



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	Steve Zeldin	Open Seat	Youth Position-Vacant

WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MINUTES FOR 12/09/2008

1. Call to Order and Board Members 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		X	
Open Seat			
Youth Open Seat			
Total	11	1	1

2. Explanation of Meeting Rules.

3. Public Comments-

Sunny Brae Elementary is in need of financial support to renovate an area in the school for a “garden”. The gentleman was referred to the upcoming Youth Committee .

4. State and local government representatives’ updates:

Jose Martinez, field deputy for Councilman Zine, discussed the letter that Councilman Zine will be writing regarding the Quartz Ave “no restriction” signs which has been an ongoing issue. Also, a potential site for

WNC to meet may be at Winnetka Elementary School as this was discussed with the principal of the school. Additionally, the Pac Bell site was addressed. The Pac Bell facility will have to be brought to the attention of the city council. December 18th will be the Holiday Party for Councilman Zine. All are welcomed to attend. Squatters are being sited at many of the homes that are cant due to being foreclosed. Be mindful of this and contact the police. Meghan, representative form Councilman Smith's office, discussed the good response form the November 13, 2008 "Shake Out". Holiday Christmas tree recycling will be the weekend after New Years.

5. **LAPD Detective Chris Ruiz to present the "Topanga Station" due to open on January 3, 2008. This may include a discussion about participation in the event by having a WNC booth at the event. (10 minutes)**
Detective Ruiz was unable to attend due to being ill. Captain Sherman and Sergeant Harper discussed the new "Topanga station" and welcomed everyone to the Grand Opening on January 3rd. The police station will house 240 police officers and range from 35-59 miles within their jurisdiction. WNC is welcome to participate at the Grand Opening. A booth will be provided for the members. Captain Sherman inquired about possible support for the new station and was referred to the Public Safety Committee meeting on January 20 2008 at 6:30 PM
6. **Jay Virata, Regional Administrator and Brian Pendleton, Project Manger will present CRA/LA projects in the Winnetka area. (10 minutes)**
Jay presented the Sherman Way Corridor development to the board. This area is in need of redeveloping and CRA will be creating a variety of projects in the Winnetka area to assist with beautification. There are a few grants for the various business owners and property owners to partake in these projects.
7. **Discussion and possible action on a Tentative Tract Map/Zone Change/Variance application for a 3 lot small lot subdivision. (10 minutes)**
This discussion was regarding the Desoto and Roscoe and Lurline area. This particular site would consist of smaller lots for 34,000 square feet per lot, two story houses and one, one story house. The suggestion was made of having tall trees and walls to be able to block the view of the single story homes near by. JJ motioned it and TJ seconded it. All members approved except for Nina and Josef..
8. **Discussion and possible action on the International Earthquake Conference. Future plans for 2009. (5 minutes)**
TJ discussed the importance of having WNC involved in planning this type of event and to be prepared as a community for the next "big one". The idea is to get the surrounding communities to participate and plan for a disaster. A new committee will be developed in order to tackle such a large task. LAPD and Fire Department will also be at the table as well as the other agencies. TJ motioned and JJ seconded with at least 5 members in the committee. All approved. TJ was nominated as chair of the committee and Alan's name was suggested to be the vice chair. Alan was grateful, but would come back in January to discussion his decision.
9. **Report from the President on the November President's meeting with Councilmember Zine (3-5 minutes).**
JJ discussed the possibility of having our WNC meetings at the Pac Bell facility on Winnetka and Vanowen Street. He is hoping that the area will be renovated into a park and picnic area for the community to enjoy as well as house meetings at this location. Also, to have a skateboarding area for the local youth to spend their time in a safe environment will be beneficial to the community as a whole.
10. **Discussion and possible action on selecting specific locations to request digital speed signs as well as the allotment of \$3000.00 per sign. These signs can only be placed within Council District 3.**
Councilman Smith will revisit this issues and as well as Councilman Zine. These signs will be permanent. The SLO for Winnetka was involved in the decision making of where to have these speed signs. JJ motioned to support up to \$1,200.00 for the speed signs. TJ seconded it. All approved. The locations of the signs are as follows: East side of Desoto. West side of Stratern/ Winnetka. Roscoe Blvd on Desoto. Saticoy and Mason on the southside.

