

Wilmington Neighborhood Council

MINUTES FOR SPECIAL MEETING GOVERNING BOARD & STAKEHOLDER MEETING

Wednesday, November 15, 2017 - 6:30pm

Phineas Banning High School
1527 Lakme Ave. Wilmington, CA 90744

Board Members	Roll Call
Ernesto (Ernie) Aguilar	Present
Nancy Anaya	Present, arrived 7:00 p.m.
Sylvia Arredondo	Present
Valerie Contreras	Present
Moises Cortes	Present
Catherine (Cathy) Familathe	Excused Absence
Socorro Fimbres	Present
Sylvia Gordon	Present
Robert Jones	Present
Kim Luke	Present
Denise Martinez	Excused Absence
Roque Pech	Present
Carlos Sanchez	Present

1. Pledge of Allegiance

Call to Order/Roll Call of Governing Board Members

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m. by Sylvia Arredondo, Chair of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council.

A quorum of 10 board members were present (see list above). There were about 15 stakeholders present.

Remarks from the chair - Welcome. The council is elected by local stakeholders. Packets with agenda item information are in the lobby of the theatre. One person at a time speaking. We will follow the Brown Act and code of civility. If you have any questions, let me know. You may fill out a speaker card before you make a comment.

2. SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

Manny Lopez from Mayor Garcetti's office swore in Sylvia Campos-Gordon, Kim Luke and Moises Cortes.

3. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Toni – Unfortunately Wilmington has not given much to me. I went to schools in Carson and San Pedro. I am fed up living next to a methadone clinic. The people in the flowershop are engaged in illegal activities. They have done so for one year. I need some help.

Art Gonzalez – Time is important, you should get started at 6:30 pm. There are laws that seem to protect politicians that receive money from refineries. Joe Buscaino is a political bum because he profits from oil refineries. Let's organize and boycott oil companies. I would also suggest doing administrative items after action times.

Jacqueline Lopez – I agree that administrative items should go after action. There is an abandoned boat and other items in neighborhood on Q street. We would like assistance in removing trash.

Susan Prichard – Thanks to President Sylvia Arredondo. Tomorrow and Friday Tsu Chi health center will have a CPR training in Spanish Thursday morning November 16 and in English on Friday afternoon November 17. 1st of December 10:30 and 11:30 a.m. there will be a class on emergency preparedness. Advertisements on phone poles are getting out of hand. Please select a rep to attend Long Beach Airport meetings. Huntington Beach is complaining so more planes might fly over Wilmington.

I would like to see more partnerships between the council and schools and non profits organizations to take advantage of resources. I want to help and participate on a committee. You are representing Wilmington in a proud way.

4. REPORTS FROM GOVERNMENT AGENCY OFFICES

M/S/C Fimbres/Arredondo to hear reports from police officers first. 11 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Jones, Pech and Sanchez, Cortes, Fimbres, Luke, Gordon.), 0 No and 0 abstentions.

- a. Jane Britain from Port of Los Angeles Police – There has been illegal dumping throughout Wilmington. Please report that and abandoned vehicles. South of Harry Bridges on Marine Street there are the most problems. There was a stolen vheicle audit. There were 18 vehicles stolen from Wilmington. 113 vehicles were recovered. They were used possibly for dismantling. 1997 hondas are being stolen the most. Everyone is welcome to the Winter Wonderland at the Wilmington Waterfront Park.
- b. Andrew Gonzalez from Los Angeles Police Department – I saw the boat mentioned by Jacqueline Lopez and requested for it to be towed. The towing company did not have the correct equipment. There is a date and time stamp on that request I made. I contacted another organization and they also did not have the correct equipment. We need to reach out to who is responsible and ask them to be prepared. Lets have more government and department representatives here so that they can address issues. There was a shooting and the shooter and driver are in custody. Crime has been noticeably up in the past few weeks.
Socorro Fimbres - There should also be more resources for rec. facilities. Children from Palos Verdes are playing on our fields when it should be Wilmington's Youth.
- c. Morgan Roth of Office of 44th Congressional District, Congresswoman Nanette Barragan- Congratulations also to board. Kimberly Ortega is a new staff member to ramp up communications with the community. Congresswoman introduced legislation that seeks to ban neightbrohood oil operations within 1500 feet of residences and schools. She also introduced the Safe Emergency Response Act. Immigration Enforcement should stop during emergency situations. She is advocating for the Port Drivers Bill of Righths Act. She wants to see a task force to explore how we can protect port drivers rights. She was at Veterans event at IOWA. There is a new business in compton that will employ 1,500 people. Our office can help you with federal issues. Follow us on social media. Legislative Briefing at Michaels Tuscany Room on December 9. Please RSVP.

