

OLYMPIC PARK NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING AGENDA
Monday July 1st, 2019 – 7 PM
Catch One
4067 W Pico Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90019

1. Call to Order and Board of Directors Roll Call.

The meeting was called to order at 7:25 PM.

Attending (10):

Mitch Edelson
Hank Williams
Nina Smith
Michael Hagerty
Arturo Ibarra
Gemma Jimenez
Avi Jhingan
Sarah Song
Nathan Freeman
Ramsay Goyal (*Youth/Student Rep*)

Excused Absence (5):

Milton Gaines
Michael Latner
Oliver Baker
Gerry Pass
Dimitrina Gotzeva

2. Announcements from governmental officials

Julien Antelin, with D.O.N.E.: Recommended that the board select a second bank holder, an appointed member of the board that was authorized to use the bank card in the event that a first bank card holder was not available. He said that if they wanted to appoint a second card holder they would have to agendaize it. He also said that DONE asks every neighborhood council (NC) to do a self-assessment at the end of the fiscal year. There was no official deadline for the self-assessment but it was encouraged. He also said that the LA City Home Sharing Ordinance was going into effect on July 1st, which restricts short-term rentals to one's primary residence. The ordinance requires hosts who wish to engage in short-term rentals to register with the City Planning Department if they rent their residence for more than 120 days per year.

Harry Cho, LAPD Senior Lead Officer Olympic Division: Introduced himself. He said he was one of 10 Senior Lead Officers in the Olympic Division. The area he is responsible for is between Normandie and Western from Pico to San Marino and between Western and Crenshaw from Pico to Wilshire. He said that lately much of the crime in

the area has consisted of theft of packaged left at apartments and houses, which is an ongoing issue in all of LA. He recommended using Amazon locker and drop-off locations, such as the Rite Aid at Crenshaw and Olympic, as they are more secure. The 7/11 at Olympic and Wilton has also applied to be a drop-off location. He also said that recently there was an incident in which a local homeless neighbor punched a security guard at the Galleria on Western. The security guard asked the man to leave and the man punched him hard in the head. The older security guard was now currently in a coma as a result of the attack. The suspect was a well-known trouble maker in the neighborhood. An hour after the incident the LAPD found the suspect at a church feeding location and he was arrested for felony battery. Those charges may be increased to attempted murder or even murder if the security guard passes away. Several cars in the neighborhood have also been stolen. In the past stolen cars were typically striped down but now typically they are used for joyriding. Often, the culprits are homeless individuals or gang members who use the cars to commit crimes.

Hebel Rodriguez, LAPD Senior Lead Officer Wilshire Division: Introduced himself. He said his car, 7A47, goes from Venice Blvd to Wilshire Blvd, between Crenshaw Blvd and Redondo Blvd. He said that there has been a 37% increase in car break-ins in the area. However, burglaries are down 44%. There had been an increase in robberies, but the LAPD worked to decrease that amount. They planned to tackle the car break-in issue the same way, with task forces at night and in the early morning - midnight to 5am. There was an incident recently where a man had his car broken into twice. The victim heard an alarm the second time but did not realize it was his own car. The car had been broken into with a slim jim. He advised the community to be mindful of their car alarms and to take note if they see something suspicious. The 1200 block of Highland has had an increase in car break-ins. He said that Nextdoor or other apps are great, but that LAPD cannot see the comments on it, so he urged the community to continue to communicate with one another but also to be sure to actually report crimes. He said that just leaving message with the LAPD does not constitute as filing a report – they must go through the official process of reporting the crime so that it is documented properly. In total there were 39 crimes in the past month - including 9 thefts, and 4 burglaries. There are also still instances of squatters on vacant properties, including “accidental squatters.” There have been instances in which scammers posing as property owners have used fake contracts with renters who believe they are moving in legitimately. Recently, a property owner’s son who was supposed to be managing but was not actually paying attention to the vacant motel on Pico and Lucerne, eventually discovered that squatters had been living on the property for some time. Through a housing department loophole, the people were allowed to stay on the property against the owner’s wishes by establishing the residency as a hotel. Now, the owner is dealing with the eviction process.

Cho: Commented that the only thing the LAPD can see on Nextdoor is people’s replies to their posts. Otherwise, they cannot monitor the site.

