

Olympic Park Neighborhood Council  
Board of Directors Regular Meeting  
December 4, 2017 – 7:00PM  
LOCATION: UNION 4067 Pico Boulevard, Los Angeles CA 90019

I. WELCOMING REMARKS

- President Laura Rudison invited city officials to speak at 7:02 PM since the council did not yet have quorum. She called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM.
- Mitch Edelson called roll at 7:18 PM.
  - Present: Laura Rudison, Bonnie Strong, Mitch Edelson, Joanne Fleming, Peter Wilson, Gerry Pass, John Snyder, Joyce White, Hank Williams, Faalaniga (Nina) T. Smith, Theodore J. (Ted) Smith, Curtis Clark
  - Excused Absent: Adrienne Edwards

II CITY OFFICIALS/CITY, COUNTY, STATE AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DEPTS/AGENCIES

- 7:02 PM - Officer Cho was present with updates from the LAPD.
  - Officer Cho announced that the best way to reach him was via his email address: [33817@lapd.online](mailto:33817@lapd.online). He also shared his phone number: (213) 793-0649.
    - 33817 is Officer Cho's unique serial number. Residents can email any LAPD officer at lapd.online if they have the officer's serial number.
  - Officer Cho updated the board on recent crime in the area. He announced that thieves take advantage of the holidays by breaking into cars and homes.
    - Out of the four burglaries in the area last month, two residences had alarms, and once the alarm rang the thieves ran away. The thieves stayed as long as possible and stole as much as possible from the two residences that did not have alarm systems.
    - Packages have been stolen from doorsteps. Officer Cho suggested that residents and businesses have packages delivered when the recipient is present at the delivery location.
      - Amazon lockers have been installed at some locations such as 7/11. Package recipients use a code to open the locker and get their packages. However, packages have been stolen from these lockers as well.
      - Officer Cho suggested getting a PO box for the holiday season. The post office will give the PO box a unique address for packages to be delivered to businesses or individuals shopping online.

- Officer Cho introduced Veronica Soto, the Olympic Division Neighborhood Prosecutor.
  - She shared her email and phone number and suggested that residents contact her with any questions.
    - Email is the best way to contact her: [veronica.a.soto@lacity.org](mailto:veronica.a.soto@lacity.org)
    - Her work cell phone number is (213) 507-4608
  - Mitch Edelson stated that he heard about prostitution up and down Western.
    - Officer Cho replied that Western is a track. He said that there were task forces going after pimps, johns and prostitutes. The LAPD has rescued a few people from human trafficking but some are in it for the money and are not victims of trafficking.
    - Veronica Soto stated that she could find out if there is a task force. She works with VICE to see if there is enough to file and prosecute if needed.
    - Officer Cho stated that in the last week, there were eight arrests for prostitution from Pico to Olympic on both sides of Western.
  - Veronica Soto announced that she could connect people with agencies to help or answer questions.
    - Laura Rudison suggested that if any residents had problems, they should go through the Neighborhood Council before involving the Neighborhood Prosecutors so the council can vet the issues first and prevent Veronica Soto from being inundated with calls.
  - Veronica Soto announced that there will be a closet prom event coming up to help high school students in need of dresses and accessories get ready for prom. The event will be collecting new and lightly used dresses.
  - Veronica Soto announced that LA City Attorney Mike Feuer will be having town halls. One will be for the Olympic Division and Veronica will let the OPNC know when that will take place.
- 7:18 PM - Mary Kim was present with updates from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.
  - Mary Kim reiterated that Civic U 2.0 is still going strong and December 15, 2017 is the deadline.
    - Civic U 2.0 starts in January 2018.
    - The organizers are looking for one male and one female from each neighborhood council.
    - Civic U 2.0 will be at Council Chambers and is a partnership with the Cal State LA Pat Brown Institute.
  - December 15, 2017 is the deadline for self-nominations to participate in the funding equity work group.
    - The work group will start meeting January and February 2018 throughout the city.

- Ignite LA is currently accepting applications for the program.
  - The Ignite LA program is geared toward encouraging women age 14-24 to participate in public office.
- Neighborhood Council subdivisions and bylaw amendments are still open.
- Mary Kim shared several funding deadlines
  - May 20: check approval
  - June 1: check access
  - June 20: card access
- Mary Kim congratulated Joyce White and the OPNC on the successful town hall. She said it was amazing and she was impressed by the number of speakers, the community participation and the event overall.

