



WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
 PO Box 3692, Winnetka, CA 91306
www.winnetkanc.com



President	Vice – President	Secretary	Treasurer	Sergeant at Arms
JJ Popowich	Art Sims	Mary Ann Smiley	Erick Lace	Jozef Essavi
Board Members				
Armineh Chelebian	Nina Essavi	Nalini Natarajan	Edesa Aghakhanmoshabad	Tess Reyes-Dunn
TJ Martens	T. Alan Schweizer	Vacant Position		Youth Position

WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES

Tuesday, January 13, 2009 – 6:30 PM
 Valley Village
 Winnetka Ave. Winnetka, CA 91306

The Winnetka Neighborhood Council holds its regular meetings on the second Tuesday of every month and may also call any additional required special meetings in accordance with its Bylaws and the Brown Act. The agenda for the regular and special meetings is posted for public review at **Limerick Avenue Elementary School**, 8530 Limerick Ave., Winnetka, 91306; **Fulton Cleaners**, 20109 Roscoe Street, Winnetka, 91306; **Express Pack & Ship**, 7657 Winnetka Ave., Winnetka, 91306; **Canoga Park Bowl**, 20122 Vanowen St., Winnetka, 91306 (near Bar & ATM Machine); **Albertson's Food and Drug Store**, 7224 Mason Ave.

1. Call to Order & Board Member's Roll Call

Board Member	Present	Absent	Excused
JJ Popowich	X		
Art Sims	X		
Erick Lace			X
Mary Ann Smiley	X		
Jozef Essavi		X	
Armineh Chelebian	X		
Nina Essavi		X	
Nalini Natarajan	X		
Edesa Aghakhanmoshabad	X		
Tess Reyes-Dunn	X		
TJ Martens	X		

T. Alan Schweizer	X		
Steve Zeldin			
Open Seat			
Youth Open Seat			
Total	11	2	1

2. Explanation of Meeting Rules

3. Review minutes for last meeting

4. **Public Comments:** Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction. The public is requested to fill out a “**Speaker Card**” to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action. The Speaker Card is requested so that the Speaker’s names are complete and correct in the meeting Minutes. **Rene Martinez, parent of a student at Multi Cultural Learning Center. She discussed the process of appealing the cell phone tower. Students will be pulled by parents and the school may close, due to the hazard . Health risks due to electromagnetic radiation cell phone towers emit and will then affect the children at the school. The location of the school is in the city of Winnetka. Hearing already took place. Thursday is due date for appeal. Even though this is not on the agenda at this time; she however, wanted the board to be aware of this concern. Gayle Pierson, representing the “Fab Girls” who participated in The Youth Expo discussed her concerns. She was referred to the Youth Committee for financial support for costumes etc.**

5. **State & Local Government representatives’ updates:** Mayor Villaraigosa’s representative, Councilman Smith’s representative, Councilman Zine’s representative, Department of Neighborhood Empowerment representative, and other local or state government representatives that may wish to attend. **Meghan, Sammy is here as well who will take over other neighborhood councils. Applause to new station grand opening and for the support from WNC members. Traffic cameras- Smith will meet council half way for the first camera. Let her know when we decide of location. Inquiring about Mason as it is deplorable. Meghan will follow up. Citris Sunday- pick fruit to participate in May and adopt a local fire station to donate fruit. Planning meeting at 4:00 pm at new fire station to learn how to get involved for Citris Sunday. Officer Maldonado- Arminah questioned about male black who was shot near bowling alley while taking trash out. Gang members shot him and killed him. Same car committed an armed robbery. Canoga Alabama Gang, local gang in area and now in Winnetka. Black and brown issue which has been an on-going issue. Injunction for this gang to not associate with each other and will be arrested if in violation. Crime-2 taken in custody. Four are currently in jail and awaiting racial profiling. Community is suggested to call police when they see gang members congregating in an area or in the car driving around. Several tasks forces regarding this issue. Maldonado thanked everyone for participating in the grand opening. Jose appreciated the members participating in the grand opening. Budget and Finance committee for all to express their opinion. WNC is invited. Free e-waste collection event at office 1800 got junk. 8-4 pm computers, cell phones to drop off to get recycle. Zine wants to tackle 2009 and focus on 10 issues for the entire year. 8 passenger van will be invited to drive around and create a list to improve certain areas to help strategize. Feb 18 posse training 6pm-8pm in district office report quality of life issues.**

6. Dawn Peterson, President of the board of directors for the Women’s Odyssey Organization. John (unknown last name) President of Canoga Park Chamber. To present to the board in need of some beautification and repair needs. Plumbing issue and would like support to assist them in this important matter. They are licensed by the state as a recovery home for women. Non profit agency in the area. Has a list of plumbing fees. Location is 20830 Parthenia St. Winnetka. Learn how to live on their own, work and reside in the home. Learn to get their kids back. To replace pipe is \$4, 000.00 which was damaged by root intrusion which is creating a stoppage. Referred them to Arminah’s group. List given to Arminah.