Edelson: Said there was also an app called “Citizen,” on which everything on the local police scanner was reported. For example, Edelson had looked at it this morning and saw that a “man brandishing a gun” was reported right outside his

apartment building. **Rodriguez:** Said that app in particular could be problematic because it reports what is being said on the scanner before the police have actually investigated the reported incidents.

3. Public Comments – Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction. [Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker, but the Board has the discretion to modify the amount of time for any speaker.]

Lynn, Stakeholder: Said that on the median on Pico from Victoria to Cloverdale there have been advertisement signs posted for about 3 months. She thought the LA City gardening crew would pull the ads down, but instead they cleaned around them and left them there. She said the median did not exist to provide free advertising and it was unsightly. She also said that at midtown crossing only two of squares are lit up and the rest have been off since July. She asked the OPNC to look into that.

Edelson: Said that the owners/operators of Midtown Crossing were responsible for keeping the squares lit and they have let other things go as well – such as vacant spaces and old advertisements that have never been taken down. But he said the OPNC would look into both issues.

Aura Vasquez: Said she is running for City Council in District 10, so she taking time to visit the local NCs to introduce herself. She said she was formerly a NC representative herself. She thanked the OPNC for their time and work. She said her experience has been as a community organizer. She was a commissioner for LADWP and learning how much that department does not work for people was part of what inspired her to run for City Counsel. She said she knew it could be difficult and daunting it was to connect with the city services for help with medians and other local issues, so that was why she was running to offer a choice to the community. She said she was a local, who lives in Mid City now and used to live in Koreatown. She had served the community for over 10 years. The latest campaign she was led, while a LADWP commissioner, was to retire the gas plants in the city. She is also an organizer with the Sierra Club in the effort to get LA off of coal and is a longstanding advocate for affordable housing. She brought fliers to the meeting with more information on her and she said you can also find information on her website: www.aura2020.com

Edelson: Asked where she lived. **Vasquez:** Said she lived in Mid City, around Pico and Hauser. **Edelson:** Thanked her and said he hoped the OPNC and other local NCs could have a Candidates Forum with her and the other candidates down the line before the primary **Vasquez:** Said that would be wonderful and that something she would support as an elected official would be for the city to provide a budget for all of the NCs to host Candidate Forums so that the community to could be properly introduced to the candidates. She knew it could be hard for some NCs to host forums now because they did not have many resources.

4. Consent Calendar: *(The following items will be treated as one item and enacted with one vote unless a Board member or a stakeholder requests that an item be placed on the Discussion Calendar.)*

a. Motion to approve the previous meetings minutes

The previous meeting's minutes were not available at this time, So the item was tabled until the next meeting.

b. Receive and file the Treasurer's Report and MERs

The Treasurer was not present at the meeting so the Treasurer's Report was tabled until the next meeting.

The approval of the MER was also initially tabled but Antelin said it was important to approve the May 2019 MER before July 24th so that any unspent funds could roll over into the next fiscal year. Edelson emailed Treasurer Milton Gaines for the MER and the meeting continued while they waited for his response. After the conclusion of Item 6.c the board returned to this item as Gaines had replied to the email. The items have been left in their original agenda in these minutes for document organizational purposes. After the MER was approved the board heard Item 7.a.

Edelson: Said that he had received the MER from Milton Gaines and that he had forwarded via email it to the rest of the board. He also offered to show it to the public at the meeting or email it to them at their request. A member of the public, Sarah Song and Antelin looked at the MER Edelson had with him on his cell phone. **Member of the Public:** Asked if the MER was accessible online.

Edelson: Said yes, it would be on the city portal.

Sarah Song moved to approve the MER. Hank Williams seconded. The MER was unanimously approved.

5. Discussion Calendar

a. 2019-2020 Budget Update, discussion and possible approval of subline items for expense categories.

b. Approval of Apple One April 2019 Invoice S7736237

c. Approval of the Moore Business Results Invoice OPNC 2019 0528 \$350.50

The Treasurer was not present at the meeting so Items 5.a 5.b and 5.c were tabled until the next meeting.

d. Approval of a Neighborhood Purpose Grant of \$500 to OBA Foundation for LAPD National Night Out

- e. **Cho:** Said that the LAPD National Night Out event first started 30 years ago, thanks to the combined efforts of activists and the police. The community and the police took the streets in solidarity to make a statement that the streets belong to the community and not the criminals. The event takes place on the first Tuesday of every August. The Olympic Park neighborhood will have two marches. One march will start at Seoul International Park, at Olympic and Normandie, and the other will start at St Sophia's, at Pico and Normandie. The Seoul group will march down Olympic, while the St Sophia group will march down Pico. Both groups will meet up at the Olympic LAPD station. At the station there will be many forms of entertainment including dancers and drummers, all of which represent the community. The NPG funds they were requesting were for food and water that is provided to the 350-500 people that are expected to attend. He said he would bring fliers for the event to the next meeting.

