



OLYMPIC PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
City of Los Angeles PO Box 19348 Los Angeles, CA

www.opnc.org

OFFICERS: Jocelyn Duarte: PRESIDENT / Anya Adams: VICE-PRESIDENT

Alexander Mena: TREASURER / Judith Wyle: SECRETARY

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: January 5, 2015 at 7:00 pm

NOTE NEW LOCATION: Legal Aid Foundation 1102 Crenshaw Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90019



OPNC- January 5 2015 Minutes

1. Call to Order/Roll (7:20 PM) (see OPNC_1.5.15_Vote_Item#1_Roll Call)
2. Approval of Minutes minutes approved subject to corrections
3. City Prosecutor, Steve Houchin, informs the board of a town hall meeting on January 21, 2015 at 6:30PM, where the public can ask questions of Mike Feuer in a conversational format at St. Sofia's Cathedral downtown, in the Huntington Center Ballroom. Free light refreshments will be served. Board-member inquires why we were informed only at this late date? Maya Douglas, field representative for Assemblyman Ridley Thomas of the 54th District of the California Assembly announces a 2015-2016 fiscal year Budget Priorities Forum with breakout sessions on January 24th, 2015 from 8:30-12:00 noon at 3537 Farmdale Ave. L.A. 90016. This is the one annual public forum for budget feedback. Stakeholder inquires about the late notification. Officer Cho reports on the Santa's Shoes event. 15 tons of snow gave participants a chance to experience "winter weather" and 600 pairs of shoes were distributed to families in need. There has been a recent uptick in crime in our district. A cell phone was stolen at gunpoint at the Olympic & Crenshaw bus stop. A USPS parcel carrier was killed in a traffic accident at the corner of 12th & Arlington. A radar-equipped police officer will be monitoring speeds along that section of roadway. At Officer Cho's request, a DOT traffic study has been initiated for that corner. Board-member requests that Officer Cho help the OPNC to obtain the history of traffic accidents and fatalities at that corner so that appropriate remedies for the dangerous conditions can be considered. Officer Cho agrees. Mail theft has become a problem in the area, with thieves targeting public USPS sidewalk mail boxes. They have techniques for catching and fishing mail out of the boxes. Officer Cho advises us not to use them. Parcel theft from porches continues to be a problem, carrying over from the holiday season. Board-member informs Off. Cho that an apparently homeless gentleman, residing in a van at Country Club Park Dr. near St. Andrew's, has been harassing and verbally abusing passersby. Board-member expresses frustration over the board wasting time with monthly questions regarding homeless encampments in the neighborhood. Board-member informs Officer Cho that there is also a new and growing encampment alongside the church at the Northwest Corner of Pico & Arlington. Board president states that she would like to refer PATH & LHASA to these locations to see if they can provide any needed services to the homeless members that pass through our community. Barry Stone, our DONE representative is introduced to the newer board members, as he has returned from his leave of absence and been reassigned as a project coordinator. Rep. Stone distributes and receives "wet signed" duplicate Code of Conduct statements from all of the board members present, to ensure that they can continue to vote, even though Thomas Soong, our past DONE representative, has another complete set.
4. b) Treasurer's Report: Board Treasurer guides the board through the line item review of the Treasurer's Report
c) Vote approves the MER (Monthly Expenditure Report) (see OPNC_1.5.15_Vote_Item#_4c.pdf)
5. Public Comments: Bonnie Strong of LANA-Longwood Area Neighborhood Association expresses her interest in joining the board to fill one of the vacated seats. It is determined that she is eligible for one of the "At-Large", "Community" or "East Representative" seats. The board asks her to write a brief candidate "bio" and asks to have her admittance to the board be added as an actionable agenda item at

the next session. Representative from the LAHS Alumni Association asks to have LAHS be considered as a possible site for upcoming Small Business Development Workshops, Public Education Town Meetings and Neighborhood Watch Meetings. City initiated programs with city staff may require only a \$31 custodial fee for the use of the facilities.

6. Board-member Kelly submits her research/ review of the RACO (Reserve Animal Control Officer) program with a written document. In the whole City of L.A., only 2 animal control officers are on night duty. The city's NC's voted to fund a reserve officer program in 2011. This program has not found sufficient qualified applicants due to firearms requirements. Concern is expressed regarding arming volunteers. Off. Cho assures board that volunteers are trained like other armed city officials. Support for RACO is voted on and approved. (See: OPNC 1.5.15 Vote_Item#_6)

7. Item 7 is moved to a later position in the agenda. Board-member Wyle, current chair of standing PLUM Committee begins to report on the activities of the PLUM Committee. Other Board-member inquires as to whether or not there is an actionable item being requested of the board. She urges the board to move on to the next agenda item because there is no actionable item. Board-member Wyle yields the floor without completing her report.

8. Item 7 is addressed. Board President Duarte is recused. The Wilshire Crest PTA rep. requests an NPG of \$2500 for a Jazz Festival Event at the school on January 31, 2015. Responding to the LAUSD's withdrawal of fiscal support for the Arts in public education, the elementary school must raise its own funds for continuing music education at the school. GWNC has donated \$500 to this event. The Wilshire Crest PTA rep. expects a 50 person attendance. Board members question the efficacy of spending \$2500 to raise \$500-1000. The PTA rep. reveals that she is not only trying to fund the music program, but attract stakeholders to the neighborhood school. Apparently the school administration has a "no-tour" policy. The PTA rep mentions that instruments, private lessons and continued instruction from a qualified music teacher would require more than \$18,000 (the cost of the teacher alone). Board members suggest they might consider approving monies to go directly to the actual music program, but are not convinced of the efficacy of the event. The board prepares to vote, but realizes there is no longer a quorum as, in addition to Board Pres. Duarte having recused herself, Board-member Whittenbury has left suddenly due to an urgent family matter.

9. Board-member Laura Rudison assumes chair of the By-Laws Committee.

10. Meeting is adjourned.(9 PM)

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