



# Wilmington Neighborhood Council

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## REGULAR BOARD MEETING - MINUTES

**Wednesday, March 22, 2017, 6:34pm**  
Phineas Banning High School – Craigin Theater  
1527 Lakme Avenue, Wilmington, CA 90744

<b>Board Members</b>	<b>Roll Call</b>
Ernesto (Ernie) Aguilar	Present
Nancy Anaya	Present, arrived 6:44 pm
Sylvia Arredondo	Present
Valerie Contreras	Present
Rick Cruz	Present
Catherine (Cathy) Familathe	Present
Socorro Fimbres	Present
Monica Garcia-Massey	Absent, excused
Margaret Hernandez	Absent, Unexcused
Robert Jones	Present
Ignacio (Nacho) Ortiz	Present
Roque Pech	Present, arrived 6:38 pm
Carlos Sanchez	Present, arrived 7:00 pm

### 1. Call to Order

a. **Pledge of Allegiance** - The meeting was called to order at 6:34 pm by Ignacio Ortiz, Chair of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council.

b. **Roll Call:** A quorum of 11 board members present (see list above). There were approximately 30 stakeholders present. Tabling items 2 3 4 of budget items C D and E to next meeting.

**Rudy Mendoza** – Next year we will be one school. There used to be one small school and one large school. After June 19, we will be one school. BACIS will be closed. Banning has 6 Academic Academies. We hope to have a STEAM Academy. Thanks to Janet Grothe for her work to support STEAM. We offer Engineering, Robotics, and Internships. Banning has something for everyone. We welcome all the students from BACIS. We hope to have a nursing school.

c. **Opening Remarks from the Chair** - Welcome. Agendas at back. We will discuss items in the order that they are listed. Two minutes to speak per person. We will follow rules of decorum. One person at time speaking. We will follow Brown Act.

### 2. Reports from Government Offices

a. **U.S. Congresswoman Barragan's Office** - No representative present.

b. **CA State Assemblyman Gibson's Office** - Victor Ibarra present.

Gibson to host an Immigration forum on April 1 at St. Peter and Paul Catholic Church.

He will also host a Twitter town hall April 12.

c. **Mayor Eric Garcetti's Office** – Manny Lopez

Los Angeles participated in a day of immigration action across 60 cities on March 21. Resources were promoted for immigrants to protect themselves.

Garcetti issued a new directive to stand with immigrants. LAPD Special Order 40. All city departments cannot be used city specific resources to not be used for federal deportation or illegal detainment.

Garcetti is looking forward to working with the Harbor Area to streamline efforts for planning, housing, homeless efforts. He also wants to increase transparency at city hall.

Safe sidewalk – Bureau of Engineering. \$31 million annual investment. There will be priority for certain corridors, especially areas that need disability infrastructure fixed. Go to sidewalks.org for more information.

As part of the LA Youth program, 15,000 youth were hired. A goal is set to make that 20,000 in three years. Applications available April 1. LA County partners with the city.

d. Councilman Joe Buscaino's Office - Gabby Medina.

This city council term will be five and half years as opposed to 4 years to line up city elections with federal elections. This will ideally maximize voter turnout for elections. There are “Know Your Rights” opportunities coming up in the area. Thirty lawyers will come pro bono for consultation. It will be at Harry Bridges School April 1.

Prop. 64 passed last year. City had Measure M and Measure N on this past election. N was abandoned. M regulates how shops and growers will operate. We want to engage the community for feedback. Neighborhood can add feedback to council file via a community impact statement. Wilmington is the most industrialized zone in the City of Los Angeles.

Machado lake was under construction with Prop. 0 funding. It will be opening soon. Please participate in Machado Lake's Park Advisory Board. If the community utilizes the park, it will discourage illicit uses. Additional one million dollars for Harbor Sport Complex is moving forward.

There will be a solar farm at Ken Malloy Regional Park. Power will be sold to the Department of Water and Power. Buscaino's office is coordinating with Mayor's office for an open house.