Edelson: Asked what the date of the event was. **Cho:** Said it was August 6th. **Edelson:** Said this was a great event that the OPNC had participated in for many years.

Gemma Jimenez moved to approve the NPG. Nina Smith seconded. Without objection, the NPG was approved.

- f. **Approval up to \$500 at Vista Print for business cards for board members**

Edelson: Said a board member requested business cards and he thought it was a great idea. The business cards would have the OPNC logo, website, and contact information. He did some preliminary research on pricing and if every board member got a card then it would in total cost about \$500.

Michael Hagerty moved to approve the expenditure. Song seconded. Without objection, the expenditure was approved.

- g. **Approval of up to \$250 for a PO Box at the Washington Blvd**

Edelson: Said that right now the OPNC's mail was sent to the Councilman's office, but that they had never been informed if they actually received mail. So he believed it was prudent for the board to have PO Box to keep better track of their mail, which the OPNC had done in the past. He said he believed it would require a contract with the city attorney and the federal government. He asked Antelin if that was correct. **Antelin:** Said the OPNC just had to make sure the PO Box was made in the city's name, not in the name of an individual board member.

Edelson: Said that, based on his research, they could rent a PO Box for a year for \$250.

Song moved to approve the expenditure. Avi Jhingan seconded. Without objection, the expenditure was approved.

Antelin: Said that before they signed anything for the PO Box, to have DONE review the contract first.

Ramsay Goyal: Aske what kind of mail the NC would get. **Edelson:** Said it would mostly be planning-related documents, but also licenses and any sort of mail from city or state entities and letters from citizens.

6. Presentations

a. Solaris Apartments (1141-1145 Crenshaw);

i. Presentation

Edelson: Said that the developers for this project were not present at the meeting. He tried to reach out to them several times prior to the meeting. They had come several times in the past to present the project, and this presentation was for a slight tweak to the plans.

An unidentified stakeholder: Asked what the project was. **Edelson:** Said it was a 100% affordable, permanent supportive housing project for victims of domestic violence. **Stakeholder:** Said that he had read on LA Curbed that an older adult housing project was planned on Pico and Crenshaw. **Edelson:** Said that was a different project, which would be on the south-west side of the street. That project was technically out of OPNC's bounds, in the Mid City bounds, but that the developer had come to speak to the OPNC about it anyway. He also said that he believed that project is also a 100% by-right development.

ii. Vote on Board position letter

No vote was taken.

b. CUB Application (Case No. ZA-2019-2098-CUB)

i. Presentation

Beth Aboulafia: Introduced herself as an alcohol beverage lawyer who has been doing alcohol licenses for Target stores in California for the past 15 years. The CUB Application was for a full alcohol license for the new Target store opening at the new retail development at San Vicente and La Brea. They have also applied to the Department of City Planning for a Type 21 California Liquor License in conjunction with the CUB applications. Target sells alcoholic beverages at all of its stores. Alcohol has become part of standard mechanizing, but is a small component of Target's overall retail sales. It is off-sale license only, no consumption would be allowed on the premises. Target has security in place in all of its stores generally, including video surveillance and security personnel who monitor the store. And Target trains all employees in responsible alcohol

sales. The hearing for the CUB was coming up which was why she was appearing before the OPNC, requesting their support. She said she would be happy to answer any questions.

Board Comment:

Edelson: Asked if it was just beer and wine or if it would have a full range of spirits. **Aboulafia:** Said it would have the full range.

Edelson: Said that that the developer of the property had resisted presenting to the board in the past. They tried to have the developer come because there were some traffic concerns in the neighborhood. But the developer never came to present. The OPNC had discussed how perhaps they could force the developer to come when the alcohol applications were being made but that did not work either. But, he said that personally he had no issue with Target's CUB application. He said there may be some concerns about over concentration because the Sprouts in the development would also have beer and wine.

