

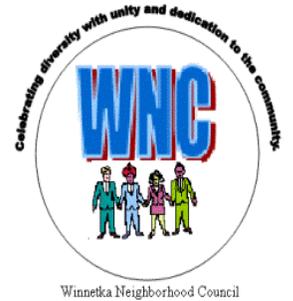


WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

	Chair		Vice Chair
	JJ Popowich		Marilyn Robinson
Committee Members			
Dwight Burgess	Herbie Schwartz	Rick Montaine	Raquel Diaz
			Open

To: Council Members, Public

From: JJ Popowich, Secretary

Date: November 21, 2005

Subject: Public Safety Meeting Minutes November 21, 2005

1. Call to Order and Committee Members Roll Call.

1.1. Mr. Popowich called roll.

Board Member	Present	Absent	Excused
JJ Popowich	X		
Marilyn Robinson	X		
Dwight Burgess	X		
Rick Montaine	X		
Herbie Swartz	X		
Raquel Diaz			
Totals	4	2	

2. **Approval of minutes.**

2.1. No minutes to approve.

3. **State and local government representatives' updates: LAPD, Fire, and any other local, state, or federal officials that wish to attend to discuss items of importance to the Public Safety Committee.**

3.1. Mr. Popowich introduced Ms. Irma Pomposo from Councilmember Zine's office and Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Raigoza.

3.2. SLO Raigoza introduced Sergeant Padilla, who oversees the Senior Lead Officers in West Valley.

4. **Discussion and possible action on filling the final seat on this committee.**

4.1. No volunteers. No action taken.

5. **Discussion and possible action on the Parks & Recreation Department, Rangers, report. This will include working on our Make Winnetka Sparkle event at Runnymede, and other items relating to this park.**

5.1. Mr. Popowich introduced the issues. He mentioned the recent stakeholder letter which was sent out to various government officials and stated that the WNC, the Councilmember's office, and the LAPD had been hard at work on the issue. He read into record the response to the stakeholder which outlined the steps that have been taken so far.

5.2. SLO Raigoza said she has been out there and has witnessed some teenagers around there, but after checking they are local teenagers who live in the neighborhood. She has proposed closing the entrance to the park at that location. She said that Ms. Pomposo will be following up with the possibility to close that.

She reported that the bike units have been patrolling the park at various hours including night. Three "A" team is conducting an open investigation in regards to drinking and loitering. This will be ongoing for 3 months. The Vice unit is changing their hours to try to cover more activity.

5.2.1. Mr. Popowich asked if it would help if the NC passed a motion to close the Gifford entrance to the park.

5.2.1.1.Ms. Pomposo said that it would be nice if the NC took a position for the community.

5.2.1.2.SLO Raigoza commented there are two entrances. One on Valerio and one on Gifford. The Gifford has fewer stairs and there does not seem to be a problem at that area. If she can close that entrance she feels it will help and she doesn't feel that they will move to Valerio.

5.2.1.3.Ms. Diaz asked if they would jump the gate.

5.2.1.3.1. SLO Raigoza said it would be a wall like the rest of the 6 feet wall.

5.2.2. Mr. Popowich said we should send a letter to the community members in that area and announce we will have a meeting in December to close the opening in that area.

“WNC-112105-1: The WNC will hold a community meeting on closing the Gifford Street entrance to the park and placing a wall there to close it off. The WNC will request the Recreation & Parks Department to take this action unless a significant number of stakeholders object. This motion will authorize the expenditure of funds not to exceed \$150.00 to do a mailing to the stakeholders in that area.” (Popowich)

5.2.3. Ms. Robinson seconded the motion.

5.3. Mr. Swartz asked what type of wall to prevent climbers.

5.4. Mr. Popowich called roll.

<i>Committee Member</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Notes</i>
JJ Popowich	X			
Marilyn Robinson	X			
Dwight Burgess	X			
Herbie Swartz	X			
Rick Montaine				Late
Raquel Diaz	X			
Totals	5	0		

5.5. Mr. Popowich said the motion passed 5-0. He asked if there was anything else we wanted to discuss.

5.6. Ms. Robinson asked if we still want to do a night out.

5.6.1. Mr. Popowich asked SLO Raigoza what it would take to have the LAPD there.

5.6.1.1.SLO Raigoza said she would submit it to her Sergeant and get approval if we have it outlined.

5.6.2. Mr. Popowich asked when we want to set a date.

5.6.2.1.Ms. Robinson said it's too close to the holidays and there is a lot on the plate.

5.6.2.2.Mr. Popowich asked about January. He asked that we place it on Outreach agenda.

5.7. Sergeant Padilla offered an alternative to blocking the entrance on Gifford off completely. He suggested maybe an entry gate which could be shut at night.