7. Discussion and possible action on a presentation by Tarzana Nursery on the cost of a) Maintaining the median improvements b) adding river rock to some or all of the “finger” island portions of the median.
 - a. Cost for 16 finger \$1500.00 per finger. \$200.00 for plants. Total \$27,000.252.
 - b. Maintenance- \$2,500.00 per month (five days a month, from Corbin to Desoto. Remove weeds and maintain). It is the cities responsibility to take care and maintain this area, but this will not be the case. Therefore we must maintain in order to keep it looking good. This agenda item will be referred to PLUM.
8. Discussion with Captain Sherman regarding “Topanga Station”, action may be taken depending on the information provided.
Miscommunication. No need to discuss this as it was referred to the Public Safety Committee on January 20th..
9. Discussion and possible action on a presentation by Ed Crowe on the cost of a half or full page section in each edition of his West Valley News for the WNC to promote events discuss important items and post a calendar. Discussion of responsibility of writing and submitting the information.
Ed presented, resident of the valley and publishes the West Valley News. Crowe Marketing Design 818.883.3374. WNC should be a part of this newspaper. To create bridges and collaboration with other agencies and to inform community as to what WNC does for the community. A person is needed to assist him with the outline of the paper and the writing of the articles. With a discount \$600.00 for half a page, per month. Pictures included in paper. Many drop off centers. Restaurants, libraries, fast food restaurants, hotels, hospitals, malls, grocery stores and other neighborhood councils are just a sample of the drop centers. TJ motions to have a full page. Art seconded. All approved. 50,000.00 residents in Winnetka. On January 21 at 6:30 PM will be a meeting to map out the strategy. crowdsgn@aol.com.
10. ED Boks, General Manager of LA Animal Services to discuss program as and any concerns about animal welfare and control issues in the Winnetka area.
Not present. Table for next meeting.
11. Discussion and possible action to assign coordination duties to Board members to coordinate pro/con speakers to come to our meeting to discuss the Ballot measures on the upcoming City election ballot.
Tabled.
12. Discussion and possible action regarding the cost for Winnetka Neighborhood Council badges to display on each member during any such event.
TJ at cost \$16. 50 per badge. Total cost for all board members an individual badge. \$247.00 for full board. TJ motioned to provide a badge for each board member . MaryAnn seconded it. All approved. TJ will email a sample to each of us prior to finalization. Other alternatives will be looked into.
13. Discussion and possible action on changing location of all WNC meetings. Winnetka Elementary School is willing to permit General Board Meeting and Youth Committee and any other meetings may have to continue at Valley Village. To have our main meeting at the school should be beneficial. Bouncing around may create confusion and lack of attendance. Winnetka Park was a suggestion. The board members will continue to revisit this idea of moving to another location.
14. Discussion regarding existing guidelines for board members while participating in community events and activities.
No current guidelines for board members as far lack of participation in the groups.
15. Discussion regarding procedure for adding items and disseminating information through the website or newsletter.
Board rules are not current as they should be. JJ will look for the new rules and republish.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE REPORTS

16. Finance Committee Report (Including Treasurer’s Report, Lace): (7 minutes)

Discussion of monthly report.

Nalini discussed the monthly report. Currently, the amount spent is always on the report but no amount of how much we approved at the Board Meeting each month. Board would like to see on the monthly report, the amount for what was approved at the last general board meeting. JJ motioned for a new report that shows all committed expenses that were approved in the past verses the unspent money. Second it Arts. All approved .

17. Interfaith Committee Report (Chelebian): (5 minutes)

No meeting.

18. Events Committee Report (Martens): (5 minutes)

19. Youth Committee Report (Schweizer): (5 minutes)

Discussion and possible action in support of up to \$2,500.00 for Sunny Brae Elementary School's "Garden". Youth Committee approved the grant. Greg Sullivan will be available for questions. Greg and Susan Laskin presented to the board. Youth committee approved financial support. A bill must be provided to the board which will be given to Erick. After delivery inform us and then will be paid by the Treasurer. JJ motions to support up to \$2,500.00 and Alan seconded it. Erick has been informed as he was at the Youth Committee. All approved. JJ will send a letter to Greg regarding the process of WNCs support.