Los Angeles Port Police - Jane Chiapetta

The Port of Los Angeles held a Youth Leadership Conference. It was a good opportunity to showcase careers in Law enforcement. The port police want to encourage a positive perception of police officers in the community. Officers want to do more in Wilmington.

The port police are addressing encampments. There was one under the Pacific Coast Highway near California Cartage. 11,000 square feet were cleared. Officers are participating on task forces to address relocation of encampments and illegal dumping.

There have been copper wire thefts in Wilmington, especially on Alameda. Call the police if you see anything out of the ordinary.

Port of Los Angeles - Cecelia Moreno

On March 15, the port hosted an International Economic Summit. There was representations from Harbor Area schools. A Tijuana school won some challenges.

On March 30 at Bannings Landing 6-8 p.m. there will be a presentation on the Wilmington Waterfront Project. The firm will be introduced. The port wants community to be engaged.

The March 27 Neighborhood Council president's meeting is canceled. April 24<sup>th</sup> is the next meeting. The Port

will host Earth Day activities: chalk festival, education on California native plants and giveaway of a planter with a succulent.

During World Trade Week, there will be free boat tours from Banning's Landing.

### **3. Budget and Finance**

Maya restaurant was paid. The board doesn't have bank card yet. Once the board has it, members can process online payments.

The Wilmington Neighborhood Council has more than \$18,000 unspent. The board can figure out how to use \$12,000 to best serve the community.

If the board gets reports in good standing, it might get an additional \$20,500.

### **4. Announcements from Governing Board Members**

Ernesto Aguilar – Allies are looking cleaner. Thanks to police departments.

Valerie Contreras – Harbor Christian Center is doing cleanups every Saturday in March.

Robert Jones – Wanted to acknowledge Salvador Lara for the work he does in the community.

### **5. Action Items**

#### **a. Review and Approve Meeting Minutes for February 2017 Board Meeting**

Roque Pech called for a correction on the January 2017 expenditure.

Valerie Contreras called for the Publicity Committee Appointment to be stricken from the minutes. There was no objection.

Motion by Sylvia Arredondo to approve February 2017 meeting minutes, seconded by Nacho Ortiz and passed with 11 yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Cruz, Contreras, Familathe, Hernandez, Jones, Ortiz, Pech and Sanchez), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

#### **b. Discussion & possible action on the additional \$5000 NC funding already approved for all neighborhood councils.**

Roque Pech – The funds are already deposited in our account.

Valerie Contreras – She wanted to know if funds were allocated to anything specific.

The board discussed that they outlined what they might do with additional funds back at the Board Retreat.

#### **c. Discussion & action to hire a minute taker for the Wilmington Neighborhood Council Board & Stakeholder's Meeting.**

Motion by Margie Hernandez to hire a minute taker for the Wilmington Neighborhood Council Board & Stakeholder's Meeting, seconded by Sylvia Arredondo and passed with 11 yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Cruz, Contreras, Familathe, Hernandez, Jones, Ortiz, Pech and Sanchez), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

#### **e. Discussion & possible action to hire someone to work in the Wilmington Office.**

The board decided to discuss the specifics on costs at next meeting. The board also discussed how many hours

the potential office might need to work.

Motion by Cathy Familathe to form an Ad Hoc Committee to determine the specifics of hiring an office worker for the Wilmington Neighborhood Council, seconded by Margie Hernandez and failed with 3 yes (Familathe, Hernandez, Anaya), 5 no (Aguilar, Cruz, Jones, Ortiz, and Sanchez) and 3 abstentions (Arredondo, Contreras, Pech).

Sylvia Arredondo – The board discussed some of the details and responsibilities for an office worker at the Executive officer's meeting. Ad hoc committee is not necessary. The executive committee can continue to work on this issue.

Ignacio Ortiz - Agreed that it could be discussed further in the executive meetings.

#### **f. Discussion of five community impact statements by board members.**

Sylvia Arredondo – She went over what a Community Impact Statement is and invited Neighborhood Council input to the policy in the City of Los Angeles.

Community Impact Statements can be submitted before fiscal year ends. Should submit in April or May. Five members should be designated to file community impact statements.

Gabby Medina - The board may file on many different things. Councilman Buscaino's office can assist you.

