

WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Notes - March 23, 2011

The meeting of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) was called to order by Chair Tom Dahlgren 6:02 PM at the Wilmington Senior Center, 1371 Eubank Ave., Wilmington.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Tom Dahlgren

"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."

Chair Dahlgren informed those present that there was an English/Spanish interpreter available for those needing translation.

1. Roll Call of Governing Board Members (7)

Present: Thomas Dahlgren, Arthur Hernandez, Robert Jasso, Gary Kern, Salvador Lara, Ana Medina, Hank Osterhoud

Late: Annabell Romero, Nelson Williams

Excused: Jack Babbit, Marisela Caraballo, Cecilia Moreno, Susan Ogle, Susan Prichard, Patricia Sullivan, Patrick Wilson

Absent: Donna Ethington, Socorro Fimbres, Jackie Garcia,

2. Approval of Minutes from previous meeting (no quorum)

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

LAPD – (none present)

LAHD - **Sgt. Ryan Howley** reported that at 2:15 today there was an LAPD officers involved shooting that took place at King and Hawaiian D. The officers reported as ok and a suspect is in custody. There was also an LAPD officer attacked at F and Broad Street. It was unknown if officer is ok and anyone hurt in the community. Sgt. Howley stated that it is anywhere between 250 and 300 officers currently in the surrounding area causing street closures and helicopters in area.

Sgt. Howley introduced Officer Ramirez to the council

Officer Roberto Ramirez, began 2/28 as new Port Police CRO for Wilmington. He had been on officer for Wilmington for 5 yrs. He previously was on patrol on both land and by boat. He also rode with Sgt. Howley, when he was CRO, throughout Wilmington at the beginning of his career.

- Questions from Board

Jasso – How are you coming along with trucks parking in the neighborhoods? We also have motorcycle officers patrolling in the areas citing people.

Jasso- Is there a map for the truckers to follow that shows what streets not to use in our community? Usually the company the trucks work for provide the drivers with route maps.

4. Public Comment -

LydiaGutierrez (Lydiaforeducation@gmail.com)

Candidate running for Community College Board of Trustees seat #5. She informed the audience that there is a 70% failure rate for students in community colleges. 17% transfer to a 4 year college, 9% get their A.A. degree, 5% get their certificate. Gutierrez also stated that the children who graduate from high school have no working skills because of educational training being taken out of the schools. She emphasized that we need to make changes in education. She has been teaching for over 20 years grades kindergarten thru eighth. For the past 9 years, she has been going to Columbia helping the orphan/street children with their academic success. She asked for the audience to vote for her to represent seat 5. Provided fliers regarding reading skills programs for children and adults at Cal St Dominguez Hills.

Sgt. Howley (Port Police)

Informed the audience about the community improvement at Harry Bridges Blvd. Around April 5, Vehicular traffic will be reduced to one lane heading east bound only. West bound traffic on Harry Bridges is not allowed between Broad Ave. and Figueroa Street. Construction expected to last approximately 9 months.

Lanie Walsh (lwalsh@Portla.org)

Proposed traffic detour for Harry Bridges in 2004. There is now approval from the Department of Transportation and Public Works to close the additional lane on Harry Bridges Blvd. One lane heading eastbound only will be in effect for about 9 months. Hoping to complete the project sooner than 9 months. Provided fliers that included phone numbers to call for more information . Chair suggested including flier in April agenda mailing.

- Questions from Board

Chair-Will the street be paved with asphalt or concrete? Asphalt

Jasso- Will there be any traffic lights installed or will it be a straight way? No traffic lights will be installed from Figueroa to Broad.

Richard Diaz (rickyboycc@sbcglobal.net)

Stated that Wilmington is overshadowed by San Pedro. Informed the audience that an article in The Daily Breeze, March 17 issue, stated that the Government will be conducting a study of the refineries. Richard discussed that there are no refineries in San Pedro, they are here in Wilmington.

Carmen Chavez (banningalumnimovement@gmail.com)

Lifelong Wilmington community member. Affiliated with Banning Alumni Movement and The Wilmington Wire. Requested support for proposed Wilmington beautification project to take place summer 2011. Project will consist of painting empowering murals on the public electric boxes, and high traffic business' plain walls. Would also like to propose funds be allocated for the implementation of community empowering street light post banners along Pacific Coast Highway, Avalon Blvd, and Anaheim Street similar to those announcing exhibits. Believes that this project will showcase the artistic talent in Wilmington and help with the graffiti problem in the neighborhood. This project will be in alliance with several community organizations including WE CAN, Wilmington Wire, Global business, and anyone who wishes to participate. Requested consideration for funding or help from the council to seek funding for the proposed project and stated the

grant application will be submitted as soon as possible.

Chair made suggestion that Chavez attend The Gateway and Beautification meeting. Chavez should prepare specific sites for project to present to meeting. The WNC can make recommendations to Councilwoman Hahn after The Gateway and Beautification Committee make the proposal to WNC.

5. Government Representatives Reports-

Erika Velazquez (Erika.velazquez@lacity.org)

Reported that the WNC can expect to see her at the monthly meetings interchangeably with Celina Luna. Velazquez has been working for the city for the past 18 years. Had a report to share that Celina put together.