- d. Victor Ibarra from the Office of 64th Assembly District, Mike Gipson – Victor Ibarra District Office Covered CA enrollment in the gardena office from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Providence in Wilmington is also doing that. Dec. 4, Holiday Open House 4 to 6 p.m. Ask the Assemblyman a few questions there. He is also presenting an environmental event at the I Heart Wilmington building. There will be free air filters for the first 100 people. People can also sign up for service from Gird Alternatives, which installs solar panels on low income houses.
- e. Fernando Naverrete from Office of Council District 15, Joe Buscaino – On the Avalon Soberliving topic, I met the director, we learned it is there legally. But we should encourage people who are getting sober there to give back to the community. Some did volunteer for the Wilmington Art Walk. Final Community input for Town Square was conducted at the art walk. As part of Clean Up Green Up, there is a representative that goes to businesses and educates them on how to be compliant with environmental legislation. Draft Cannabis Regulations address zoning. Councilman is considering moving to bring back the gang injunction program to deal with crime.

5. PRESENTATIONS

Reclaim Our Schools LA by Alberto Ramirez

6. MINUTES Approval of October 25, 2017 meeting minutes.

The board noted that Socorro Fimbres was incorrectly counted as voting instead of Carlos Sanchez for certain motions.

[M/S/C Contreras/Anaya to approve minutes as corrected. 7 Yes \(Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Jones, Pech and Sanchez\); 0 No's; 4 Abstentions \(Cortes, Fimbres, Luke, Gordon.\)](#)

7. FINANCE REPORT Approve Monthly Expenditure Report for October 2017.

Treasurer went over the report and highlighted that there is \$10,000 for a community improvement project. Could include tree planting, sidewalk bleaching, disaster training. Let's figure out how to use our funds in committees.

[M/S/C Fimbres/Aguilar moved to approve the Monthly Expenditure Report for October 2017. 9 Yes \(Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Fimbres, Jones, Luke, Pech and Sanchez\); 0 No's; 2 Abstention \(Cortes and Gordon\)](#)

Valerie Contreras went to a meeting in Downtown Los Angeles that Councilman David Ryu was at. There was a discussion of changing the way neighborhood councils are funded to make it so the funding a council is allocated is equal to the amount of money the council spent in the previous year. Members of the Wilmington Neighborhood Council opposed that idea.

[M/S/C Fimbres/Aguilar resolved that the Wilmington Neighborhood Council oppose any proposed changes to council funding and support the current allocations, which is equal](#)

for all neighborhood councils. 10 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Cortes, Fimbres, Jones, Luke, Pech and Sanchez); 0 No's; 1 Abstention (Gordon.)
Letters to the Harbor Alliance of Neighborhood Councils and Councilman Buscaino asking them to also oppose the type of change noted above will be sent.

8. DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ITEMS

a. M/S Pech/Cortes moved to endorse the Reclaim Our Schools campaign.

The board discussed endorsing the Reclaim Our Schools campaign, including the benefits for signing on and striving to prevent Wilmington's schools from privatization.

M/S/C Pech/Cortes moved to refer the motion to President Arredondo with instructions to report back if the neighborhood council is legally able to formally endorse the campaign. 10 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Cortes, Fimbres, Jones, Luke, Pech and Sanchez); 0 No's; 1 Abstention (Gordon.)

b. The board discussed the Neighborhood Purpose Grant process for distributing \$9,500.00 NPG funds for FY 2017-2018. The process the board agreed to was:

1. Declare NPG, grant period open from November 15, 2017 to February 14, 2018.
2. NPG Application Packet will be made available online at www.wilmingtonneighborhoodcouncil.com, at the WNC office located at 544 N. Avalon Blvd., Suite 103, at monthly stakeholder meetings, and at committee meetings.
3. Completed and signed applications must be emailed to: wilmingtonnc@empowerla.org with subject line: "YourOrganization-NPG Application-MMDDYY".
4. Applications will be agendized for announcement and discussion at the February 28, 2018 Governing Board & Stakeholder Meeting.
5. Treasurer will convene Ad Hoc NPG Committee to review NPG applications for completeness and to recommend grantees with grant amount for governing board consideration at the March 28, 2018 meeting.
6. Only completed NPG applications will be agendized for the March 28, 2018 Governing Board & Stakeholder Meeting and voted upon by the board.
7. Chair will notify applicants of decision and process for disbursement.
8. Treasurer will submit Board Approved Count form and NPG application to the City for disbursement of funds.

M/S/C Fimbres/Jones moved to approve the Neighborhood Purpose Grant Process. 9 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Fimbres, Jones, Luke, Pech and Sanchez); 0 No; 2 Abstentions (Contreras and Gordon.)

c. The board discussed changing the location of December 13, 2017 board and stakeholder meeting should Banning HS' Woodson Hall not be available for celebrating WNC's 16th Anniversary. The Wilmington Senior Center is \$350 for a room from 5 to 9 pm.

M/S/C Aguilar/Contreras moved to change the location of December's meeting to the Wilmington Senior Center and allocate an amount not to exceed \$350 for venue rental. 9 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Fimbres, Jones, Luke, Pech and Sanchez); 0 No; 2 Abstentions (Contreras and Gordon.)

