

WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Minutes – October 28, 2009

The meeting of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) was called to order by Chair Cecilia Moreno at 6:01 PM at the Wilmington Senior Center, 1371 Eubank Ave., Wilmington.

Cecilia indicated the translator had not arrived yet. Note: translator arrived at 6:30PM.

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.”

Pledge of Allegiance led by Pat Wilson

1. Roll Call of Governing Board Members (16) confirming a quorum. (Present: Marisela Caraballo, Tom Dahlgren, Donna Ethington, Jacqueline Garcia, Arthur Hernandez, Ramon Iniguez, Robert Jasso, Gary Kern, Salvador Lara, Bobby McNeel, Ana Medina, Cecilia Moreno, Susan Ogle, Hank Osterhoudt, Patricia Sullivan and Patrick Wilson)
Absent: Socorro Fimbres
Excused: Jack Babbitt, Susan Prichard, Marcus Perez
2. Approval of September minutes. (M/S – Dahlgren/Medina) **Passed: 13-0-1**
3. Los Angeles Police Department – Senior Lead Officer Oscar Lopez
Auto thefts & burglaries down
Robberies at local Hispanic restaurants – gang members suspected
Shooting – Saturday, October 24 @ 1:30AM Gulf & E Street – investigating
All Senior Lead Officers conducted parolee search at 30 locations; arrested 9 with narcotics and one minor w/rifle; east Wilmington hotel is a problem
Officers will participate in Halloween events on October 30 at Boys & Girls Clubs in Wilmington, San Pedro, Harbor City and Harbor Gateway
Questions – Dahlgren – Is City Attorney Trutanich targeting marijuana dispensaries?
Response: Still legal; would have to be a moratorium; City of LA will have to address
Cecilia: City of LA is working on ordinance; Wilmington NC will provide input on things like how many dispensaries will be allowed and distance between them.
3. Los Angeles Port Police – Officer Cheryl Morris
Distributed information on Catholic Charities Long Beach homeless shelters; multi-service center at 1301 W. 12th Street open year ‘round, single adult men and women, eligibility screening: (562) 733-1147
Extra commercial truck enforcement units in east Wilmington between PCH and Anaheim St; have conducted 100’s of inspections; 30 trucks cited; lot of tickets to trucking company on Blinn; drivers are responsible for knowing what routes they can take; referring trucking companies/ drivers who have enforcement issues to WNC
Joint Commercial Truck Task Force for whole harbor area conducted twice a month
Detectives working on sting uncovered and shut down big drug operation in Wilmington
Need community’s help; to report suspicious activities in or around Port call toll free number:
1-888-LA PORT PD - can report anonymously; LA Port Police dispatch 24/7: (310) 732-3500

4. Public Comment

John Bekaryan, South Bay Wellness Center (SBWC)

Indicated there are four medical marijuana dispensaries in Wilmington
SBWC facility is following all regulations

Don Compton

Suggested forming a second Wilmington neighborhood council for East Wilmington (ENC);
Potentially Spanish-speaking; wants to meet with his group and WNC to discuss dividing
community; ENC would address rail, refineries and Harbor Dept issues

Council office has sent letter to BNSF regarding routing trains to Thenard/Alameda tracks
instead of McFarland rail line

Warren Buffet, Berkshire Hathaway has purchased BNSF; will that affect local relationship?

5. Government Representative Reports:

No reports. Celina Luna will send report to board members via email.

6. DONE Report – Rosa Arcadia

Susan Prichard, Art Hernandez and Salvador Lara along with members of Las Madres attended
Congress of Neighborhood Councils on Saturday, October 10 at City Hall; big event
Rollover funds – audit being conducted; DONE working on letters to all NCs that will have
rollover amounts plus \$45K for this year

New funding administrator is Jacqueline Mendez: Jacqueline.Mendez@lacity.org

Continual challenges and delays in processing checks; lack of resources; fewer staff, DONE
revamping funding program in next few months that will result in a better system

