

OLYMPIC PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2016 - 7pm

Start time: 7:08 with Public Comments
Break at 7:23pm – Waiting for Quorum
Return to order 7:32pm

OFFICIAL CALL TO ORDER: 7:32pm

ROLL CALL

Board Members Present: Mitch Edelson, Laura-Diane Rudison, Bonnie Strong, Ava Post, Faalaniga Smith, Joyce White, John Yi, Gracious Williams, Theo Smith, Curtis Clark, Joann Fleming, Gerry Pass,

ABSENT

Excused: Skye Kelly, Mark VanAsselt, John Snyder

Unexcused: Sun Kim, Kevin Harold

3. Reports of City Officials/City Departments and Agencies

a. Public Comments

Officer Rodriguez: Reports on crime trends – main issue is burglaries. There are 2 events happening: National Night out, an event that brings together neighbors to stand against crime. A smaller one is at Pickford Village and the large one is at Poinsettia Park, just north of Melrose. August 9th is a community event at Cochran Baptist Church, 1304 S. Cochran Ave, in conjunction with the police department. The dialogue is for the community and everyone that lives in LA in this division. Inviting everyone to come out and voice their opinion. Ask police about policies, and that dialogue is welcomed.

Bonnie Strong: What about LA Transmission?

Officer Rodriguez: It's an ongoing issue and have received numerous complaints about it. They are parking vehicles on streets of Longwood Neighborhood association. They have just been evicted, but if you get any further complaints about that business, then he will address with the owner.

Lynn: How are the officers doing?

Officer Rodriguez – Thankful for the concern, they are all doing fine.

Patrick MacFarlane, Rep for Field for Assembly Member for Sebastien Ridley Thomas:

They are focusing on homelessness. There are several initiatives and legislation to build housing for homeless individuals, but there is not a sustainable source of income to support this. The County wants to try the Housing First Method next year. There is a petition asking Gov. Brown to declare a state of emergency on homelessness. This would allow local officials to shut down a nuisance motel to turn it into housing and also get Gov. Brown's attention. Supervisor Mark Ridley Thomas asked Gov. Brown to visit and see the problem for himself and see if he still feels it's the county's responsibility.

Laura Rudison: I empathize with homelessness, but there is some verbiage out there to build a shelter in every single neighborhood. There are enough low income/homelessness areas without having it encroach on high level real estate areas. I want to see the legislation.

Curtis Clark: Is LA a sanctuary city? They get federal money. State of CA is spending thousands of dollars on illegal immigrants. Pass the money from illegal immigrants to the homelessness.

Ava Post: Ballot in November on the millionaire tax to fund the initiative.

Patrick McFarlan: County can't impose income tax. They want Gov. Brown to be willing to sign a bill that if it passed the legislature would impose a tax for homelessness. They weighed sales, property tax and voted for a Marijuana tax as well, but decided taxing Marijuana is not the most effective method. There is no tax measure now. The next ballot is in November 2017. The homelessness is not an issue of just that, it's caused by the housing shortage, economy and jobs and prevention is included. \$2 billion is being spent for constructing housing as well as rental assistance, mental health, addiction treatment. 50,000 people are homeless every night, and it's going up by 3,000 every year. As they are homeless for an extended period of time, it's harder to deal with. We are 12% of the nations' population and 20% are homeless

Gerry Pass: What about the real estate bubble, why aren't those companies being held accountable for the problem they caused?

Patrick MacFarlane: Some of them have been charged and some have been settled. CA has a big budget divided up many different ways. The government has decided that homelessness isn't a problem. At a forum with assembly member Sebastien Ridley Thomas they suggested affordable housing is not connected to homelessness issue? This question seems ridiculous.

4. Approval of prior Month Minutes (July)

Laura Rudison: Motion to approve subject to corrections?

John makes motion, Mitch seconds. Gerry Pass: Asks to add the word "and" to his title.

VOTE: Unanimous

5. Chairperson Comments – (Laura Rudison):

- a. Executive Board Budget Meeting Summary 7/28/2016
- b. DONE requiring the City Attorney to sign-off on all "NC" contracts

Laura Rudison: Foregoes comments.

6. OPNC COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Public Comments

None.

SECRETARY'S REPORT – (Ava Post): Tentative Board Action

- a. Past month has almost everyone's board training for ethics, funding and code of conduct.
- b. 2 people are suspended for non-completion: Sung Park and Kevin Harrell.

Laura Rudison: Don't rely on DONE to keep records and documents. OPNC will keep copies of all documents in a public place. Turnover with Empower LA isn't so great. There is no continuity with files, etc. Take a print screenshot of your completed courses in the event that you don't get a certificate printed. This will help us fight for your effort that you took the course should we need to. Will be sending copies of your information to Empower LA. This has been an ongoing issue for 15 years. Congrats and thank you for getting this out of the way.

TREASURER'S REPORT – (Faalaniga Smith): **Tentative Board Action**

- a. **Prior Monthly Report** - There are no changes.
- b. **Current Monthly Report (Recap Summary)** – Motion and Board Vote beginning **September 2016 Meeting** on approving current Monthly Report for July 2016

Beginning balance: - 94.12, city deposit: \$9,250 to account, cash spent: \$1, 554.47.

