

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
WESTWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
FEBRUARY 1, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Directors of the Westwood Homeowners Association was held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022, online. Board members present were Linda Blank, Antonio Braga, John Heidt, Jack Hileman, Eloise Metcalfe, Stephen Resnick, Yoav Sarraf, and Mary Thorndal. Members excused were Paola Carrillo and Scott Tamkin. Also present were LAPD SLO James Allen, John Heath of Our Neighborhood Voices, and four members and guests including Steve Sann.

1. CALL TO ORDER

President Stephen Resnick called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

2. ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM

A quorum was present.

3. NEIGHBORHOOD CRIME REPORT

SLO James Allen reported that year-to-date robberies, burglaries, thefts, and grand theft auto are up, while aggravated assaults and burglaries from motor vehicles are down. Burglaries are the main problem in the larger area and many occur around party houses which are up in the hills. In WHA's area there are mostly commercial burglaries and package thefts. Signs were put up in Westwood Park stating that there will be no camping effective February 3rd but it will actually not be enforced until March 1st because housing isn't available yet.

4. CD5 REPORT

- A. Future projects at Westwood Park
 - B. Park Advisory Board (PAB)
 - C. Sidewalk cleaning
 - D. Removal of light pole at Ohio/Sepulveda
- None of these items were discussed.

5. PRESENTATION: LAND USE INITIATIVE, SPONSORED BY OUR NEIGHBORHOOD VOICES www.ourneighborhoodvoices.org

Stephen Resnick introduced John Heath, one of five founders of the organization, who said that as someone who has worked in affordable housing for more than 20 years, he knows upzoning doesn't work. There are ways to combat the affordable housing crisis without destroying single family zoning areas. The initiative fights back against SB9 and SB10, which remove local land use control and don't add any affordable housing. The initiative will amend the state constitution so that local laws on land use planning and zoning will override state laws. A million signatures are needed by May 1st to qualify for the 2022 ballot. Gathering signatures now is challenging because of the pandemic. A zoom signature-gathering training session is held every Wednesday at 6 p.m.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

John Heidt moved to approve the minutes of the January 4, 2022 meeting, seconded by Eloise Metcalfe and approved unanimously.

7. TREASURER'S REPORT

Stephen Resnick reported that WHA's total assets are \$508,161.80. A check was written for \$388 to USPS for the P.O. box. There is \$418,549.80 in the investment account.

8. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There was no public comment.

9. OUR NEIGHBORHOOD VOICES – DONATION

John Heidt moved, "WHA will donate \$1,000 to Our Neighborhood Voices." Linda Blank seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

10. COMMITTEE ON BYLAWS & OFFICERS

Eloise Metcalfe reported on the committee's meeting. Scott Tamkin will let Linda Blank, as 1st Vice President, know when new residents move into the area and Linda will write them a welcome letter. Yoav Sarraf can be 2nd Vice President and do neighborhood outreach. A secretary to do the agenda and a parliamentarian are still needed. Mary Thorndal agreed to be parliamentarian. Stephen Resnick attends many community meetings and other board members should also attend some so the burden doesn't fall only on him. Stephen will draw up a list of the meetings he attends.

11. WEST LA HOMELESS GROUP (WLAH.ORG)

Antonio Braga reported that the organization's efforts are getting stronger and suggested looking at the website for a progress report on how many people were reached, connected with services etc. There are still many people in the park. Coordination by PATH and WLAH's service, People's Concern, may be needed, as they both cover Westwood Park. If PATH is covering the park, possibly People's Concern should cover other areas outside the park such as by CVS and the library. Steve Sann announced that the homeless count will be held on February 23rd.

12. WESTWOOD PARK

Linda Blank reported that she did not attend the PAB meeting but did attend Marcia Selz's panel with CD5 and asked about Quimby funds. Councilmember Koretz replied that he would make the amounts available but Linda has not gotten the information from CD5 yet. Westwood Gardens Park needs work but there is no answer about money available for that. The next PAB meeting is February 24th and the discussion will be about the homeless. It turns out that Tommy's Field is five feet too short to be split into two and that was one of its selling points. Stephen Resnick said that it may depend on how it is measured. Steve Sann remarked that the field was supposed to be available for free play when not permitted but the field's lights are only on when it is permitted because the Park Commission said electricity is expensive.

13. EMERSON BANNER

Paola Carrillo is working on it.

14. WEBSITE

Jack Hileman reported that no minutes have been posted on the website since the May 4, 2021 minutes, so it needs updating. WHA could have a static website instead, which requires less maintenance.

15. MEMBERSHIP

Eloise Metcalfe reported that Jack Hileman sends the names for membership but there is no follow-up and a process needs to be defined.

16. OTHER BUSINESS

Stephen Resnick discussed the possibility of a CD5 candidates' debate for the annual meeting, in conjunction with other neighborhood organizations. Westwood Neighborhood Council, Holmby-Westwood Property Owners, Comstock Hills HOA, and Westwood South of Santa Monica are interested. All the candidates will be invited and questions will be solicited from the sponsoring organizations with a focus on Westwood issues. It would probably be held in April.

17. ADJOURNMENT

Eloise Metcalfe moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Linda Blank, and carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m.