November 3rd – BONC meeting Harbor City/Harbor Gateway – need community input

November 21st Regional Training meeting - will include Ethics Training; DONE will email
location and time

DONE restructuring rep meeting schedules; Rosa may not attend all WNC meetings

Comment: Pat Wilson noted that WNC doesn't have more than one year in rollover funds

7. COPE Preparedness Report & LA Floodplain Mgmt Plan: Pat Rome - No Report, not in attendance

8. Presentations

a. Dan Dominoski, VP Potential Industries, 922 East "E" Street, Wilmington

Potential Industries maintains a 6-acre facility in Wilmington Industrial Park (WIP), established
1975; purchases and recycles paper & cardboard from public, grocery stores and distribution
centers and recycles blue bin materials (no scrap metal); some of paper going back to paper
mills, some exported; regulated by City and WIP.

Owns Bekins warehouse south of 'D' Street; plans to demolish building and build second
facility with 'green' features; would allow Potential to increase volume & sorting capabilities

Questions: Tom Dahlgren, Pat Sullivan, Pat Wilson, audience

Answers: facility currently employs 150, expansion will add 20-30 new positions; working
closely with City of LA to reach goal of zero waste, part of reason for expansion; all scrap
recycled is from LA area

b. SurveyLA – Susan Ogle

Big program being funded by Office of Historic Resources, Dept of City Planning and \$2.5M grant from J. Paul Getty Trust; operating for over a year; outreach not working City is looking for historic locations built before 1980.

Sites will not be designated as historic sites; City will document historic locations only if community has reported them. Wilmington will be first community; looking at end of November Will be used for developers & planners; database will be available on line when complete
Comments/questions: Gary Kern suggested Historical Society provide list at next WNC;

Art Hernandez asked if indigenous people should be recorded

Literature - What to identify: neighborhoods, commercial areas and landscapes with distinctive architecture or cultural characteristics, or reflect important aspects of social history or planning and development; sites or buildings that have been gathering places, focal points, have housed important individuals or organizations; buildings or districts associated with important architects, builders, designers, developers or engineers; resources that have shaped social movements or cultural evolution of the community

c. Metro's Congestion Reduction Demo Project (Express Lanes) -Kathleen McCune, Transportation Planning Manager V, New Business Development

\$210M grant from USDOT to convert High-Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes on the I-10 (Alameda St to I-605) and I-110 (Adams Blvd to Artesia Transit Center) to High-Occupancy Toll (HOT) lanes (Express Lanes)

70% of funding will be used to improve transit facilities including the I-110 Metrolink station, new LADOT parking technologies in downtown LA, 8 new park-and-ride lots, police substation at Artesia Transit Center, additional turn lanes at Adams and Figueroa, 100 new van pools on corridors. HOT lanes will be operational by 12/31/2010; goal is to get more people out of single-occupancy vehicles.

Metro board approved toll rates in July; single-occupancy vehicles will pay tolls at all hours Fees are \$.25 – \$1.40/mile based on congestion; continually adjusted according to traffic conditions to maintain 45 mph in toll lanes; if lanes impeded more than 10 minutes single-occupancy vehicles will not be able to use them; toll credits for low-income groups & carpoolers that meet minimum requirements

No toll booths; cars will be equipped with transponders; self-declare how many occupants; signs along lanes let drivers know how much they're paying; CHP will monitor, if declaring wrong occupancy CHP will cite

Average trip on I-10 is 9 miles, about \$6; Average trip on I-110 is 5 miles, about \$4

More bus service on I-110, some buses will be reassigned to San Pedro area

Transit rewards program – incentive to build toll credits based on usage

Metro will be collecting data for one year after implementation to see what kind of usage and to determine if impact on low income

Comments: Gary Kern questioned why CalTrans would allow carnivals to set up at the park-and-ride at PCH/Figueroa – Ms. McCune was not aware this was happening and will look into it

9. Action Items

- a. (Iniguez/Osterhoudt) moved that *the WNC change the November WNC Executive Board meeting to November 10th and the WNC Governing Board meeting to November 18th, and the WNC Executive Board meeting to December 2nd and WNC Governing Board meeting to December 9th.*

Passed 16 - 0 - 0

- b. (WNC/Ogle) moved that *the current WNC Executive Board Committee, which includes Cecilia Moreno, Jack Babbitt, Patrick Wilson and Susan Prichard be designated to submit any WNC Community Impact Statements, as long as they serve in this specific capacity or until the WNC Governing Board determines otherwise.*

Discussion: Community Impact Statements (CIS) will be posted on the City's website when the WNC takes a position for/against any City action, ordinance, etc.