Hagerty: Asked when the hearing was. **Aboulafia:** Said the hearing was the following Wednesday.

Jimenez: Asked what percentage of Target's retail sales was from alcohol sales. **Aboulafia:** Less than 3%

Edelson: Asked if she had already volunteered any conditions of the CUB or the license to the planning department. **Aboulafia:** Said no, but that she expected that any conditions of the CUB or license would require training.

Edelson: Asked what the hours would be. **Aboulafia:** 7am to 11pm.
Edelson: Asked if alcohol would be sold that entire time. **Aboulafia:** Said, yes, it would be.

Public Comment:

Unidentified Citizen: Asked when the store would open. **Aboulafia:** Said it was scheduled to open in October. **Nathan Freeman:** Said the Sprouts to expected to open on July 10th. **Aboulafia:** Said there will also be *Michaels* opening

Goyal: Asked if the developers would be appearing at a OPNC meeting. **Edelson:** Said no, they would not. **Freeman:** Said it was a "by right" project, so they did not need approval from the OPNC.

ii. Vote on Board position letter to be submitted to Zoning Administrator

Freeman moved to support the CUB Application with a letter. Jimenez seconded. The motion was approved unanimously – save for Goyal who, as youth rep, was not permitted to vote.

c. David Gershwin on behalf of Clear Channel Outdoor re: Modernized Sign Ordinance

David Gershwin: Said he was a representative of Clear Channel Outdoor, one the major outdoor advertising agencies nation-wide, including in LA. He said was visiting many NCs because he believed they had an opportunity to reduce the amount bill boards city-wide, get funding for neighborhood services and actually change the law surrounding signage of all kinds in the city of Los Angeles. He said with the existing ordinance right now, only have traditional static billboards are allowed throughout the city except inside sign districts, such as the Staples Center. The modernized sign ordinance was currently being discussed by the City Council Planning and Land Use committee and would be heard again in august. This new ordinance would allow digital signs outside of sign districts but in designated commercial areas. Each sign would have to be approved by the City Council and would have a full public hearing. It would be analogous to a conditional use permit process where each sign would be considered on a case-by-case basis. Communities could weigh in on whether or not a digital sign would be appropriate for their neighborhood. If a digital sign was approved the sign company would be required to take down traditional signs at a designated ratio. He said other Californian cities, such as Sacramento, Berkley, Long Beach and Carson, have passed ordinances like this with ratios ranging from 4:1 to 8:1. It would done in an equitable square footage basis. He said OPNC had an opportunity to take down signs that may be an issue of concern in the Olympic Park community. Currently, signs that are already up are there by-right. Another aspect of the potential ordinance would be to use the signage to generate revenue for the city, which is what motivated many of the other cities who have implemented this. So if a sign was taken down in the community, the community would receive additional city funds. For every type of takedown and revenue generating mechanism, half of the funds would be distributed to the immediate area surrounding the sign and the other half would be evenly dispersed among council districts throughout the city. He said that the street furniture issue, with signage on bus stops, was not done in as thoughtful a manner as this new modernized sign ordinance. Finally, he said the ordinance must allow for digital sign and restricted the luminosity of the signs. He said he could not speak for other sign companies, but that Clear Channel outdoor had the technology to dim their digital signs at night and brighten them during the day. It was in the signage company's self-interest to make that happen to reduce power consumption, but also it was something that the city could impose on sign companies at each and every location. Currently there was no means to restrict the lights used at the

bottom of traditional billboards with lights – so there are some traditional signs that have brighter lights than a digital billboard would and the community has no legal method to regulate those lights. A modernized ordinance would help to fix some of those flaws in the law. He asked the OPNC for their support for the modernized sign ordinance which would allow for 30% take down of the existing signs, would generate revenue for communities, and would create a framework for new regulations and laws that would better govern the use of signs in the city of Los Angeles. He said he would be happy to answer any questions the board may have had.

Edelson: Said he understood the sign company’s motivation, as this ordinance would be more profitable for them. **Gershwin:** Said the city could potentially mandate that a percentage of the digital signage be devoted to nonprofit organizations community organizations

Freeman: Asked if they were talking about revenue sharing with the city and the sign company. **Gershwin:** Said, yes, they were.

