmington location.
  - Provide community benefit programs and help link people to resources.
  - Welcome Baby - prenatal home visitation.
  - Have provided all Wilmington elementary schools a free PE teacher.
  - Provide family wellness/physical activities.
  - Have many different support groups.
  - Faith based non-profit, everything offered will be free.

Public Comment:

Steve Salas - you are offering free programs and that will hurt the other programs that require fees in the area, such as Banning Park. Can you offer tutoring.

## 7. Action Items:

(a) WNC Funding Requests:

1. SBCC funding for sponsorship of Wilmington Family Fiesta - Request: \$2,500.

Public Comment:

Belinda Noguez - we have been working hard on this event and we are excited to see the other organizations that are involved. I've been a volunteer for 4 years. My participation has helped me grow as an individual. I'm here asking that the WNC supports our application for a grant.

Norma Beltran - I support the grant request from SBCC I Heart Wilmington. I volunteer with I heart Wilmington and I invite you to join us at the Family Fiesta.

Vote: Council member Diana Medel left the room for the discussion/vote.  
Approved 13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Recusal

2. United Wilmington Youth Foundation funding for Code for the Future Program –  
Request: \$3,020.

Public comment on item 2:

Lisa Guetzkow, United Wilmington Youth Foundation - The entire program is \$87,000, but we are just looking to use current community resources and get it started as we continue looking for donations and grants to build the program.

Vote: Council member Robert Trani left the room for discussion/vote.  
Approved 12 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain, 1 Recusal

3. United Wilmington Youth Foundation funding for Utility Box Art Project - Request:\$3,500.  
Vote: Council member Robert Trani left the room for discussion/vote.

Motion to table this request by Patricia Valladolid so as to give the Board an opportunity to develop a policy for proper recognition and accountability for funds awarded.  
Approved: 13 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain, 1 Recusal

## **8. Informational Items**

- None

## **9. Report of Officers**

- Chair - None
- Vice-Chair - If you have something to advertise, let us know and we can add to our calendar
- Secretary - None
- Treasurer - None

## **10. Reports by Standing Committees**

- By Laws Committee - no updates
- Executive Board - no updates
- Finance Committee - no updates.
- Land Use and Planning/Gateway and Beautification Committee - Port of LA has hired the company to continue with the waterfront projects. Donna Effington has approached the committee about truck traffic in residential areas. We feel that truck traffic in that area needs consideration to determine what is legal, where they can and can't go.
- Public works - no updates
- Publicity & Communications Committee - We need to update our website and there will be a \$600 cost. Sylvia Arredondo volunteered to be the new Chair of the Publicity & Communications committee.
- Transportation Committee - no updates
- Wilmington Historical Society Preservation Ad-Hoc Committee - no updates

## **11. Unfinished Business**

- None

**12. New Business**

- Can the WNC strategize and create a plan of action to do a participatory survey to research the truck traffic issue in East Wilmington. Sylvia and Robert volunteered to work on this.
- Transportation committee should meet with LAPD/LA Harbor Police to go over the 2005 Wilmington Comprehensive Transportation Plan for Wilmington by Port of LA Police.

**13. Reports from Caucus Groups**

- Can one of our members attend the Neighborhood Council Congress

**14. Reports from Members at Large**

- Please attend the greenbelt event.

**15. Announcements from Governing Board Members**

- None

**16. Meeting Adjourned at 9:00pm**