### III. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

- Mitch Edelson moved to approve the October 2017 Board Minutes. Ted Smith seconded this motion and it passed unanimously 12-0-0.
- Curtis Clark moved to approve the November 2017 Board Minutes. Peter Wilson seconded this motion and it passed unanimously 12-0-0.

#### PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- President Laura Rudison announced that the meeting would be abbreviated due to the OPNC Christmas Party and Mixer Event after the meeting. She invited attendees of the meeting to attend the event.

#### PUBLIC COMMENTS FROM SPEAKER CARDS

- June introduced herself as a resident of 1250 Crenshaw Boulevard. She was present at the meeting to introduce issues and get advice on problems her family was having with a restaurant located next door at 1262 Crenshaw Boulevard.
  - 1262 Crenshaw Boulevard has been a fried chicken restaurant since June 2017.
  - June stated that since the restaurant was established at the location, there had been multiple problems such as traffic, parking, trespassing, taking fruit from her trees, and pets defecating in her yard.
  - She has brought her issues to many government agencies and talked to the restaurant. She said the building owner has not responded to her.
  - Mitch Edelson invited her to bring her issue to the PLUM meeting.
  - Officer Cho asked June if she shares a common driveway with the restaurant. She answered that she does share a driveway.
  - Laura Rudison stated that the PLUM committee will invite her to come out and they will try to create a forum with the residents and Gus' Fried Chicken and the city.

- June gave a packet to Ted Smith.

### OPNC “ONGOING” BUSINESS

- Mitch Edelson moved to reinstate Gerry Pass to the OPNC board. Bonnie Strong seconded this motion. The motion passed 11-0-1 with Curtis Clark abstaining.
- Joyce White reported on the town hall that she organized.
  - She announced that she was happy with the town hall and the information distributed at the town hall, especially about the Purple Line construction and earthquake preparedness.
  - Joyce White announced that she is moving after 51 years in the neighborhood, and she has been very proud to be a part of the town hall for the last two years.
- Joyce White resigned and Laura Rudison officially accepted her resignation.
  - Laura Rudison stated that the OPNC thanks her for her service. She has been valuable on the board and they will miss her.
  - Joyce White shared that the Longwood Area Association surprised her with a beautiful necklace that says “The General” and she hasn’t taken it off since.
- Joyce White moved to appoint Roberta (Robbie) Farwell to the At-Large Seat West. Joanne Fleming seconded this motion.
  - Joyce White stated that Robbie Farwell would be an excellent board member.
  - The motion passed unanimously 12-0-0.
  - 7:35 PM - Roberta (Robbie) Farwell was appointed At-Large Seat West.

### OPNC COMMITTEE REPORTS

#### IV. SECRETARY REPORT

*Nothing to report*

#### V. TREASURER REPORT

- Nina Smith distributed the October 2017 Monthly Expenditure Report. She stated that the September 2017 and November 2017 MERs were not yet ready.
  - Mitch Edelson asked Nina Smith about the BB Lahi Harrison Trust expenditure. Nina explained that the expenditure represented the cost for tickets to the LA High Anniversary Fundraiser.
- Laura Rudison tabled the item until the January meeting, so the board can view the September MER in order to better understand the October MER.
- Joyce White asked Nina Smith if she would need to change her address in order to receive her reimbursements. Nina answered that she would need to change her address.

- Laura Rudison suggested that she change her address verbally at the meeting and follow up with a written request to Bonnie Strong or Mitch Edelson.
- Laura Rudison stated that she was surprised the City could provide records for October without having September.
  - She said that if an invoice from September was pending, then the beginning balance from October could not be correct. In order to approve the October expenditures the board would need to see September.
- Nina Smith stated that she had reimbursements for herself: \$493.79 for the Clean Street account and \$268.54 for Queen Anne.
  - Laura Rudison asked Nina Smith when the amounts would appear on the MERs. Nina replied that the amounts would appear on the November 2017 MER.
  - Bonnie Strong moved to approve reimbursements to Faalaniga Smith in the amounts of \$493.79 and \$268.54. Mitch Edelson seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously 12-0-0.