Edelson: Said they would be renting from billboard space from the property owners. **Gershwin:** Said that, yes, some of the spaces were rented from private owners and that some billboard spaces were already owned by the sign companies. **Edelson:** Said that he worked in real estate a little himself and he knew that if a lease was terminated for a certain billboard, then the sign could still be moved anywhere the company wants because the grants for signs were transferable. He asked if, with this new ordinance, the grants would still be transferable. **Gershwin:** Said no, they would not be transferable.

Freeman: Said that when he was a planning deputy for Councilman Holden, he had similar idea. So he supported this ordinance, particularly the revenue sharing idea.

Smith: Asked if the ordinance was being considered by the City Council at that time. **Gershwin:** Said yes, the planning and land use committee was considering the modernized ordinance and that the language had already been posted on the city’s website. He believed it was ordinance number 11-1705.

Edelson: Asked if this had anything to do with Netflix getting into the billboard industry. **Gershwin:** Said Netflix was not necessarily the reason it was happening but that they were a competitor of his company.

Arturo Ibarra: Asked if there was a formal definition of a commercial area in the ordinance’s language it is specified. **Gershwin:** Said yes, in the ordinance language there was specificity on the type of secondary highway the digital billboards would be permitted on in terms of a radius

from any residential area and including mixed residential properties.

Edelson: Asked if that would include a mixed-use areas like on Wilshire, Olympic and Pico. **Gershwin:** Said the ordinance did not name any specific areas/streets, but yes. Currently in many major commercial quarters, billboards were allowed in residential area and even on top of apartment buildings themselves. Under the new ordinance that would no longer be permitted.

Jhingan: Asked was the last time there was an updated billboard ordinance. **Gershwin:** Said it had not been updated in decades.

Smith: Said the OPNC should review the actual language of the modernization ordinance before they decide to support it or not. **Edelson:** Agreed and that said they could write up a CIS on it after doing their own research.

Hagerty: Asked if the primary set of eyes the billboards were targeting were motorists? **Gershwin:** Said that they were targeted at everyone, but billboards have traditionally been targeted at motorists since the 1940s. **Hagerty:** Expressed concern that digital billboards may be more distracting to motorists. He asked if Gershwin had any data on their effect on motorists. **Gershwin:** Said he did have data and gave Hagerty a handout with said data.

Edelson: Said he currently lived in building with a digital sign and he needed to buy a sleep mask because it is so bright. He has never needed a sleep mask in his entire life. Even with the blinds down it was so bright, it was “like the movie Blade Runner.” **Gershwin:** Said the new ordinance would have rules and regulations for luminosity. **Edelson:** Said that the major city highways that the billboards would be regulated for is where the city planning department now wants to build mixed-use housing – on Wilshire and downtown. There will be a lot of eyes in the area that billboard companies will target.

Goyal: Asked if there was a possibility that the ordinance could be passed and that none of the revenue sharing would be implements. **Gershwin:** Said there was never any certainty that city council committee will go in any particular direction. But the current ordinance language that is proposed would allow for takedowns, revenue sharing and new regulations that govern buildings. The specifics are never really solid until the ordinance is approved. **Edelson:** Said that once it leaves committee it will go to the council floor for a vote.

Freeman: Said that he knew the BBA (Black Business Association) supported this ordinance. Since Freeman is on the board of directors of the BBA, he asked if he should recuse himself from discussing the ordinance.

Edelson: Said they should check with the City Clerk on what to do in terms of that.

Song: Asked what percentage of the revenue sharing would go to the city/community. **Gershwin:** Said the City had not yet articulated a particular percentage. He knew other cities had a range of 5 to 15%.

Edelson: Asked what other cities had done it. **Gershwin:** Said Long Beach, Sacramento, Berkley, Oakland and San Antonio were some of the major cities with similar ordinances.

Edelson: Said that he expected the revenue billboard companies would earn would be exponentially higher than what they get now, because one billboard could have a large number of ads at any given time. **Gershwin:** Said it would be higher but not necessarily exponentially higher, because yes there would be more points of sale, but also more points of interest and lower ports of entry and a minimum number of rotations.

Song: Asked where she could actually go see the ordinance language.

Gershwin: Said it was in the Council File index on the city clerk website. It was Council File 11-1705.

Edelson: Said that also in general, on the City Clerk's website one can also subscribe to track all incoming city ordinances.