Pictures of mural that WNC supported at Sunny Brae was passed around and a plaque will be near the mural to thank us.

Susan, principal offered her school for our meetings.

Tara Walker, representing Single Mother's event in 2009 will be available for questions; however, will be invited to the next Events Committee Meeting. Tara was not present at the meeting; however, TJ has tried contacting her.

Alan explained that three new members to the youth committee were added.

20. Planning & Land Use Committee (PLUM) (Popowich): (5 minutes)

21. Public Works & Transportation Committee (Chelebian): (5 minutes)

Next meeting 01/24/09

22. Public Safety Committee (Smiley): (5 minutes)

A lot to cover on the agenda for next meeting. Due to inauguration please attend and hopefully end in a timely manner.

23. Emergency Preparedness Committee (Martens): (5 minutes)

Alan was reminded to volunteer as vice chair, but he still has yet to decide. Lens from West Hills Neighborhood Council will like to participate with WNC. A flyer was passed out. Think about the budget for next year.

24. Rules, Election & By-Laws Committee (Popowich): (5 minutes)

25. Future Agenda Items & Calendar of events:

- Public Safety Committee: January 20, 2009
- Youth Committee: January 6, 2009/February 3, 2009
- Events Committee: January 26, 2009
- Public Works & Transportation Committee: TBD
- Interfaith Committee: TBD
- Emergency Preparedness: January 27, 2009

26. Adjournment

The public is requested to fill out a “**Speaker Card**” to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker, but the Board has the discretion to modify the amount of time for any speaker. Before a vote on each item any member of the public who has not filled out a “**Speaker Card**” will be accorded 1 minute to make a statement. This period will not last longer than 5 minutes total.

The public may comment on a specific item listed on this agenda when the Board considers that item. When the Board considers the agenda item entitled “Public Comments,” the public has the right to comment on any matter that is within the Board’s jurisdiction. In addition, the members of the public may request and receive copies without undue delay of any documents that are distributed to the Board, unless there is a specific exemption under the Public Records Act that prevents the disclosure of the record. (Govt. Code § 54957.5)

The Winnetka Neighborhood Council complies with Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act and does not discriminate on the basis of any disability. Upon request, the Winnetka Neighborhood Council will provide reasonable accommodations to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure the availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Neighborhood Council Secretary at (818) 648-6219, or please send an e-mail that states the accommodations that you are requesting to jedi_yoda@msn.com.

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 Dias de trabajo (72 horas) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA AYUDA CON ESTA AGENDA, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL (818) 648-6219.

PROCESS FOR RECONSIDERATION

The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed on the agenda if that reconsideration takes place immediately following the original action or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: (1) Make a Motion for Reconsideration and, if approved, (2) hear the matter and Take an Action.

If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: (1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and (2) a {Proposed} Action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken can only make a motion for reconsideration.

If a motion for reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Brown Act.

PROCESS FOR FILING A GRIEVANCE

Any grievance by a Stakeholder must be submitted in writing to the Secretary of the Board of Directors. The Secretary shall then within no more than 30 days refer the matter to an ad hoc grievance panel comprised of 3 Stakeholders who are randomly selected by the Council secretary from a list of Stakeholders who have previously expressed an interest in serving from time-time on such a grievance panel. The Secretary will coordinate a time and a place, not to exceed 10 days for the panel to meet with the person(s) submitting a grievance and to discuss ways in which the dispute may be resolved.

Thereafter, a panel member shall promptly prepare a written report to be forwarded by the Secretary to the Board to be heard at the next board meeting outlining the panels’ collective recommendations for resolving the grievance. The Board of Directors may receive a copy of the panel’s report and recommendations prior to any meeting by the Board, but the matter shall not be discussed among the Board members until the matter is heard at the next regular meeting of the Board pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

This formal grievance process is not intended to apply to Stakeholders who simply disagree with a position or action taken by the Board at one of its meetings. Those grievances can be aired at the Board meetings. This grievance process is intended to address matters involving procedural disputes, e.g., the Board’s failure to comply with the Board Rules or these Bylaws, or its failure to comply with the City’s Charter, the Plan, local ordinances, and/or State and federal law.

In the event that a grievance cannot be resolved through this grievance process, the complainant has the right to appeal the matter to the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment for consideration or dispute resolution.