Roque – Online voting is one topic that we can submit a community impact statement on. Next meeting let's discuss this. We had online voting last year.

#### **6. Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items**

Nick Rojas – Neighborhood councils need to work on getting the word out. The principal of Banning High School, Mr. Mendoza, mentioned things that are disconcerting. LAUSD arbitrarily decided schools were failing. In January, LAUSD chose to close BASIS. Mr. Mendoza gave unsubstantiated figures to the board earlier.

John Stinson – Over 100 schools were contacted for the art show that the San Pedro Art Association is putting on for Harbor Area students. The association is looking forward to discuss this project with the board. Members of the association will be podcasting and uploading videos on life. The logo for the Wilmington Neighborhood Council was on last year's promotional materials for the art show.

Brandon Molina – The People's Climate March is on April 29. Wilmington will host the Los Angeles march. Caring about this issue needs to start in neighborhoods. Wilmington is on the frontlines of climate change. The Neighborhood Council should endorse this event.

Luis Gonzalez – My neighbors and I are tired of Al Dahra ACX, Inc. loading and off loading hay. Streets are full of hay. There is pollution. Wilmington should have similar rules as richer cities like Beverly Hills.

Carlos Sanchez invited Gonzalez to be on the Transportation Committee.

Giselle – We need a phase out of fossil fuels. Refinery expansions such as the Tesoro expansion undermine sustainability efforts. The fossil fuel industry heavily influences our community. We need to choose health over corporate wealth.

Omar Medina – Resist Tesoro bringing Bakken and tar sands crudes here. Right now those crudes do not have access to our area but Tesoro's plans would break through that isolation. Processing that fuel will emit higher

green house gases. The project would connect us to the Dakota Access Pipeline. We believe in sovereignty for tribes.

Mariela – Justice Transition Elec. Vehicles. Green Jobs. Immigrants voice. No place for discrimination.

Albert Ramirez – Kudos to Communities for a Better Environment and the youth members. The fourth annual Rock the Vote at Banning High is on May 19. It will feature a concert and community resource fair. There will be voter registration to vote in two months. The event is open to public and it begins on 2 p.m.

Steve Salas – Speak your minds on March 30 at Bannings Landing, 6pm, during the Port of Los Angeles' Wilmington Waterfront presentation.

You should meet with the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power about removal of oil tanks in the neighborhood.

Carson might sue Tesoro over the improper Draft Environmental Impact Report. Look into using the Los Angeles City Attorney to do the same.

Meet with Vopak. They have five million to 10 million dollars available for community improvement programs. Why not \$20 million?

How many tickets are going to truckers for violating penal codes?

Where is the Los Angeles County representative tonight?

Anjelica Lopez - BACIS High School allowed me to grow socially. We had special opportunities. I am sad to see BACIS close. I got accepted to UCLA. The school changed the lives of Wilmington youth.

Carmen Caseres – I am a teacher at BACIS. Working at BACIS was a unique environment. BACIS was nominated for a gold ribbon. We needed more time to grow.

Alfredo Chavez – There was a decision made a year ago to close BACIS. The school was not traditional and it was successful. Teachers took pride in teaching. I was empowered and equipped with skills to start my path to becoming an entrepreneur using computer science and engineering. I am grateful to teachers. BACIS deserves a chance to continue.

Monserat – Please endorse the People's Climate March. Tesoro is the highest emitter of green house gases. It will be the largest refinery on the west coast if the project moves forward. West Long Beach and Carson will be also be at risk.

Ashley Hernandez – I am a youth organizer for Communities for a Better Environment. Major attention and focus is being brought to Tesoro and their expansion project with this march. We have put other issues in the spotlight that have led to changes. We challenged oil drilling process in Los Angeles and we were able to change it. CBE efforts made the GRIS 50. Al Gore and Van Jones have been on that list. And now Wilmington is on that list. We need to love Wilmington in the way that it deserves it.

Natalia – Thank you. Don't give up. Trying to stop Tesoro Project. Please recommend that they review and revise the DIR. Not mentioning all damages. Tesoro was found guilty of misreporting numbers.