Public Comment:

Lynn: Said that revenue sharing and taking down old billboards sounds altruistic, but because it is digital there could be three or many more ads within a minute and the billboard companies would still collect the same revenue even if they take down three traditional billboards. The companies are still profit driven. **Edelson:** Agreed, but said that because of the incentives it does balance out. **Lynn:** Said that they still have not said how much a parentage the city would even get. She said she was also wary of City Council being able to dictate where the revenue goes. The NCs would not be able to direct those funds, which is what always happens. She also asked how green the digital signs were compared to stationary signs. And, she said that several years ago they were told that old signs would be taken down and new reinforced ones would be put in their place and nothing happened. **Gershwin:** Said he understood her frustrations, but that this was an opportunity for the NC to make their voice heard in the process. In green terms, he said that the traditional signs' lights actually used more power than the LED lights they used on digital signs. **Lynn:** Expressed concern about strobing lights.

Antelin: Said that since this was public comment Gershwin did not need to respond to Lynn's statement. **An unidentified citizen:** said that

Gershwin should not respond because it was public comment. **Edelson:** Said he would allow Gershwin to respond since there was still a lot of time left in the meeting, since Lynn was asking great questions and he wanted to hear Gershwin's answers.

Gershwin: Said that the strobing was something that could be regulated by the City. He also wanted to clarify that he was talking about off-sight signage – meaning advertising for something that is not at the location of the billboard, as opposed to on-sight signage, such as a hair salon having a sign advertising their work on site. **Edelson:** Said that there was some sort of loophole in which something in fine print would result in drawing people into the property owner's on-site business. **Gershwin:** Said there were loophole people took advantage of, but in terms of the strobing, that was something that could be regulated by the city

Aura Vasquez: Asked if other NCs had weighed in this. And she asked if there was anything ensuring that the shared-revenue fees come back to the community at a local level. Was it specified yet where funding where go?

Gershwin: Said it was not yet specified as to where the funding would go. And one could check the council file to see if other NCs had weighed in yet. In general, he said the opponents to the ordinance have been from wealthy communities on the west side.

Ibarra: Asked if there was any language in the ordinance as to how long it would take to take down the old billboards. **Gershwin:** Said there would have to be an imposed timetable, but he did not know except amount yet.

Edelson: Said they had a couple months to research the ordinance and perhaps invite a couple people with opposing views to come speak to the OPNC.

An unidentified citizen: Asked if communities would have any say in regulatng the content of the billboards. **Gershwin:** Said no, they would not. But he knew that Clear Channel controlled the majority of signs in LA and attention paid to that content. He brought up an example of when a billboard for a horror movie upset a local community and how Clear Channel quickly covered the sign within 24 hours in response to the community's concerns. He said there were also first amendment issues when it came to regulating content. But, the city could also implement certain restrictions, such as regulating what types of ads that could be played at certain times of the day.

A second unidentified citizen: Said he lived in area and that he did not want digital billboards in his neighborhood. He said that digital billboards tried to come out about 10 years ago but there was such an uproar from the community that the City Council relented and did not allow them. He said

he did not want to have a garish sign blasted at him as he walked down his street – like in Bladerunner, which is a dystopian novel. Many cities in LA County do not allow billboards at all and none are allowed in Hawaii. He said billboards were horribly ugly things that disrupt our lives with violent video games, alcohol, and sugary sweet beverages that disproportionately affect certain communities. He said pedestrian fatalities are on the rise already in the city and digital billboards would probably not help with that problem. **Gershwin:** Said that no billboards would be taken down in LA without an ordinance like this.

Edelson: Asked how long a grant would last under the new ordinance. Because currently grants last forever, which is why signs never come down. **Gershwin:** Said the city could implement that how they saw fit. City will not have revenue if.

The second unidentified citizen: Said that the idea that this would increase revenue should not weigh into our decision. He said more money would be great but should not be the driving force of making the decision for the community.

7. Board Business - Comments from the Board on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction

a. Comment on Board Member's own activities/ Brief announcements.

