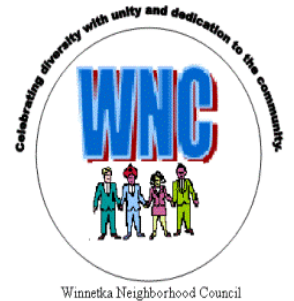


# WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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[www.winnetkanc.com](http://www.winnetkanc.com)



President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Sergeant At Arms	
JJ Popowich	Art Sims	Vacant	Erick Lace	Jozef Essavi	
Board Members					
Armineh Chelebian	Marilyn Robinson	Dwight Burgess	Nina Essavi	Nalini Natarajan	Edesa Aghakhan moshabad
Howard Seflin	Edwina Hollins	Lores Rizkalla	Tess Reyes-Dunne		Youth Position-Vacant

From: JJ Popowich  
 To: WNC Board Members, Public  
 Re: WNC Special Board Meeting Minutes for 07/30/07

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**1. Pledge of Allegiance, Call to Order, and Board Members Roll Call.**

Board Member	Present	Absent	Excused
JJ Popowich	X		
Art Sims	X		
Erick Lace			X
Jozef Essavi	X		
Armineh Chelebian			X
Marilyn Robinson			X
Dwight Burgess	X		
Nina Essavi	X		
Nalini Natarajan			X
Edesa Aghakhanmoshabad	X		
Howard Seflin			X
Edwina Hollins	X		
Lores Rizkalla		X	
Tess Reyes-Dunn	X		
Youth Open Seat			
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>

1.1. Mr. Popowich announced that he had received an email from Ms. Rizkalla stating that she was resigning. He said that she indicated she couldn't devote the time with the changes in her personal life. Mr. Popowich went to say that he asked her to submit a letter in writing.

**2. Explanation of Meeting Rules.**

3. **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.

4. **State and local government representatives updates:** Senator Alarcon's representative, Assemblyman Levine's representative, 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.
5. **Discussion and possible action to approve the 2007 WNC Election Procedures for submission to our IEA and DONE. This will include a discussion on all procedures for election including vote by mail.**
  - 5.1. Mr. Popowich opened discussion on the item by letting the Board know that the SVEA is moving ahead with plans for the election. He said that he had hoped to have this on an agenda earlier but there was a delay in getting the election procedures from the Independent Election Administrator (IEA) who is advising the SVEA.

He then went on to review the election procedures with the Board highlighting the areas that are specific to the WNC election. The Board verified each section of procedures.

Mr. Popowich pointed out that the procedures allowed for Vote-by-Mail (VBM). Mr. Popowich pointed out that all of the other NC's involved in the SVEA had indicated that they had either approved their procedures or were in the process of approving them and all were choosing to allow VBM.
  - 5.2. Mr. Essavi said that he is opposed to VBM. He believes that the system as it is now, with very little verification would leave the election open challenges. He went on to point out that he felt that anyone with enough money could pay for the election with the VBM process. He said with the lack of limits on campaign funds anyone can surprise everyone and take the election. Those of the candidates who had lesser funds would be at a disadvantage.
  - 5.3. Mr. Popowich said that fraud can happen at any time. In fact, he pointed out if someone from a large organization wanted to they could arrange to have a lot of members show up at the election and take the election.
  - 5.4. Mr. Sims agreed with Mr. Essavi and stated that he felt it was too easy to make someone vote for you with the VBM system.
  - 5.5. Mr. Popowich pointed out that you can't fill it out for them and you can't hand them a ballot. All you can do he said is to hand them an application to get a ballot. He said that everything is still verified by signature just as our current ballots. He went on to say that the VBM ballot is sent from the IEA and returned to the IEA so that we are not involved in the process.
  - 5.6. Mr. Essavi again pointed out that he felt that 82 cents would get you the vote. He said someone could purchase two envelopes, hand one envelope to a person with a VBM application along with a pre-stamped envelope to return the ballot with. Mr. Essavi said he would like to make a motion to approve the procedure without the VBM.
  - 5.7. Mr. Sims said he doesn't feel we should jump into it. He said that we should let the others take the risk and watch the process unfold.
  - 5.8. Mr. Burgess said that he felt the VBM was a good thing. He said that we need to get more people to vote. He pointed out that at the last election we only had a few hundred.
  - 5.9. Mr. Popowich said it was about 192 or 194. He agreed that this was a good thing. He went on to say that he would like to review the remainder of the procedures and then we can vote on Mr. Essavi's motion if that was acceptable to Mr. Essavi.
  - 5.10. Mr. Essavi agreed to proceed.
  - 5.11. The Board continued to review the document. The remainder of the document was fine with the Board.
  - 5.12. Mr. Popowich asked if we wished to continue to post candidate statements and if so did we want to keep it at the 150 or 125 words that the IEA had listed.
  - 5.13. The Board agreed that we should keep it as we have. There was a discussion about printing pictures in the newsletter. Mr. Popowich suggested that we not post them in the newsletter, but post them on the web site. He went on to say that last election we had a pretty good number of candidates and that if we had more of them submit statements we would have had to expand the paper from the usual 4 pages to 6 or 8. He pointed out that the paper usually costs about \$3500 to \$4000 and the costs have likely risen since then. The Board opted to publish pictures only on the web site.
  - 5.14. Mr. Burgess pointed out that the phone number and email addresses for him and Ms. Robinson were not correct. He provided Mr. Popowich with the corrections.

5.15. Mr. Popowich said that if everyone was ok with it now we can vote on Mr. Essavi’s motion.

5.16. Mr. Essavi made the following motion:

*WNC-073007-01: The WNC approves the 2008 Election Procedures as submitted by the SVEA IEA advisor, with the condition that the Vote-by-Mail option be deleted. We further authorize the President to submit the revised procedures to DONE for approval.*

5.17. Mr. Sims seconded the motion.

5.18. Mr. Popowich called roll:

Board Member	Yes	No	Abstain
JJ Popowich		X	
Art Sims	X		
Erick Lace			
Jozef Essavi	X		
Armineh Chelebian			
Marilyn Robinson			
Dwight Burgess		X	
Nina Essavi	X		
Nalini Natarajan			
Edesa Aghakhanmoshabad	X		
Howard Sefflin			
Edwina Hollins	X		
Lores Riskalla			
Tess Reyes-Dunn	X		
Youth Open Seat			
<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>

5.19. The motion passed 6-2.

5.20. Mr. Popowich thanked the Board for coming tonight. He went on to update the Board that the SVEA is continuing on. He said at that at last week’s meeting they worked on a full scale ad which will run in the Daily News. He described the ad. He went on to say that the ad will hopefully be available by National Night Out so that it can be used as a poster.

## 6. Adjournment

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