Joann Fleming: What about Bank overdraft fees? They are \$7 every other day if you don't deposit money.

Laura Rudison: Overdraft was caused by numerous changes to Done and the banking records. It's unfortunate that Empower LA and banking records are not in sync but we do our best. We did not give back \$16,000 to the general fund, and that was the goal. We wanted to use the OPNC money toward OPNC goals.

Joyce White: Are we setting goals?

Gerry Pass: What is the budget?

Joyce White: \$37,000

Laura Rudison: Exec board met last Thursday for 3 hours. Still working on the final copy.

Mitch Edelson: I was not aware of the exec board meeting. An email should have come from website master.

Laura Rudison: Will resend the email and show the date when notification was given

Bonnie: Go to website to see the agenda as well.

- c. **DONE Monthly Expenditure Report** –Joyce makes motion to approve MER, Gerry seconds.
VOTE: Unanimous
- d. **Board Member Reimbursement Expenditures** – Motion and Board Vote on approving Board Member Reimbursement Expenditures for Regular Meeting supplies, i.e. Food, paper supplies as necessary.

3 reimbursements for Bonnie Strong, Laura-Diana Rudison, and Gerry Pass. Joann makes motion, John seconds. VOTE: Unanimous

Curtis Clark: I never got an email and am concerned about the budget.

Laura Rudison: Bonnie will send out the email again.

Mitch Edelson: Makes a motion to hold a special board meeting to discuss the budget. Gerry seconds.

VOTE: Not Counted.

Laura Rudison: The budget is going to be submitted and once approved then it can be discussed. It's only a proposed budget.

Theodore Smith: If we don't agree as a board, what happens?

Laura Rudison: It's only a proposed budget and when it's brought back to the board and if we decide to make changes then we can.

Mitch Edelson: I'm upset that none of the board members knew about it and didn't have input.

Bonnie Strong: We have to have an agreement before Sept. 1 or the monies will be frozen

Nina Smith: The document requires 3 parts that have to be in the system by 9/1 or monies will be frozen. The outreach meeting is this Thursday.

Laura Rudison: Will be put on the agenda for Outreach meeting.

Mitch Edelson: But the outreach meeting is not the full board

Laura Rudison: All board members can come

Mitch Edelson: Proposed changing motion to hold special meeting on 8/4 following the outreach meeting.

Laura Rudison: The motion is to have a joint board meeting with outreach committee to discuss the proposed budget on 8/4 at 7pm in the LAPD Wilshire Community Room.

Mitch Edelson: Makes motion. Theodore seconds.

VOTE: Unanimous

OUTREACH REPORT (Bonnie Strong) – **Tentative Board Action**

- a. **OPNC PO Box Update**: DONE dropped ball. Wants to make sure that you will be able to continue using this box or get new one. Called Friday and didn't hear back, called today and was told that this person is on leave and hasn't transferred his business to any other advocates. There is a new neighborhood advocate, Jasmine.

Laura Rudison: Gave dropdown date of 8/1 to Done individual talking about PO Box and just now hearing from them. Funding training for DONE tells you any contracts the council gets into can only be signed by the city attorney. They tell you it's a process except for when you want to go through it and then it doesn't exist. Going to push this to Gracie Liu, Exec Director and possibly the Commissioner to get this through.

- b. **Outreach ideas to support community** – See "e"
- c. **Storage Move Date/Action Item**: There were 14 boxes taken to storage, but need a larger space. Wants motion on date and time for a Saturday in the morning, but decides just needs 2 other people.
- d. **Outreach Ideas to support Community** – See below
- e. **Outreach to Network with outer NC's & Neighborhood Associations** (Within our Boundaries) Decided to network and make selves known by reaching out to other neighborhood councils and get delegates from each to attend outreach events.
- f. **Proposed Outreach event** (Nina Smith) – Celebrate Fall with an "International Flavor", and event of various ethnic culture with food, costume and dances (Hispanics, Korean, Panamanian, Pacific Islander) Oct. 1, possible location would be the Wilshire Church Parking lot (need to negotiate), Victoria Park behind Wilshire Church or L.A. High. First part of October (also around the Korean festival) but need some kind of event to outreach to community. International food, dancing, culture, could be a 4 hour get together.

Joyce White: Wonders about plans on neighborhood watch program. Would this interfere with that? Or could it be incorporated?

Laura Rudison: Incorporating neighborhood watch event with cultural event - the issue is whether or not to do that. Details should be tabled, this is just a notification.

Board Motion and Vote on the following items:

g: Motion to purchase OPNC Administrative Tools and Swag for upcoming event(s)

Always in need of tools and swag for upcoming events. Would like motion to purchase tools for upcoming events

Joyce makes motion, Nina seconds. Mitch, Gerry and John abstain.

John Yi: Is there a budget tied to the motion? Let's discuss on Thursday's meeting.

Laura Rudison: Printer will be \$300-400. Nina and Ava both need one.

h. Motion to purchase OPNC Business Cards

The layout is done, now just waiting for the PO Box address.

