

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WESTWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
APRIL 6, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Westwood Homeowners Association was held on Tuesday, April 6, 2021 at 7 p.m. online. Board members present were Linda Blank, Antonio Braga, Paola Carrillo, John Heidt, Jack Hileman, Eloise Metcalfe, Stephen Resnick, Scott Tamkin, and Mary Thorndal. Also present were LAPD SLO Pete Ojeda and West LA Homeless President Michael Stevenson.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Stephen Resnick called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was present.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mary Thorndal moved to approve the March 2, 2021 minutes, seconded by Linda Blank, and approved unanimously.

4. NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME REPORT

SLO Pete Ojeda reported that auto theft is still a problem and there were some burglaries in the 1300 block of Midvale. There are about 30 tents in Westwood Park. COVID regulations will soon be relaxed so occupants are being warned that regulations against camping, bulky items, and debris will be enforced again. LAPD is coordinating with RAP. LAPD will address crime and RAP is responsible for cleaning up after any arrests. SLO Ojeda will meet with Vice and Narcotics officers because there is a drug problem at the park.

5. CD5 REPORT

A. Westwood Gardens Park

Linda Blank reported that CD5 will not commit money for new play equipment at the park. Only if there is money left over after other projects at other parks are done will it be used for new play equipment.

B. Westwood Park

Homeless have moved further into the park from Veteran Avenue. Park Director Eric Mellem is adding a couple of seats to the Park Advisory Board. RAP is not involving the community in decisions about how to spend money in the park, though a list of what needs to be fixed there was made. Mike Shull has not been responsive. Councilmember Koretz, Mike Shull, and the Park Commissioners should be contacted about this. Stephen Resnick reported that extra money for Aidan's Place was not allocated at the last meeting because people called in.

C. Westwood Park – Safety Issue

Cars driving onto the grass in the park were reported to LAPD and CD5.

D. Traffic Mitigation

There is \$600,000 left from the Santa Monica Blvd. traffic mitigation money.

6. INTRODUCTION OF SPECIAL GUEST: MICHAEL STEVENSON,
PRESIDENT OF WEST LA HOMELESS

Michael Stevenson explained that the group supports dedicated outreach workers. The challenge is fundraising. 501(c)(3) status was obtained in January. \$120,000 has been raised as of March and there are outstanding proposals to major corporations. A GoFundMe account will also be set up, with a press release to announce it. Two caseworkers are expected to start in June or July. Volunteers are needed to be spotters for the caseworkers. A formal launch will take place on July 10, 2021 at Westwood Park.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

WHA has \$84,603 in the savings account and \$15,075.55 in checking. Stephen Resnick dropped off checks at the Century City office but that money hasn't been invested yet. Linda Blank will contact the office. Mary Thorndal reported that she got the documents she needed.

8. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

9. MOTION TO SUPPORT PREVIOUS COMMUNITY AGREEMENT ON
CHANGES TO WESTWOOD VILLAGE SPECIFIC PLAN

Stephen Resnick reported that changes to the plan were agreed upon and then he heard from City Planner Zuriel Espinosa that CD5 wanted to add or review other issues, which could cause a delay in hearings and possibly push summer hearings to next year.

Linda Blank moved, "WHA reiterates its support for the agreed-upon changes to the Westwood Village Specific Plan." John Heidt seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

10. MAINTENANCE OF TRAFFIC CIRCLES ASHTON/WESTHOLME

Eloise Metcalfe reported that Marisol could design a new configuration for the traffic circle but there may be a problem with irrigation. The board agreed that she should give a cost estimate for plans.

11. WHA EMAIL BLAST

Eloise Metcalfe stated that there are two groups to address, members and prospective members, and each group's email should have a clear message.

12. WEST LA HOMELESS (WLAH.ORG)

Antonio Braga reported that WLAH is contracting with People's Concern.

13. THE MAJESTIC CREST

Stephen Resnick will get the date for the meeting about the Crest from UCLA and send it out.

14. WESTWOOD TOMORROW

There is a meeting tomorrow at 4 p.m. featuring Wayne Ratkovich as speaker.

15. LIVABLE CALIFORNIA

A. Motion for Donation

John Heidt moved, "WHA will donate \$500 to Livable California." Scott Tamkin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

16. LAND USE ITEMS

A. 1610 Bentley

This site has been partially cleaned up.

B. 1427 – 1433 Greenfield

This was supposed to be heard at today's PLUM meeting but it was terminated due to an audio problem. This was on the agenda at last month's meeting, which was also terminated due to a technical problem.

C. 10926 Ohio

This project was appealed.

D. Belmont

This was supposed to be heard at today's PLUM meeting but it was terminated due to an audio problem. This was on the agenda at last month's meeting, which was also terminated due to a technical problem.

E. Sprouts

Sprouts signed an 11-point agreement, mainly about delivery times, noise, and alley signage, but problems arose under a new manager. Terri Dickerhoff has resolved these issues.

17. WEBSITE

No report was given.

18. MEMBERSHIP

Eloise Metcalfe showed the masks for new members. Scott Tamkin suggested buying a banner on Fairburn's fence and Paola Carrillo suggested buying one for Emerson's fence. The purchase of yard signs reading "Join WHA" with the URL was discussed. They could be placed on busy streets, at the edge of the neighborhood, and in members' yards. Fifty signs should be ordered.

19. ADJOURNMENT

President Stephen Resnick adjourned the meeting at 9:03 p.m.