

WILMINGTON NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

Minutes – April 28, 2010

The meeting of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council (WNC) was called to order by Co-Chair Jack Babbitt at 6:05 PM at the Wilmington Senior Center, 1371 Eubank Ave., Wilmington.

Mr. Babbitt indicated there was no translator present. He apologized to everyone who might have needed translation services. Perhaps a neighbor could be of help. There is an electronic display of information.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Gary Kern

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.”

1. Roll Call of Governing Board Members (14) confirming a quorum.

Present: Jack Babbitt, Tom Dahlgren, Donna Ethington, Jacqueline Garcia, Arthur Hernandez, Robert Jasso, Gary Kern, Salvador Lara, Bobby McNeel, Ana Medina, Hank Osterhoudt, Marcus Perez, Susan M. Prichard, Patrick Wilson and Nelson Williams
Excused: Marisela Caraballo, Cecilia Moreno, Patricia Sullivan
Absent: Socorro Fimbres, Ramon Iniguez, Susan Ogle

2. Approval of March Minutes. (M/S – Dahlgren/Medina) **Passed: 13-0-1**

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

Officer Garcenila, LAPD – introduced her new partner – Officer Maya

She is a 14-year veteran, knows the area already

Burglary in the community is down – feels this is due to some key arrests

Only 3 last week – one a scam, the other two a crime of opportunity

Upcoming Health & Safety Fair – no date as of yet

Possibly work with UCLA summer program

Parole/Probation searches – a way of keeping tabs on the bad guys

A lot of people recently released into our community – live in halfway houses

Questions – Medina – Frigate/Denni homicide – not solved as of yet. Video not conclusive

Stop sign has yet to be replaced

Hernandez – Neighbor informing community of the number of people living in immediate

area who are designated “Megan Law” offenders. 29 around Banning High. Officer

Garcenila informed us there are actually 296 registrants in the community. LAPD personnel

do spot checks to make sure living in designated area – feet from school, park, etc.

Kern – how many housing vouchers are operational in Wilmington?

Officer Garcenila has no way of knowing.

Officer Morris, Los Angeles Port Police

Stresses the need to call LAPD, LAPP when sense there is a problem.

311 taking up to 5 weeks to respond to illegal dumping complaints

Det. Bellow, LAPP, Chop Shops – arrested a few illegal operations recently

Commercial Task Force – LAPD/LAPP/Torrance – truckers know we are working together

Homeless – LAHSA – LA Housing Services Agency – 213-216-0386 are working to help these marginalized residents of Los Angeles.

Harry Bridges – will be limiting traffic to one lane in each direction in near future.

Prichard – backup on “C” Street off ramp needs to be addressed

4. Public Comment

Connie Rivera and Susie Cortez, VP (Jasso’s daughter)

conniearivera@yahoo.com

representing Holy Family School’s Alumni Association. Formed in 10/09 in response to archdiocese indication that school might close. Alumnae formed and brought 41 students and \$10,000 to the school.

Two pronged approach

1. Become a PreK school
2. Keep school as presently situated – need 200 students
Submitting unsolicited proposal to Bishop
Requesting donations from alumnae
Must show core commitments, sustainability
Cardinal wants to show revenue and growth
3. Have support of Catholic Education Division

Doug Epperhart, Harbor Area Budget Representative

Meeting with Mayor and his representatives every other week

DONE merger with CDD will cause a employee reduction of 18 down to 4/5

Daily updates can be found at BudgetLA.org – push NC Advocates button

All Reps. are reaching out for support

NC’s budget proposal was \$22.5, but more recently been restored to \$45,000 with \$1 million in rollovers. This is the first time the NC’s will receive more than the Dept.

Working on developing training for NC’s – working with CORO, Community Partners

Also working on a media campaign

Laura Perez (lperez110@hotmail.com)

April 10 in cooperation with Mr. Lara cleaned six (6) sites in Wilmington

Received a lot of help from community, Hahn CD-15, Chamber of Commerce, Ethington.

Also received direction from City Attorney Trutanich, and food from Gonzalez/Northgate Market.

Mary Gant – Sharefest - (m_gant@hotmail.com)

Community Work Day – May 1

Banning High will see completion of the quad area with a lot of help from community donations and volunteer hours. Invited everyone to attend the culmination of this effort.

JoAnne Ruddell, Port of Los Angeles (jruddell@portla.org)

June 5 will be the first community meeting to discuss plans for the Wilmington Marina area.

5. Government Representatives

Laura Channell (laura.channell@census.gov)

Enumerators will be hitting the streets on May 1. Each person will have correct identification. If you feel something is not right, please contact LAPD.

Each person counted brings \$1000-\$1400 back to the community).

Celina Luna, CD-15, Councilwoman Hahn

City must present a balanced budget

Focus on key services – protection and public health

Employees - 850 layoffs

Furlough all employees except public safety/traffic control – 26 days

Library – reduce hours after 7:00 p.m.

DASH – increase fare from \$.25 to \$.95, stop service at 7:00 p.m.

