

MINUTES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
WESTWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
OCTOBER 5, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Westwood Homeowners Association was held on Tuesday, October 5, 2021, online. Board members present were Linda Blank, Antonio Braga, Paola Carrillo, Eloise Metcalfe, Stephen Resnick, Yoav Sarraf, Scott Tamkin, and Mary Thorndal. Members excused were John Heidt and Jack Hileman. Also present was LAPD SLO James Allen.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Stephen Resnick called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was present.

3. NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME REPORT

SLO James Allen reported that things are looking good except in the categories of burglaries, grand theft auto, and burglaries from motor vehicles, which are up year-to-date. Some auto thefts are from delivery people who leave their cars running while making a delivery.

4. CD5 REPORT

Stephen Resnick reported that CD5 Field Deputy Jasmine Shamolian was unable to attend tonight's meeting but will be at next month's meeting. Wilshire Blvd. has been narrowed down and there are now traffic officers at the intersections of both Wilshire Blvd. & Midvale/Gayley and Wilshire Blvd. & Glendon.

Councilmember Koretz sent a letter to Metro opposing the idea of a toll express lane on 405 because it is unworkable.

The City is working on housing and wants to rezone neighborhoods. There is a list of neighborhoods it wants to rezone.

Money for play equipment for older kids in Westwood Gardens Park has been requested but nothing has happened. Councilmember Koretz said that there may be Quimby money for play equipment later. Antonio Braga reported that new neighbors took their children to the park but there was an incident and they no longer feel comfortable going there due to the homeless. This has happened before and been reported. Linda Blank has contacted both the Department of Recreation & Parks and LAPD about it. Stephen Resnick spoke with CD5 Field Deputy Jasmine Shamolian about this and was told that there is money available to increase the height of the wall in the northeast corner of the park because the homeless are climbing over it.

Antonio Braga requested putting cleaning up Westwood Blvd. on the agenda for the next meeting. WHA should partner with Westwood Blvd. property and business owners to keep it clean. Yoav Sarraf stated that he can speak with Alex Helmi and Jessica Dabney about this.

5. INTRODUCTION OF NEW MEMBER YOAV SARRAF

Scott Tamkin introduced Yoav Sarraf and moved, "WHA approves Yoav Sarraf as a board member." Eloise Metcalfe seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Eloise Metcalfe reported that she found out that no City Council motion is needed for WHA to send the check for the traffic circle and wanted to clarify that. Eloise Metcalfe moved to approve the minutes of the September 9, 2021 meeting, seconded by Antonio Braga, and approved unanimously.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Stephen Resnick reported that WHA has a total of \$520,404.55. Eloise Metcalfe reported that the check amount to the city for the traffic circle was \$4,600. A donation to Kindness Cart was made and liability insurance of \$1,328 was paid.

8. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

9. WEST LA HOMELESS GROUP (WLAH.ORG)

Antonio Braga reported that in August 111 homeless individuals were contacted, 81 male and 30 female. Of these encounters, 48 were first time encounters and 63 were repeat encounters. Nine individuals were matched with housing: eight with emergency housing and one with permanent housing. WLAH participated in Connect Day at Westwood Park on September 28th.

10. WESTWOOD PARK

Linda Blank reported that the new soccer field was dedicated last week but the rest of the park looks terrible. The Park Advisory Board met with the designer of Aidan's Place, who rejected almost every suggestion they made. The new design will be going to the Park Commission tomorrow. The Department of Recreation & Parks wants to demolish buildings and fence off the east side of the park but has no plans to improve anything there. There is no longer any grass there, just dirt.

11. FAIRBURN DONATION AND BANNER

Eloise Metcalfe met with Fairburn's principal and reported that donated money will be used for aides, supplies, and field trips. Eloise Metcalfe moved, "WHA will donate \$2,500 to Fairburn Avenue Elementary School." Scott Tamkin seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

12. COMMUNITIES FOR CHOICE

[www.communitiesforchoice.org](http://www.communitiesforchoice.org)

Stephen Resnick reported that Communities for Choice is gathering signatures for a ballot initiative to change the California constitution to restore local zoning control and stop SB 9. A possible donation to Communities for Choice will be discussed next month. The AIDS Foundation filed a lawsuit against SB 10 as being unconstitutional.

13. WEBSITE

This item was not discussed.

14. MEMBERSHIP

Eloise Metcalfe reported that signs advertising WHA in the neighborhood have not yielded much return. A suggestion was made to hold an annual meeting and advertise that. Scott Tamkin suggested CD5 candidate Sam Yebri as a possible speaker.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:27 p.m. Mary Thorndal moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Stephen Resnick and carried unanimously.