



**CITY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA
WESTLAKE NORTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

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Regular Meetings: 2nd Thursday of the Month
Location: Central City Neighborhood Partners CCNP
501 South Bixel St. Los Angeles CA 90017

Westlake North Neighborhood Council WNNC Regular Board Meeting
Thursday November 9, 2017 at 6:00pm at CCNP

1. Call to order

- a. Sandra delivers opening remarks and meeting starts at 6:12pm.

2. Roll call

- a. Present members: Sandra Villalobos, Jennifer Virgen, Randy Waller, Harold McCarthy, Karina Rodriguez, Aurora Pineda, Margarita Alvarez, Consuelo Morales, Ventura Florencia
- b. Absent members: Yvonne, Alecianoemi, Rocky Valenzuela
 - i. Yvonne and Alecianoemi arrived after roll call and were present for majority of meeting.

3. Previous month's meeting minutes.

- a. Randy moves to approve October's meeting minutes.
- b. Sandra moves to begin introductions.

4. Community Announcements

- a. Officer Rob Solorio introduces self and briefs council on neighborhood crime
 - i. Most crime was "crime of opportunity" aka things left alone in the open.
 - ii. Reminds citizens that they are the eyes and ears of the community.
- b. Empower LA: Mario Hernandez
 - i. Neighborhood empowerment department is coordinating Civic Youth 2.0 which provides training for neighborhood council leaders — it is

recommended for each neighborhood to send at least one male and one female to these.

1. Subdivision (open through January) and By-law (open until April 15)

5. Community Presentations

- a. Enrich LA
 - i. Randy moves to table presentation due to absence of Enrich LA reps.
 1. Board votes to table presentation
- b. Blue LA
 - i. Blue LA representatives ask to be invited to provide more detailed presentation at the next board meeting.
 1. Blue LA reps quickly outline program intentions and summarize basic functionality and role in the community.
 2. 'Mitch' for Blue LA says community is enthusiastic about program based on his surveys.

6. General Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- a. Sandra asks for public comments, none are made

7. Agendized for Discussion and Vote

- a. Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) \$1000 funding discussion is postponed until next meeting.
- b. \$3000 for Clean Streets Challenge
 - i. Karina outlines Challenge and supports \$3000 funding.
 - ii. Sandra moves to vote
 1. Council vote passes.
- c. Winter Wonderland Festival at MacArthur Park
 - i. Sandra moves to move item E to item A
 1. Mac seconds. Council vote passes.
 - a. Item moved
- d. Discussion and possible motion to approve monetary contribution to Winter Wonderland Festival
 - i. Mac inquires about festival timing.
 - ii. Aaron Shaw outlines Winter Wonderland Festival dates and event details.
 1. Festival is requesting \$9500 from each Neighborhood Council.
 2. Randy moves to contribute up to \$9500
 - a. Mario indicates this could be in violation of law due to writing of agenda.
 - b. Sandra emphasizes this point
 - c. Mario reiterates his point—possible Brown Act violation.

- iii. Mario mentions improving community involvement in event and increasing collaboration with other neighborhood councils. Involvement can be generated by informing community.
- iv. Jennifer points out \$9500 is a large sum and cautions against loose spending.
 - a. Sandra concurs that monetary spending is not reflected in improvements in community, however notes that further discussion should take place. Suggests motion for special meeting,
- v. Mac motions to organize special meeting
 - 1. Sandra seconds. Council votes in favor.
- vi. Special meeting tentatively scheduled for Thursday, November 14
- e. Sandra praises Mr. de la Roza's exercise/event
 - i. Consuelo agrees
- f. Sandra moves to remove expenditure on possible expense card from agenda.

8. Board Items

- a. Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report (MER)
 - i. Sandra moves to approve October Expenditure Report
 - ii. Board votes in favor
- b. Approval of October minutes
 - i. Randy moves to approve minutes
 - ii. Board votes in favor.
- c. Discussion and possible motion to amend the FY 2017-2018 Annual Budget
 - i. Discussion is tabled since Rocky is not present.
- d. Discussion and possible action to fill Board Vacancies: 2-At Large Rep
 - i. Alejandra Cooper -- lived in LA for 27 years, single mom, now married, 3 kids, wants single parent experience to be improved in the community.
 - ii. Katherine Ugalde -- childhood resident, expresses interest in community service and helping community through outreach.
 - iii. Sandra motions for questioning.
 - iv. Mac asks which committees the candidates are interested in.
 - 1. Katherine – community outreach and bringing in resources.
 - 2. Alejandra – mental health
 - v. Randy moves to seat both candidates. Mac seconds. Sandra hears vote
 - 1. Vote passes.
 - vi. Candidates are seated as new council board members.

9. Alejandra Cooper and Katherine Ugalde are now participating as members of the board but must complete certifications.

- i. Mac notes that a full council is now in session.
- ii. Randy mentions they will get a copy of the by-laws.

10. Discussion and report of the upkeep of the Westlake North Neighborhood Council webpage. Make sure that agendas and minutes are being updated on a regular.