CIS must be submitted before the item is heard by City Council

WNC must be informed by a City Council Committee when an item is coming up for a vote

Pat Wilson is signed up to receive notices

Comment: Rosa Arcadia stated that this is a way for NCs to give advice to City Council; minutes must be submitted with a CIS in order for the City to verify the statement

Passed 16 - 0 - 0

- c. i. (WNC/Kern) moved that *the WNC allocate \$2300 to the Wilmington Family Health Center (WFHC) for the purchase of chart racks and two high-volume copiers and that the WNC receive appropriate recognition for the contribution.*

Discussion: Dr. Lombard, WFHC requested additional funding to purchase a new computer for the center and will submit a request for consideration at the next WNC board meeting

The center (WFHC) serves 25,000 low income and medi-care patients per year, 40-50% of them live in Wilmington; has not had any funding cut backs, but is seeing more patients; funding will help keep facility running smoothly. Dr. Lombard requested the WNC to hand out information about the center's services – Cecilia will arrange to get flyers

Tom Dahlgren requested the WNC to amend the motion and increase the funding amount by \$1300 for the computer

Gary Kern did not agree to the amendment. Dr. Lombard was requested to submit the request for addition funding as proposed

Passed 16 - 0 - 0

- c. ii. (WNC/Kern) moved that *the WNC allocate \$2000 to Wilmington Middle School for the purchase of photo equipment, projector, battery packs, video cam, etc. for the drama class production of '2010 Earth Day' subject to the verification of 501(c)(3) status, and that the WNC receive appropriate recognition for the contribution.* **Passed 16 - 0 - 0**

Discussion: Ronnee Katz, Wilmington Middle School Drama Teacher said the visual arts dept does not have equipment; funds will be used to purchase what is needed to enable kids to learn how to run a theater production; WNC will be recognized with a banner.

Rosa Arcadia suggested using the grant program and the drama department's account

Equipment cannot be funded through the school, it has to be from an outside organization.

Cecilia suggested the donation could be given to PTSA, a national organization that is active on campus. Pat said it would be easier if the WNC bought the equipment and donated it to the school.

- c. iii. (WNC/Medina) moved that *the WNC allocate \$500 to the Gang Alternatives Program in support of the Holiday Toy Give-away and that the WNC receive appropriate recognition for the contribution.*

Discussion: Cecilia explained that Officer Cheryl Morris of the LA Port Police Assoc. started the

Toy Give-away last year as an extension of the LA Harbor Holiday Afloat toy drive/fundraiser, similar to what the LAPD is doing; Daisy Ybarra, Gang Alternatives Program has offered to take over the annual holiday event.

The event will be held on December 20 at Banning's Landing, 1PM - 5PM

20 students each from 5 low-income area elementary schools (3 in Wilmington, 2 in San Pedro) and 25 students each from the Wilmington and San Pedro Boys & Girls Clubs will be selected by their administrators to participate in the event. The students selected are those most in need of help. Students can bring up to 4 family members each. (150 families, approx 600 residents). The WNC will be recognized as a sponsor on a boat banner, during the skippers' awards presentation and at the Toy Give-away event. Art Hernandez requested the WNC increase the amount of the donation to \$1000. (Hernandez/WNC) moved that the donation be increased to \$1000. **Passed 15 - 0 - 1**

Motion amended to allocate \$1000 in support of the Holiday Toy Give-away **Passed 16 - 0 - 0**