Edelson: Said he did the CicLAvia event in Mid City that weekend, in which they close the streets down in a neighborhood to allow people to bike in the street. They have had events in Culver City, Palms, Boyle Heights, Chinatown and other neighborhoods. He really enjoyed the event, there were several cool restaurants in along the route. He also met a couple people from the Mid City NC. He would like to see an event in the OPNC neighborhood, along Pico, Olympic and Crenshaw. The next event will be in West Hollywood **Hagerty:** Said he had volunteered for CicLAvia in the past. He said he knew that they are very interested in having a broad Geographic scope to all of their events. So, while it was unlikely that they would come back to their neighborhood in the immediate future perhaps they could contact them about organizing a future even in Olympic Park. Personally, he said he would love to see such an event on Pico. **Aura Vasquez:** Said the essence of CicLAvia was to educate people on what it would be like to be on bikes more in LA and to create community in neighborhoods. As someone who was concerned about the climate crisis and modernizing the streets, she supported the organization. Biking in LA streets is hard – they are uneven, hard, messy. Cicle-vida give the community the opportunity to see the city from perspective, from a bike without cars. The event is also very close to her heart because she is a native Colombian and CicLAvia was based on Ciclovía, which started in Bogota, Colombia. **Edelson:** Agreed that it was a great event, and that many places in LA that are labeled as bike routes – such as on Venice - are messy, uneven and unsafe as Vasquez says. **Goyal:** Said he rides his bike on Venice and

besides a “bike route” sign, there is nothing else that promotes safe biking.

Hagerty: Said that he and Gerry Pass and him are members of transportation committee, they would like to have a study on the viability of bringing CicLAvia to Olympic Park. **Jhingan** and **Goyal** both expressed interest in joining that effort. **Edelson:** Said there were people from Vision Zero at CicLAvia. He spoke with them about Venice, but they said they were more focused on Adams right now. Venice seemed like a perfect candidate to him because of the Creek River Bike Path and there is a bike lane that starts on 4th avenue that if they finished all the way to downtown then there could be a good bike lane all the way from the east side to the west side.

b. Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights.

None.

c. Introduce new issues for consideration by the Board at its next meeting/request that the item be placed on the next meeting’s agenda.

Song: Asked if all the committee positions had been filled. **Edelson:** Said he would have to check the minutes from the last meeting to be sure, but they do not all have to be filled. However, in the bylaws it states that every board member must be on a committee so he asked the board to make sure they joined at least one.

Smith: Said there would not be an outreach committee meeting that week because of the 4th of July holiday, so she planned to meet on the 11th. She had reached out the people in charge of the meeting space, but had not heard back. The meetings are usually on the first Thursday of each month.

Edelson: Said that they needed good, active outreach committee to have a good board and get the community involved, so getting that organized should be their priority. They had OPNC SWAG stored for future events as well. **Smith:** Agreed and said everyone should come and she would send out the agenda soon.

Jimenez: Asked when they would be taking inventory of what they had in storage. **Edelson:** Said as soon as they figured out a date to do that he would send email to the board and said any help with that would be great.

Goyal: Said he saw on the OPNC website that there was a youth pulse committee. He asked if that still existed and if he could lead it. **Edelson:** Said it would be great if Goyal could lead it. He said in the past he believed that the committee would hold meetings at the leader’s school, but Goyal could do outreach at other schools if he wanted. He

Song: Asked if anyone had a change to do the budget day. **Smith:** Said she went, as a budget advocate. She sent an email to the board about the recent Budget day. There were 500-600 attendees. The mayor did not attend but sent a representative. She said the meeting was an exciting 2 hours but she learned that the city was not in good shape at all. Budget Advocate Jack McCain was there and she planned to have him come speak to the OPNC. **Edelson:** Said that would be great and asked her to send him an email to schedule it for September. **Smith:** Said she also sent the White Paper to the entire board.

Edelson: Reminded the board to use BCC when emailing the whole board to avoid any accidental Brown Act violations.

Ibarra: Said he was curious about what happened with the NPG money they recent allocated for clean-up and trees. **Edelson:** Said they had already given the organization the money but he would be happy to invite them back for a follow up update. **Song:** Said they often go out and plant free trees for property owners who request it. **Edelson:** Said they also do clean ups in the area if you call 311.

Edelson: He said to email him if there were any additional items they wanted on next month's agenda.

d. Ask Committee Chairpersons to research issues and report back to the Board at a future time.

Edelson: Encouraged the transportation committee to look into CicLAvia.

8. Adjournment

Ibarra moved to adjourn the meeting. Smith seconded. Without objection the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 PM.