- a. It was noted on retreat that a social media (Facebook etc..) presence should be sought.
- b. Mac notes: he has an archive of photos and documents that can be made available to the rest of the board via google drive.
- c. Karina comments regarding outreach that she doesn't have board member contact information.
 - i. Mac has a spreadsheet of contact information.

11. Discuss and Possible motion to revise and set standing rules.

- a. Randy has been collecting standing rules from neighborhood councils and notes that downtown has among the best set, albeit incomplete.
- b. Mario recommends creating an ad hoc committee to establish standing rules.
- c. Sandra moves to establish ad hoc committee next month
- d. Randy wants process done by December so it can be distributed via email by January
- e. Sandra moves to form by laws committee including those mentioned above to work on standing rules.
 - i. Motion passes unanimously.

12. Discussion and possible motion to adapt the code of civility to all board members.

- a. Margarita motions to adopt Code of Civility. Jennifer seconds motion.
- b. Sandra asks for discussion.
- c. Sandra and Margarita read Code of Civility aloud.
- d. Ivonette asks if code is/will be translated in Spanish.
- e. Randy says it will be available in Spanish.
- f. Randy asks to curtail questions and vote.
- g. Vote passes 10-1
- h. Aurora indicates comfort with current translation situation and has faith that board will move forward with best intentions and make good on promises to provide translations.
- i. Public comment: First council meeting, wishes that materials were available in Spanish at current meeting.
- j. Randy moves to vote given stipulation that Spanish translation will be provided.
- k. Vote passes 10-1
- l. Sandra moves to continue with the meeting.

13. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Board Regular Meetings
 - i. Sandra says next meeting to be held December 4th.
- b. By-laws

- i. Margarita will be setting up committee meeting for this issue and invites more members to join.
 - ii. Mario adds that the meeting must be 'Brown acted' by 72 hours.
- c. Beautification and Land Use
 - i. Sandra spoke to Molly about a training course "Planning 101" and invites the board to take part re: Hartford St. and similar issues.
 - ii. Mac: Neighbors have been scared about new ownership into community (Evictions, community in the dark about developments and purchases)
 - iii. Sandra mentions Hugo re: Hartford St.
- d. Outreach Committee
 - i. Karina passes out reports regarding unsafe areas and improvements to be made.
 - 1. Alvarado seemingly unsafe
 - ii. Clean Streets event to take place on Hartford, Beaudry, Union, 6th
 - iii. Resources event will also happen, educating on sustainability.
 - iv. Karina requests board help disseminate info regarding outreach event to help Karina contact potential community volunteers/local actors.
 - v. Sandra mentions public urination/public safety problem around Whitmore St.
 - vi. Karina brings up that women and girls from middle school age and older are being harassed verbally
 - 1. Karina wants a self-defense class organized for community.
 - vii. Sandra asks for questions for the Outreach Committee.
 - 1. Discuss and report back on EPA event and information received from community.
 - 2. Discussion to add Westlake North Neighborhood Council to social media and for Outreach Committee to be in charge.
 - viii. Budget and Finance Committee
 - 1. Sandra asks to move on from this committee due to Rocky's absence.
 - 2. Randy wants to devise a one page budget to be distributed each meeting which will include total expenditures and money in an up to date fashion.
 - ix. Youth Education Committee
 - 1. Ventura mentions street fairs and bringing in a self-defense class as well as colleges and non-profit groups to increase community involvement and openness.

14. NC Alliances and Liaison Reports

- a. Film Liaison
 - i. Sandra says Rocky is absent.

- b. Animal Services Liaison
 - i. Jennifer reminds public to keep animals sheltered from winter temperatures.
- c. Homeless Liaison
 - i. Ivonnette mentions survey regarding mixed income housing, jobs, community employment, and environment.
 - ii. Randy asks when the homeless count is taking place
 - 1. No definitive answer found.
- d. Neighborhood Sustainability
 - i. Karina mentions an event to build plants and help repurpose resources
 - ii. Randy asks about forum to fund equity among neighborhood councils.
 - iii. Sandra says she has applied for this program and will inform the board with progress.

15. Board Member Comments and Announcements

- a. Karina shows a certificate won, noting the seal, inquires about this neighborhood getting a seal for certificates
- b. Sandra notes to allocate funds to buy a seal to be used on certificates.
- c. Sandra asks for board members to be given permission to use Social Media (Facebook etc.)
- d. Sandra would like agenda to be distributed in timely manner
 - i. Randy will take any help he can get.
- e. Ivonette asks about Clean Streets Challenge participation from board members.
 - i. Sandra responds that over 100 volunteers are committed, including board members.
- f. Mac wishes to collect the tax documents that were passed out earlier to dispose of them properly.
- g. Randy moves to adjourn
- h. Public comment: what to do about people not picking up after their pets.
- i. 2nd public comment: reiterates same concern.
- j. Margarita mentions publicly available plastic bags for pet pickup located in other cities.

16. Meeting Adjourned 8:12pm