



WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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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 Aghakhanm oshabad	Tess Reyes-Dunn
TJ Martens	T. Alan Schweizer	Open Seat	Open Seat	Stephanie Aguirre

WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES FOR 05/12/09

1. Call to Order and Board Members Roll Call (time 6:47 PM):

Absent is JJ Popowich (excused), Edesa Aghakhanmoshabad (absent) , Mary Ann Smiley (excused), Armineh Chelabian (absent), Art Sims (en route), Tess Reyes Dunn (en route). Members present include Joseph Essavi, Nina Essavi, Nalini Natarajan, TJ Marten, Alan Schweizer, Eric Lace, Stephanie Aguirre. Meeting Commenced presided by Treasurer Eric Lace. Currently six Board members are present, representing less than a quorum of 8 members needed to vote on items. However consultation with DONE Representative Thomas Soong revealed that meeting is permitted to begin, however no votes may take place until a quorum is present.

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		
Open Seat			
Open Seat			
Stephanie Aguirre	X		
Total	9	4	0

2. Explanation of Meeting Rules

3. Review minutes for last meeting: *Minutes circulated and unanimously approved*

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.
 - a. *Olga Morales-bureau sanitation talked about flood plain management plan and impact on risk areas (see flyer)*
 - b. *Helen Yoon City of LA Sanitation / Public Works –spoke about Zero Waste Plan - goal of being waste free city in 20 years through alternative technologies.*
 - c. *SLO Report – Officer Maldonado reports crime stats down over last 3 months, discussed awareness of recent "scams" to stake out homes to burglarize such as door to door vendors for various products to observe ways to enter and belongings.*
 - d. *Megan Cottier -Councilman Smith's representative – spoke about difficulty of decisions in budget cuts and looking at various areas to save money and preserving funding for Neighborhood Councils.*
 - e. *Jose Martinez and Jessica Forkish (Special Projects Representative) – Councilman Zine representatives present discussed posse meetings in fall and starting teen posse, in need of needs list of priority areas to be discussed, discussion of signs of Quartz avenue and they do not have accurate hrs posted.*
 - f. *CRA representative Sandra Gonzalez discussed goal to Paint five homes in Winnetka area as improvement, in need of volunteers for event homes are near Quimby Park – have 3 homes to use and need 2 more homeowners, also need volunteers to assist in Neighborhood Pride Day on Saturday June 13, 2009.*

NOTE: 7:25PM Members Art Sims and Tess Reyes Dunn arrive and join meeting. Both attended City Hall Budget Committee Hearing and represented the WNC. The hearings did not begin at 1PM as originally posted, but rather at 3:30 PM. Mr Sims reconvened and presided over continuation of meeting. A quorum of 8 members (9 including Youth rep) is now present and consultation with Thomas Soong of DONE verifies this.

5. **Discussion and possible action on supporting the "Battle of the Bands Family Music Festival".** June 6th is the day of the event and Connie O'Shea is available for further detailed information on the event. She is the Director of Programming for Arts in Education Aid Council, a non profit organization working to restore the arts to our Valley public schools. Ms. O Shea presented information about the foundation and event to be held at Sutter Middle School on Saturday June 6th. Motion by Alan Schweizer to support foundation and event in the amount of \$2000, 2nd by Art Sims and Joseph Essavi. Motioned voted on and passed unanimously 8-0.
6. **Discussion and possible action on Elections for 2010. This issue pertains to what was discussed at the Saturday downtown meeting with DONE and City Elections Division.** Erick Lace discussed this issue at length. The deadline is June 1, 2009. Thomas Soong present discussed Neighborhood Council Election Procedures in 2010 and NC Congress at Panorama High School Saturday, May 30 at 8 am. City Clerk is taking over elections and is working to ensure NC bylaws are clarified and followed. Deadline to change bylaws for elections is May 15, 2009. If survey is not filled out and completed by June 1st, the Board voted to support the following policies as per the Board Election Procedures Stipulation Language Worksheet

The Board voted as follows to support:

1a *Elections even # years, no vote needed*

2a *that a Stakeholder definition should be one who lives, works, goes to school, own property, or declares stake in community, no vote needed*

3a *That a stakeholder by define themselves by Stakeholder Self Affirmation, motioned by J Essavi, 2nd by Erik Lace passed unanimously 9-0*