## VI. OUTREACH COMMITTEE

- Bonnie Strong read out loud a letter requesting that Senator de Leon formally respond to the OPNC about his statements on the radio show regarding his negative views on neighborhood councils.
  - Ted Smith moved to approve the letter. Peter Wilson seconded this motion.
  - Laura Rudison recapped: Senator de Leon said that neighborhood councils tie the hands of city council people. Some council people never wanted to give up power to neighborhood councils. OPNC is in opposition to de Leon's statement and wants to be clear to Herb Wesson about where they stand.
  - The motion passed 11-1-0 with Mitch Edelson opposing.
- Bonnie Strong asked Nina Smith if OPNC deposited the \$1,000 from the 2016 LA Clean Streets event. Nina Smith answered that she did not know what the procedure was for that.
- Bonnie Strong tabled the discussion about the current Clean Streets event.
- Mitch Edelson announced that UNION will be hosting a Christmas Day event called, "Feeding the Community"
  - The event will begin on December 20 with a canned food and toy drive. UNION will team up with promoters around Los Angeles. Last year they raised \$20k.
  - Contact Mitch Edelson to donate canned food or toys.
  - UNION will also team up with the Silverlake Free Clinic for "Food for the Homeless" on Christmas Day at Los Lobos in Silverlake, located at 3040 Sunset Boulevard. They are looking for volunteers.
- David Laura will do the LAPD Olympic Station Shoes for Santa event and all OPNC events no charge, including the Queen Anne Event.

- Bonnie Strong announced that the Outreach committee voted to recommend swag for kids for \$3500.
  - Bonnie Strong moved to approve \$3,500 for OPNC swag for kids. Hank Williams seconded this motion.
    - Gerry asked what OPNC specifically would be buying with the \$3,500. Bonnie Strong responded that they would be buying swag for preteens and under. She said that OPNC had swag but they did not have any for kids. Laura Rudison stated that the outreach committee was looking at swag that was appropriate for children at events such as movies at the park.
    - Gerry Pass stated that it seemed like a large amount. He asked what Outreach was thinking of buying and for which kids. Laura replied that they were buying for preteen and under, maybe hand out a folder or something for kids.
    - Gerry Pass stated that it seemed like a large amount unless the board had it defined and knew the Return on Investment. Bonnie Strong replied that it would be some branding, and the committee had not yet picked out what it would be.
    - Laura Rudison stated that the Outreach committee had always made available at its meetings that there was a vendor that OPNC worked with and the committee looked through the catalog to see what to buy for future events. She invited the board to look through the catalog.
  - Peter Wilson proposed that the committee come back to the board with specific items to purchase for board approval.
    - Laura Rudison requested that Bonnie Strong send out an email with the vendor catalog so the board could look and give suggestions about what kids and preteens would be interested in.
  - Peter Wilson moved to table this item.
    - Curtis Clark stated that the fact is you do need branding to distribute to kids. They do events with kids and need to have swag for these events.
    - The OPNC board discussed the importance of swag and board participation in Outreach committee decisions.
- The next Outreach meeting and Joint Board Budget Meeting will be December 7, 2017 at 7:00 PM, at the Wilshire West Community Room, 4861 West Venice Boulevard.

## VII. PLUM COMMITTEE

*Postponed until January 2018*

- The next PLUM meeting will be December 18, 2017 at 7:30 PM, at UNION, 4067 W. Pico Boulevard.

## VIII. OPNC BUDGET ADVOCATES

- Postponed until January 2018*
- IX. TRADE, COMMERCE, TECHNOLOGY, PUBLIC WORKS  
*Postponed until January 2018*
- X. TRANSPORTATION & PUBLIC SAFETY  
*Postponed until January 2018*
- XI. YOUTH PULSE  
*Postponed until January 2018*
- XII. UTILITY AND BUILDING & SERVICES  
*Postponed until January 2018*
- XIII. OPNC "ONGOING" BUSINESS  
*Addressed in item III, "Administrative Items"*
- XIV. OPNC NEW BUSINESS  
*Postponed until January 2018*
- XV. COMMUNITY/OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS
- Mitch Edelson, Joanne Fleming, and Robbie Farwell announced that they will miss the January 2, 2018 OPNC board meeting.
  - Atlanta is having a Christmas party this Saturday, December 9.
- XVI. ADJOURNMENT
- Mitch Edelson moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:58 PM. Curtis Clark seconded this motion and the motion passed unanimously 12-0-0.
  - The next OPNC Board Meeting will be January 2, 2018 at UNION.