Day Labor sites – eliminate City match

Non profits whose offices are in City buildings – charge going market rent

Neighborhood Council - \$45,000

Suspend 50/50 support of special events

Possible suspension of special events funds

Eliminate Creative Services and Environmental Affairs offices, consolidate others

Other Items

DWP rate increase of 4% – begins July 1

Banning Park grounds project on target

June 8 – Neighborhood Council elections at Banning Senior center

Gary Kern gave overview of what will happen if City charges nonprofits market rents.

6. COPE Preparedness Report and LA Floodplain Management Plan

Pat Rome – not present

7. Presentations

a. Ric Pardo, Tony Bagramyan and Christina Reeder, representing 7-11

Mr. Bagramyan is in the process of converting existing store next to 110 Freeway/PCH (1401 PCH) into a 7-11 operation. He currently has a franchise on the corner of Ocean/Alamitos in Long Beach. No major changes, but will have to relocated bathroom.

7-11 is now its own entity, no longer part of Southland. Christina Reeder (Christina.reeder@7-11.com). She is part of the real-estate section

There are two programs currently – conversion and landlords for new sites

7-11 has 33,000 stores world-wide, only 3000 in US. – None in Wilmington – This is a first!

Most are franchises – there are training sites – one in Van Nuys, 2 in Orange County

Expanding variety of foods

Questions/Comments

Dahlgren – would owner be willing to do a Spanish-style motif in future

The gas tanks were double-sided during the site's renovation

Ethington – Biofuel station for the city

Lara – hopeful will employ local talent - Owners indicates there will be 8 positions

Would like to see a store on the East-side – closer to Sanford

Jasso – No drive-through, close store from 11p to 5a. Gasoline sold 24/7

Donate day-old food to local charity

Hernandez – welcomes 7-11 to the community and Banning's Landing for special events

8. Action Items

a. *WNC Executive Committee recommends to the WNC Governing Board that the alternate location of PCH/Avalon Blvd. under the BHS sign be explored as a site of the ATSAC Hub, rather than the site at the Wilmington town Square. Seconded by Dahlgren.*

Public Comment – Gant – felt Banning High space needed for students. Very little green area on the campus.

Following discussion this motion

Did Not Pass (0-12-2)

New motion – Kern/Williams support original suggestion that the facility be situated in the last parking stall adjacent to the Town Square to the West side of Fire Station #38 per the comments by Jesus Serrano, Department of Transportation, 213-972-5047, jesus.serrano@lacity.org at our last meeting.

Passed (8-3-4)

- b. *The Planning and Land Use Committee recommends that the WNC Governing Board reaffirm its support for the establishment of a commuter rail line to service the harbor area. Further, that the WNC Governing Board encourage input from all stakeholders regarding a proposed route, location of support services and type of commuter rail service.* Seconded by Dahlgren

Babbitt explained this is a reaffirmation of the WNC position.

Hernandez feels the community needs a light-rail system

Public Comments – Compton –

20 years ago CD-15/Councilwoman Flores & staff (McCarbery) worked to have a light rail down the center of the 110 Freeway. Instead we have the current bus system.

Feels we should return to this plan.

Passed (14-0-0)

- c. *Wilmington Community Picnic – Saturday, June 12*

Who can help in maintaining booth that day?

Volunteers – Ethington (coordinator), Garcia, Hernandez, Jasso, Williams

9. Information Items

Neighborhood Council Elections – caucus nominees need to return forms by May 5.

Planning/Transportation will meet jointly to discuss the community-wide Bicycle Plan. This meeting will be held this coming Monday, May 3, at Noon in Mr. Kern's office

RECESS

10. Report of Officers

Treasurer – Wilson

DONE staff called Monday to ask questions and additional information

Felt good because no claim had been rejected

11. Reports by Standing Committee

- Gateway-Beautification – Babbitt

Met last month. Took over the bus bench program and hope to have them installed shortly

- Transportation - Ethington

BNSF-McFarland “Quiet Zone”

Line located in residential area. Community would like a “Quiet Zone”

DOT has requested this twice before – denied because of priority

No Parking Signs – Residential Areas

Taxis are concerned with verbiage. City working on this currently.

- PCAC – Dahlgren

Questions regarding Wilmington's expansion plans

Harbor Commission motion to create MOU relative to this action.

Port of Long Beach is to attend next meeting to discuss their plans within the Port of Los Angeles.

12. Census 2010 Ad Hoc Committee Report – Prichard

Census personnel visited Hawaiian Avenue twice – beginning of school and dismissal time

Ms. Channell made presentation at our meeting earlier.

13. Unfinished Business – None

14. New Business - None

15. Reports from Caucus Groups

Education Caucus – Prichard

Held a meeting, but poor attendance

At-Large Caucus – Medina

Reported on “The Bistro” a five-course dinner provided by the Culinary class students’ each Thursday evening for \$25. Some WNC members attended last week as Mr. McNeel’s guests.

The meal was delicious. Suggest everyone tries to support program

17. Announcements from Governing Board Members - None

Williams – he is interested in Planning, Land Use issues – would like to be more involved.

Mr. Babbitt encouraged him to attend Planning and Land Use Committee meeting next Monday.

Lara – his eldest son will shortly graduate from Berkeley with an Electrical Engineering degree. He wants his son to stay close to home so is looking for a job for his son.

Adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Next meeting will be May 26, 2010 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes taken by Susan M. Prichard, Secretary

Approved, Jack Babbitt, Co-Chair