- c. iv.** (WNC/Dahlgren) moved that *the WNC allocate \$1750 to the Hawaiian Avenue Elementary Education Foundation (HAEEF) in support of the Rolling Readers Program, subject to confirmation that other funding sources combined with the WNC support do not exceed the requested amount, and that the WNC receive appropriate recognition for the contribution.*

Discussion: Joe Ringlehan, HAEEF stated that it was a good idea to start the foundation in light of the budget cuts. Hawaiian Ave Elementary went from the worst performing school in the harbor area to the best performing; credits the improvement to the Rolling Readers Program; also benefits adults. Funds will pay for books kids receive at the end of the program; approx 50-100 students
Comments: Susan Ogle, program participant volunteer strongly supports the program.

Passed 16 - 0 - 0

- c. v.** (WNC/Dahlgren) moved that *the WNC allocate \$1000 to the Pedro Pet Pals to purchase a teeth cleaning machine and that the WNC receive appropriate recognition for the contribution.*

Margaret Harper and Clint Patterson, Pedro Pet Pals (PPP) – Shelter opened a year ago; just received 501(c)(3) status; purpose is to make stray and unwanted animals comfortable; 75% of calls are from Wilmington residents who want pets spayed or neutered. Requested funds be used for second anesthesia machine to be able to perform more surgeries rather than for teeth cleaning machine PPP has not received any funding from any other neighborhood councils; Cecilia recommended they approach other NCs. Tom Dahlgren agreed to amend equipment change only, no amount change.

(Dahlgren/WNC) moved that the motion be amended to reflect the change. **Passed 16 - 0 - 0**

Motion amended to allocate \$1000 to purchase anesthesia machine. **Passed 16 - 0 - 0**

10. Information Items

Cecilia thanked board members who volunteered to help with the H1N1 vaccinations; Health Dept impressed by how well it ran; approx 2000 residents Saturday & Sunday

CRA proposing to amend Wilmington Community Plan – two meetings, Nov 5 & Nov 7

Wilmington Vest Park ribbon-cutting October 26; big turnout; Salvador Lara played key role and received certificates of appreciation

Metro looking at alleviating traffic on I-405 & I-110 with Harbor Subdivision light rail;

alternatives to be submitted to Metro board in December; meeting at Port of LA, Nov 3

Change in November 18th WNC format; City Clerk will be discussing election procedures

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Refreshments –

Thank you to Pat Wilson for arranging for tonight's dinner
Reminder C. Moreno – refreshments for November meeting

RECESS

11. Report of Officers

Chair - Executive board discussed what it would mean to WNC to break into two separate NCs

WNC would have to decertify and reform as new WNC; usually NC is decertified because of abuse or lack of funding – negative connotation. Anyone who wants to be on WNC board can be representative of the community. Executive board does not recommend decertification; WNC has set an example for other NCs

Gary Kern suggested the group proposing a second Wilmington NC give a presentation to the WNC that would include who they intend to represent, goals, and what it is that they feel WNC is not doing

Co-Chair – no report

Secretary – Susan Prichard submitted written report on Congress of Neighborhood Councils

Treasurer – no report

12. Reports by Standing Committees

By Laws Committee – all board members should review City Clerk election information, pages 39-67 in WNC packet

Transportation Committee – no Oct meeting, next meeting Nov 30 or Dec 7 depending on committee members' availability

PCAC – No quorum; board discussed having a retreat to set goals and to develop a framework for PCAC subcommittees to ensure all stakeholders will still be represented

13. Unfinished Business – no comments

14. New Business – no comments

15. Reports from Caucus Groups – no reports

16. Reports from Members at Large – no reports

17. Announcements from Governing Board Members

Saturday, November 21 – Ribbon-cutting Wilmington Boys & Girls Club refurbished and enlarged facility

December 5 – LA Harbor Holiday Afloat boat parade and Holiday Boutique at Banning's Landing, 3PM – 6PM, boat parade starts at 6PM

18. Adjournment

8:54 p.m. – Next meeting will be November 18, 2009

Minutes taken by Donna Ethington, temporary Secretary
Approved, Cecilia Moreno, Chair