- d. The board discussed celebrating 16th Anniversary of WNC on December 13, 2017 with a budget of \$1,800 from General Operations that includes funds for:
- Location rental not to exceed \$500.00 (contingent upon Agenda Item 8.b)
 - Refreshments (food and drinks) not to exceed \$800.00
 - EcoProducts (plates, napkins, drink ware and utensils) not to exceed \$300.00
 - Other meeting expenses not to exceed \$200.00

M/S/C Luke/Aguilar moved to approve an amount not to exceed \$1800 for celebrating the 16th anniversary of the WNC. 10 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Cortes Fimbres, Jones, Luke, Pech and Sanchez); 0 No; 1 Abstention (Gordon.)

- e. The board discussed engaging stakeholders in a winter event by sponsor specific items from the Avalon Arts & Cultural Alliance Tree Lighting event on December 2, 2017 or hosting a WNC Winter event. Kim Luke and Valerie Contreras researched the Tree Lighting. Valerie Contreras reviewed what aspects of the Tree Lighting that the neighborhood council could fund. Kim Luke also mentioned Cafe Cafe coming to the event.

M/S/C Fimbres/Sanchez moved to approve participate in a Winter Event, which was previously budgeted for by co-sponsoring the Avalon Treelighting with the proposed recommendations and to allocate an additional amount not to exceed \$1500. 10 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Cortes, Fimbres, Jones, Luke, Pech and Sanchez); 0 No; 1 Abstention (Gordon.)

- f. The board discussed the “Welcome to Wilmington” entrance monument at the Southwest corner of Pacific Coast Hwy and Figueroa Street.

Valerie Contreras explained the Beautification Committee's process for planning for the sign. The committee selected one style from three potential styles and now a contractor is needed to begin building. The sign will be raised off of the ground. Fimbres wondered if there can be a city approved contractor to do the work.

M/S/C Aguilar/Pech moved to approve funding an amount not to exceed \$8,500 for the Welcome to Wilmington sign. 9 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Cortes, Fimbres, Jones, Luke, Pech and Sanchez); 1 No (Cortes); 1 Abstention (Gordon.)

- g. President Arredondo presented proposed outreach items, which would cost an amount not to exceed \$3,600.00:
- 100 WNC branded t-shirts that are USA/Los Angeles union made and printed not to exceed \$1,200.00.
 - 50 Emergency Preparedness Starter Kits not to exceed \$1,500.00
 - 250 WNC branded Dog Poop Bag Holders not to exceed \$650.00
 - 500 WNC branded recycled newspaper pencils not to exceed \$250.00.

M/S/C Luke/Aguilar moved to approve funding outreach items in an amount not to exceed \$3,600. 10 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Arredondo, Contreras, Cortes, Fimbres, Jones, Luke, Pech and Sanchez); 0 No's; 1 Abstention (Gordon.)

9. REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM EXECUTIVE OFFICERS AND GOVERNING BOARD–

- a. Chair: Vopak is essentially the gas station for the Port of Los Angeles. The company also stores jet fuel. Committed to fund organizations in Wilmington if Port of Los Angeles renews its lease. The Wilmington Neighborhood Council might have the opportunity to make recommendations on how \$55,000 is spent. President Arredondo will report back from meeting with Anthony Santich of Vopak Terminal Los Angeles Inc.

The Tesoro Refinery is applying for a Title V permit to release more volatile organic compounds.

M/S/C Fimbres/Aguilar moved to complete a Public Hearing Request to South Coast Air Quality Management District on the Notice of Proposed Title V. Significant Permit Revision for the Tesoro Refining & Marketing Co.LLC, LA Refinery-Wilmington Operations. 7 Yes (Aguilar, Anaya, Contreras, Cortes, Fimbres, Luke and Sanchez); 0 No's; 1 Abstentions (Gordon) and 1 recused (Arredondo).

Valerie Contreras will follow up with the request.

- b. Vice-chair: Thanks to stakeholders for staying. Secretary has been working on the office and putting it in order. There is still more to do. Kim and Moises are helping out.
- c. Governing Board: Socorro Fimbres requested that the board and the audience keep in order during the meeting. Only one person at a time has the floor.

10. COMMITTEES

President Arredondo went over reports which were included in the board packets. There might be a presentation on the homeless count in Wilmington. Volunteers are needed for the count, which is conducted by Los Angeles County.

11. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Art Gonzalez- Wilmington population needs to get more organized to make progress on safety and environmental justice. He wants to help and the council to do more.

12. ADJOURN

M/S/C Fimbres/Aguilar moved to adjourn. 7 Yes (Aguilar, Arredondo, Contreras, Cortes, Fimbres, Luke and Sanchez); 0 No's; 1 Abstentions (Gordon)

The meeting was adjourned at 10:03 p.m.