1. The Councilwoman will be hosting her Town Hall meeting on Thursday, April 14 at 6p.m. Senior Center, Wilmington. Asking the City departments to attend the meeting. LAPD, Street Services, Sanitation, and DWP, will be in attendance. Illegal vending will be addressed during meeting.
2. Veteran's Park will be receiving DWP water conservation upgrades that will begin in the next couple of weeks. The park will remain open during the 2 month construction phase.
3. The 7Eleven store on PCH & Avalon was approved, the site at PCH & Wilmington is still under review. There should be a determination on PCH & Wilmington site by next month's meeting.
4. WNC benches working on securing the permits for benches at no cost to council.
5. Banning Museum electrical upgrades are almost complete. DWP will make final inspection next week.
6. Rose Garden new brick, paving, and rose bushes are being installed and should be completed by May 2011, front of the house construction will begin next week with new staircase, the new walking path should be completed by June 2011.

-Questions from Board

Williams-Will it be the same panel that was at the Harbor City meeting? Some of them will be.

Williams- How has the community been notified? We will be sending notices, we will be using email, and will do a media advisory also.

6. Announcements-(none)

7. Presentation Items-(none)

8. Action Items (no quorum)

- a. The Transportation Committee
- b. The Land- Use & Planning and Transportation Committees
- c. The Land-Use & Planning Committee
- d. Janice Hahn's office

Chair asked Council if anyone has a list of priorities for Councilwoman Hahn's office using Pipeline Franchise money.

Medina- Public Works concerns are the sidewalks repairs, drainage problems, welcome to Wilmington entry signs, crosswalks with motion sensors, Lighting for parks.

Kern- Wilmington needs curb cuts for handicapped access

Hernandez- Food Banks need donations within our community.

Lara- Need money for tree trimming around Wilmington.

Chair- will email a list of projects to all the council members for review before sending list to Councilwoman Hahn's office.

Public Comment-

Compton- Suggested that money go to The Watson Rail yard. Stated railroad is carcinogenic, and the money should be offered to BNSF Railroad to turn title over to the South yard all the way down to Anaheim.

- e. Ivan Sulic to WNC student seat

9. Report of Officers-

- a. Chairman- Tom Dahlgren

1. Schedule for April meetings presented, please email any changes.

2. Two presentations lined up. Knatz, Executive Director of Los Angeles Harbor, will give update projects affecting our community. West Pac has project coming up to abandon the tanks on Avalon, next to waterfront and refurbish the tanks at Alameda as well as lay new pipelines to Valero Refinery.

3. Waiting until April or May meeting to discuss delegating funds for donation requests.

4. Warren Resources will fund a Wilmington Beautification Trust Fund in the amount of \$500,000.00 over the next 4 years. Will be funding \$200,000.00 this year in quarterly increments.

- b. Vice-Chair (absent)
- c. Secretary (absent)
- d. Treasurer (absent)

10. Report from Committees-

- a. By Laws- (Chair absent)
- b. Executive-(pass)
- c. Finance- (Chair absent)
- d. Gateway & Beautification- (Chair absent)
- e. Land-Use & Planning- (Chair absent)
- f. Transportation- (Chair absent)
- g. Public Works- Medina/ chair

1. Celina Luna & Nichole Wells will be at the next Public Work's meeting.

2. Suggested starting an official website for the city in order to promote Wilmington in a positive way within community.

Chair commented that Public Works members should create a motion for website at next committee meeting, if approved motion can be brought before the WNC meeting. He also suggested the possibility of linking the website with the City of Los Angeles website or The

Chamber of Commerce's website. Chair also asked committee to provide suggestions for maintaining website.

Chair read letter from Susan Prichard (secretary) regarding June picnic in new park. Prichard suggests scheduling the City to come to event using the WNC booth as way to help advertise the neighborhood council. There are free street trees available for community to help mitigate the impact of car pollution. Chair suggested including this information in the April agenda mailing as well as on a web page.

-Questions from Board

Kern- Stated that WNC already has a website and webmaster. Suggested using more funds toward updating our existing website and let others link with our website. Kern also suggested the Publicity Committee do more to promote the WNC.

Chair commented that he would look into how the existing WNC website could be more effectively utilized.

h. Publicity & Communication- (Chair absent)

i. PCAC Representative-(none)

11. Unfinished Business-(none)

12. New Business- (none)

13. Reports from Caucus Groups-

Kern- Stated he represents the senior group and they will be facing upcoming budget cuts. Half of the services provided seniors throughout the Harbor area may be cut. Potentially costing the state more money to provide care through nursing homes if funding is cut to organizations that care for these seniors on a daily basis.

Hernandez- Discussed the food banks in Wilmington. Believes that some pipeline money should be used to help support these active food banks that are operating independently.

14. Reports from members at large-

Medina- Port of Los Angeles school tour has been rescheduled to April 6 at 8 a.m.

Medina informed the council that there is a new business in Wilmington called World Cup Café located at Anaheim and Bay View. Hours of operation are 4 a.m. -11 p.m.

Public comment-

Albert Castanon- informed council that the Banning park restrooms need better maintenance

15. Adjourn

Adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Next meeting will be April 27, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Takeisha Smith Lankford, Admin Support Officer

Approved by Tom Dahlgren, Chair