Art Gonzalez - I want to give the council a hand. We need to hold Buscaino accountable. He promotes more

police officers and matters of justice. But we are opening jails and closing down schools. How could he let that happen if he has it in their heart to make a difference in education and the environment. Buscaino is backpedaling on Clean Air. What is his agenda? He should come and tell us.

Alicia Rivera – Please ask the South Coast Air Quality Management District to recirculate the Draft Environmental Impact Report for the Tesoro Refinery expansion project. It is totally deficient. Tesoro wants to put eight new humongous tanks at their refinery to store fossil fuels. Tesoro will almost double their storage capacity. We have seen derrails for the types of crude that Tesoro wants to bring here. It is dangerous to transport Bakken and Tar Sands crudes via rail. There is also much more sulfur in these fuels. If the project moves forward, there will be more asthma, and a whole lot of flaring.

Octaviano Rios- If the board wants to make bylaw modifications and adjustments, do so in April. Submit by May 1. Please look at Neighborhood Council profiles.

Funding moved to city clerks office. June 1 is the last day for a funding request and event approval. June 7 is the last day to issue payments from Union bank. June 11 is the last day to use purchase card. DONE will streamline documents. There will be a Harbor Area Funding Round table on April 18.

March 29 from 7 to 9 p.m., there will be a By-laws best practices workshop in Harbor City, Kaiser Permanente Hospital.

Choose Neighborhood Purpose Grants that unite the board.

Remember to always hold City Hall accountable and promote civic engagement.

Motion by Valerie Contreras to have a special meeting to get finances in order and to agendaize expenditures before the deadlines. Seconded by Roque Pech and passed with 11 yes (*Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Cruz, Contreras, Familathe, Hernandez, Jones, Ortiz, Pech and Sanchez*), 0 no, and 0 abstentions.

Special meeting will be April, 5 at 6 p.m. possibly at library or Municipal Building on Avalon Boulevard. 5bi. - Thanked Nancy. Val and Cat got serial numbers figure out how to dispose of. Want to paint. Need. Might take a look at city clearing house?  
Breakdown of what we need.

## **7. Reports from Board Members, Committee and Liaisons**

Planning Committee – Meets once a month. Agendas are posted on on website.

Transportation Committee- Will meet April 11 at 7 pm at Wilmington Library.

Beautification Committee – We have been organizing clean ups, Harbor Christian Center is leading cleanups. We are also working with Clean Wilmington and Friends of Broad Avenue Elementary. Trash bins were donated. The next committee meeting is April 11 at 6:30 pm.

Environmental Committee – Recommendation to approve recirculate draft impact report. Discussed mission statement. Committee meets on the third Monday of every month. New members will complete ethics training.

Individuals and Board can make recommendations on the 2017 Scoping Plan. Please make comments and advocate for zero emission infrastructure.

Nancy Anaya – Board of Supervisors wrote a letter to Tesoro advocating that they phase out hydrofluoric acid as a catalyst and use only sulfuric acid.

Ignacio Ortiz – I encourage stakeholders to listen to committee report. We want to work to get the word out about what we are doing and have the people who gave public comment to get involved in committees.

## **8. Future Agenda Items**

Roque Pech - encouraged the Board to work together to translate Board Retreat notes into documents to be turned in to DONE.

Highlights included supporting art related projects, economic development, beautification, environmental remediation and sustainability.

The budget was itemized for the board to review and add to plan.

Motion by Cathy Familathe to approve strategic plan, seconded by Ernie Aguilar and passed with 11 yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Cruz, Contreras, Garcia-Massey, Familathe, Fimbres, Jones, Ortiz, Pech and Sanchez), 0 no, and 0 abstention(s).

## **9. Adjournment**

Motion by Cathy Familathe to adjourn meeting, seconded by Ernie Aguilar and passed with 11 yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Cruz, Contreras, Garcia-Massey, Familathe, Fimbres, Jones, Ortiz, Pech and Sanchez), 0 no, and 0 abstention(s).

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 pm. The next scheduled meeting is March 22, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,  
Christian L. Guzman,  
for the Wilmington Neighborhood Council