Gerry Pass: Been on the board for 2 years and never had this resolved. Makes motion that if it can't be resolved in 2 weeks, then get a new mailbox address?

Bonnie Strong: It's not that easy, we are trying to work with Done.

Gerry Pass: Makes motion to use Herb Wesson's Office (Council District 10 Office) as address to receive OPNC mail. We already have the ok to use his office. That address will also be on the business cards. This is the one on Western. Mitch seconds the motion.

VOTE: All in favor, but Curtis abstains.

Nina Smith: How and who will pick up mail? Is there going to be a list of members taking turn getting the mail?

Gerry and Mitch both volunteer. Mitch is the person and Gerry is the backup.

Gerry Pass: Makes motion to renew every card with new address. Joann seconds.

VOTE: Unanimous

i. Motion on National Night Out – NPG/Olympic Station/Action Item:

National Night Out asked for \$500 for NPG. Everything on the form was correct, and we decided to support with only \$250. Joyce makes the motion and Mitch seconds.

VOTE: Unanimous

Curtis Clark: Why aren't we giving them \$500?

Laura Rudison: NPG will get 50% of whatever they propose. We need full budget and a statement. If you get OPNC money once the budget is finalized, if you try and change it, you'll be returning those monies to OPNC. Will personally take it up with the attorney.

Bonnie Strong: I've been sending out a lot of outreach emails and never get responses.

Environmental & Health Services – (Skye Kelly)

None

P.L.U.M (Theodore Smith)

a. PLUM will continue a “JOINT BOARD MEETING” with Outreach for August meeting

Those who want to join PLUM. Tell him before August so you can properly divide up the roles and positions. We have joint meeting this Thursday but because of the time it takes, will try to find another time for PLUM meeting when there is another outreach event the same night. Olympic station is a problem as a location because it doesn't have parking.

Laura Rudison: make sure meeting is advertised as a joint board meeting so that you aren't limiting attendees

Nina Smith: When you have a joint meeting, aren't they required to publish agenda?

Laura Rudison: Yes, any committee or panel that holds a meeting has to go with requirements of a regular board meeting including a 72 hour posting.

Bonnie Strong: Everyone knows there is a website and Facebook page

b. (Laura Rudison) Comment on Developer in area (5210 W. Olympic Blvd.)

They are breaking ground and wants to make sure that it's done to code.

TRADE, COMMERCE & PUBLIC WORKS (Mitch Edelson)

- a. Committee highlights and updates
Congratulate Ted! Has no other comments.

TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC SAFETY (Gerry Pass):

- a. Committee highlights and updates
Haven't had a meeting recently and don't have updates other than potholes in the street at Country Club and Plymouth are being taken care of.
- b. (Laura Rudison) Four traffic collisions resulting in 2 deaths at Olympic/Mansfield in 6 weeks.

Joyce White: 12th and Keniston the City moved the white lines up for safety.

Gerry Pass: Doesn't mind addressing letter to West traffic division commission about traffic corner. Wants to make motion to write letter to further address these concerns for this in a traffic study in that intersection.

Laura Rudison: This doesn't need a motion

- c. (Nina Smith) Graffiti run amuck both East and west but extremely worst at Pico from west to Normandie.
Continue dialing 311 and they will come out and remove it. San Vicente 4800 has been tagged on weekly basis and now it's slowly down.

Mitch Edelson: There are funds allocated to graffiti removal and security monitoring for each business. Money would be paid by business or property owner into the fund. It is a process that goes through city council, and is by self-assessment. This is prevention as well as a business investment.

Laura Rudison: KYCC green leaf group. Explore and give us more information on this.

d. (Nina Smith) Homeless setting up tents inside the park.

Location is at Olympic and Wilton. In terms of the homeless camp sites, you can call police but they can only give them a warning of several days. Can call Officer Rodriguez as well. Will schedule meeting within next month and will send out notice for this department.

YOUTH PULSE (Gracious Williams):

Going to meet with Ms. Harry, library at LA high school. There will be an event for people who voted and participated in the follow-up for election process and those who voted. Will also get some help with the budget.

UTILITY SERVICES:

a. Committee highlights and updates

None

ONGOING BUSINESS: Tabled.

NEW BUSINESS: Tabled by Mitch and John

a. (Curtis Clark) Black Lives Matter Issues

Trinity Baptist church is involved and has been for 200 years. Community police academy, 11 week class. Suggest to police that they start advertising about this class. Spoke to Laura about impact statement as council. Take signs down that refer to each ethnic group/communities, promoting where they're from instead of being in the US. Get rid of segregation. Black Lives Matter.

Ted Smith: See about doing community event

Nina Smith: Table and have further discussion

Laura Rudison: Table all 3 new business items until September

ANNOUNCEMENTS & ADJOURNMENT

Laura Rudison: 5210 W. Olympic Blvd. has been vacant lot for 30 years. Sewer lines were broken with this bulldozing, etc. Checking with planning, building and safety department and couldn't find anything. Did uncover that they have a permit for grating. Had app in for building and safety but it wasn't approved. Going to put 8 unit apt building with underground parking. Next meeting September 6 and not the 1st. Location will be at Union Club.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:05pm.