11. **Discussion and possible action to request the Department of Transportation to post “No Unattached Trailer” signs along Winnetka Ave between Victory Blvd and Parthenia Ave and/or other locations as the Board may see fit. This is so the LAPD can ticket/remove trailer signs.**
JJ motioned to request DOT to post “no unattached trailer” signs in this area. Officer Maldonado, SLO was involved in the conversation as he believes they can be a hazard/danger to the drivers. Alan seconded it. All approved.
12. **Discussion and possible action to contract with Tarzana Nursery to maintain the median plants for a minimum of 6 months to 1 year.**
The discussion of the current irrigation problem has been an ongoing issue with the median. The appropriate people will be invited to the next meeting.
13. **Discussion and possible action to authorize that Mr. Popowich and Mr. Sims to approach Jacobi Building materials and Tarzana Nursery for a cost estimate to place river rock along Sherman Way in all of the thin island sections near intersections. This will reduce blight created by the difficult to maintain sections and improve visibility at some intersections.**
Jacobi allowed us to purchase at costs what is currently at the median and the board will approach him for the river walk area as well. The total cost for the two ends will be \$4,200.00. An exact price list will be provided to the board.
14. **Discussion and possible action to approve \$5000.00 for WNC advertising for the Valley Village annual event. Earlier this year we approved this amount to fund the audio and lighting for this event. However, Valley Village paid for that, and we cannot reimburse them. However, as part of what we paid for we got a gold advertising package. This is the approved motion that those funds be directed to the advertising under Outreach.**
JJ motioned to allocated up to \$5,000.00 and Art seconded it. All approved.

DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING COMMITTEE REPORTS

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

Discussion of November and December monthly reports.

At this time, the board has spent only 10% of their money. Each committee should review their current allotment and proposed allotment for the remainder of the year.

16. Interfaith Committee Report (Chelebian):

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

Discussion and possible action on beginning the next year’s Earth Day event.

TJ will provide the cost for the badges for all board members at the next meeting. The idea to have the next event in conjunction with other councils will help tremendously. This year it will be bigger than the last one. Utilizing the marquee at Pierce College was brought to the attention of the board as another way of networking to the community about our WNC meetings

18. Youth Committee Report (Schweizer): (10 minutes)

Discussion and review of Youth Expo.

Alan hanked everyone for participating and for all of their hard work. The event was a success. He believes over 400 people attended the Youth Expo.

Discussion and possible action on supporting up to \$2,500.00 for tables for the Winnetka Elementary School Literacy Garden.

JJ motioned to support up to \$2,500.00 for 2-4 tables for the Literacy Garden. Erick seconded it. All approved.

Discussion and possible action to support up to \$200.00 for the sponsorship of Limerick Elementary School newsletter, for the remainder of the fiscal year.

Alan motioned to support up to \$200.00 to sponsor the newsletter for six months. TJ seconded it. All approved.

Discussion and possible action to support up to \$2,500.00 for supplies for 3-5 murals for Limerick Elementary School.

JJ motioned to support up to \$2,500.00 for supplies only and MaryAnn seconded it. All approved.

Discussion and possible action to support up to \$1,000.00 for purchasing individual dictionaries for 3rd graders at local elementary schools.

JJ motioned to support up to \$1,000.00 for dictionaries for the 3rd grade class rooms. Erick seconded it. All approved.

Discussion and possible action to support donations of food gift baskets of unspecified to local food pantries for the holiday season.

Great idea, but unable to assist with a donation such as this; due to the rules and regulations.

19. Planning & Land Use Committee (PLUM) (Popowich): (7 minutes)

Discussion Jesse Slansky of Abode LA regarding a potential project at 20246 Saticoy Ave., Winnetka, 91306.

This area is known as the Saticoy Commercial Center. This will definitely appeal to the community as it will add 42 apartment units. The building itself will be a nice and will attract new businesses and for the public in the community to walk around in the neighborhood. JJ motioned to support the new development and Art seconded it. All approved.

20. Public Works & Transportation Committee (Chelebian):

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

Summary of the Probation/LAPD Multi-Agency Truancy Task Force at the Winnetka Recreational Center on November 21, 2008. WNC provided coffee and bagels in the morning and beverages and lunch for Probation, LAPD and agency staff.

Summary of the above was addressed. No new information.

22. Rules, Election & By-Laws Committee (Popowich):

23. Discussion and possible action on the structure of the Board. This will include action on Board members who have exceeded the attendance allotments per the By-Laws and election of officers for 2009. (5 minutes)

Two attendance issues were addressed. Steve had numerous absences and was motioned to be removed/dismissed from the board. All agreed. Arminah had 3 absences and she was discussed to be removed/dismissed from the board. Since no one on the board motioned or seconded it Arminah will be permitted to participate as a board member. Nalina was nominated and voted to be the Assistant Treasurer. MaryAnn was nominated and voted to continue as Secretary. Art was nominated and approved to continue as vice president. JJ was nominated and approved to continue to remain as president. TJ self nominated, and after voting was not elected. Alan was also nominated for vice president and was not elected. Maximum time is a 8 years, per by laws.

24. Future Agenda Items & Calendar of events:

- Public Safety Committee: September 16, 2008
- Youth Committee: September 25, 2008
- Events Committee: September 22, 2008

- ❑ Public Works & Transportation Committee: TBD
- ❑ Interfaith Committee: TBD

25. Adjournment