4a *For a person wishing to claim themselves as a stakeholder based on membership in an organization, the physical address of the place of organization or place of worship must be within the district boundaries to establish Stakeholder status, motioned by Art Sims, 2nd by TJ Marten vote passed 9 yea -0 nay*

5a *Minimum voting age motioned for age 16 by Alan Schweizer, 2nd Art Sims , motion failed 2 Yea-4 nay-1 abstain , motioned*

by Josef Essavi to support age 18, passed 5 yea-1 nay-1 abstain

6a that Board terms exist for 4 year staggered terms motioned by Art Sims, 2nd by Erik Lace motion passed 7yea-0nay

7a Appointment seats made by board, motioned by Art Sims, 2nd by Art Sims, 2nd by TJ Marten approved unanimously 7yea-0nay

8a Board fills vacancies approved 7-0

9a. # seats on Board =15 and Youth representative is appointed and eligibility is Age 15-17 1/2 passed unanimously 7-0

11a Candidates wishing to be on the Board may only declare for one position, which has to be stated prior to the vote. motioned by Art Sims, , 2nd by TJ Marten approved unanimously 7yea-0nay

- 7. Swearing in of new Youth Member, Stephanie Aguirre. Tabled**
- 8. Discussion and possible action on the website renewal agreement. Board members were supposed to have read the email attachment prior to this item being discussed. Tabled**
- 9. Discussion and possible action on supporting LAPD CPAB Topanga Station. The Summit is on June 6th at Cal State Northridge. Tabled**
- 10. Discussion and possible action on a proposal to budget up to \$2000.00 for a subscription to Vertical Response to allow our webmaster, Wendy Moore to send out html weekly emails that will include our calendar items as well as news that we wish to share. This will drastically improve a) our maintenance and growth of our email data base b) ensure that we are not considered spammers, c) improve our communication with stakeholders making us look as professional as City Council members, and d) hopefully traffic to our website. Tabled**
- 11. Discussion and possible action on the recent efforts of the LA City Council to strip NC's of 78% of their funding effectively shutting down most NCs throughout the City. This discussion should include granting the President the authority to write letters against this action to any appropriate party, appoint at least one volunteer from the NC to be our voice at City Council meetings until this is resolved and the passage of the following resolution provided by Board of Neighborhood Commissioners: Joseph Essavi motion to grant President /VP authority to write/coauthor letter to any party and appoint NC member 2nd by Erik Lace Passed unanimously 7 yea -0 nay**

"WHEREAS the City Council's Budget and Finance Committee will be recommending to City Council that the Neighborhood/Community Council funding program be reduced to a total of \$1M for next year -this roughly breaks down to \$11,200 instead of the \$50,000 per Council; and WHEREAS such a funding cut would effectively eviscerate the Winnetka Neighborhood Council's mission and ability to function under the City Charter;

BE IT RESOLVED that the WNC actively lobby the City Council and Mayor to preserve Neighborhood /Community Council funding at a level of no less than \$45,000 per year;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the _NC encourage its stakeholders to write and/or call their councilmember, the Mayor, and other City Council members to demand the same; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the _NC work in cooperation with all other Neighborhood and Community Councils to oppose these proposed cuts."

- 12. Discussion and possible action to approve funding for the Valley Regional Congress. This is a meeting of all the NC's in the valley that addresses issues relevant to NC's. They are asking for funding of at least \$150 or more. Information provided to Board members prior to meeting for review. Tabled**
- 13. Discussion and possible action to purchase advertising and support services for the Valley Village annual Spotlight Program. Tabled**
- 14. Discussion and possible action to appropriate \$15,000 for the 2009 Family Cultural Earth Day event in August. Tabled**

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE REPORTS *No reports were made*

15. Finance Committee Report (Including Treasurer's Report, Lace): (5 minutes) Discussion of monthly report.

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

17. Events Committee Report (Martens): (7 minutes)

a. Discussion and explanation of the Events Committee.

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

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

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

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

a. Reminder that the Multi Agency Truancy Task Force has been change from May 15th to June 5th from 7:30 am-2:00 pm at Winnetka Recreation Center.

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

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

24. Future Agenda Items & Calendar of events:

- a. Public Safety Committee: May 21, 2009*
- b. Youth Committee: June 2, 2009*
- c. Events Committee: May 25 , 2009*
- d. Public Works & Transportation Committee: TBD*
- e. Interfaith Committee: TBD*
- f. Emergency Preparedness: May 26 , 2009*

25. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned: 9:56 PM