5.7.1. Mr. Burgess asked who shuts the gate.

5.7.2. Sergeant Padilla commented that it would be up to Recreation & Parks and if not them, then the LAPD can do that.

5.7.3. Mr. Popowich thanked him for the idea and said if we can't get the wall we can shoot for the gate.

6. Update, discussion and possible action on the Quimby Park Homeless Camp.

6.1. Ms. Robinson reported that the camp has been closed. SLO Jerry Velasquez cleaned the park out. He is also checking up with Ms. Robinson weekly to check on the status.

6.2. Mr. Popowich commented we need someone like this at Runnymede.

7. Discussion and possible action on creating an Emergency Preparedness Plan. This will include discussions on possibly purchasing or sponsoring an Emergency Supply Trailer and goods to stock it as well as other items.

7.1. The idea is to get a cargo container that we can stock with water and food stuffs so that in the event of an emergency we can have access to this.

7.2. Mr. Swartz said this is a good idea. He commented that the First Baptist Church of Canoga on Sherman Way and Mason. He suggested we contact them to see if we can place one there.

7.3. Mr. Montaine asked what the City does in cases of emergency.

7.3.1. Mr. Popowich spoke about the CERT program and the fact that they are there just to train people just in case it happens because they can't respond. He pointed out that the LAFD has stated that they will likely be too busy to respond to every call and the LAPD will be stretched. He pointed out in the Northridge Quake there were many police who couldn't get here because they lived out of the area.

7.3.2. Sergeant Padilla commented that he is not aware of any LAPD effort on this issue. He commented the Mayor's office is working on emergency issues. He commented that in the event of an emergency, authorities may not be able to get there. He brought up the issue of security.

7.4. Sergeant Padilla asked if we have asked the Red Cross about their efforts.

7.4.1. Mr. Popowich outlined the efforts the Red Cross takes in general since he is a Disaster Team member. He pointed out they have one major depot in the Valley on Sherman Way in Van Nuys and they have a storehouse there but it's not a lot. He also commented they have a van they can bring out. In regards to the shelters he said they will use what they have available such as the schools and he commented on some of the difficulties experienced during the Topanga Fire and the shelter in Canoga Park High.

7.5. Mr. Montaine said we should have information on these efforts and what is available.

7.6. Mr. Swartz commented that maybe a box car wouldn't be a good idea as it could be broken into.

7.7. A stakeholder commented that it would be good to know where to go in a case like that. He knows everyone puts out info on that, but in case of a major disaster we would need to know where to go.

7.8. Mr. Montaine pointed out the issue of security and how people can become lawless in times of emergency.

7.9. The stakeholder said maybe schools would not be a good place as they get broken into often as it is. He said that might be too tempting. He commented on the usefulness of the DWP efforts when Winnetka lost the power for three days and that the dry ice coupons were too late, but the flashlights were good.

7.10. Mr. Popowich suggested maybe what we need to do are Emergency Preparedness Fair or a flyer on what to do.

7.10.1. Ms. Robinson said we should have an Emergency Response Fair.

7.10.2. Mr. Popowich said he knows that West Hills had a successful one and he is pretty sure Tommy Thompson would be willing to work with us on this.

7.10.3. Ms. Robinson said we should get Canoga Park and Reseda involved.

7.10.4. Mr. Popowich asked if we should explore the container idea.

7.10.5. Ms. Robinson said she would speak with Reseda's President.

7.11. Mr. Popowich made the following a motion:

“WNC-112105-2: The WNC Public Safety Committee will begin pre-planning an Emergency Preparedness Fair and contact the surrounding NCs of West Hills, Woodland Hills, Canoga Park, and Reseda. This project will remain on the agenda for regular reports and motions to see it through”.
(Popowich)

7.12. Mr. Swartz seconded the motion.

7.13. Mr. Popowich called roll:

<i>Committee Member</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Notes</i>
JJ Popowich	X			
Marilyn Robinson	X			
Dwight Burgess	X			
Herbie Swartz	X			
Rick Montaine	X			
Raquel Diaz	X			
Totals	6	0		

7.14. Mr. Popowich said the motion passed 6-0

8. Discussion and update about working to create a plan, contact residents and business owners, regarding placing speed bumps on side streets near schools in Winnetka.

8.1. Mr. Popowich introduced the idea. He said he would combine item 8 and 9 on the agenda for a single discussion.

8.2. Mr. Montaine asked what officers hear from residents regarding speed bumps.

8.2.1. Sergeant Padilla commented that usually the residents lean towards them. He said the only issue he’s heard of is sometimes the LAFD has some issues with them and the height which can slow down response to emergencies.

8.3. Mr. Montaine asked if anyone was aware if we could request the higher ones, instead of the elongated one.

8.3.1. Ms. Diaz said that on her street on Quartz Ave there are two of them. She commented that they work really well.

8.3.2. A stakeholder commented that they do slow them down.

8.4. Mr. Popowich discussed the process and said about 50% of the residents on a street need to sign the petition.

8.4.1. Ms. Diaz said it was 70%.

8.5. A stakeholder commented that what they were signing wasn’t official looking and they are worried about people stealing the information. He said that what is needed is an official letterhead that would make it more official.

8.6. Mr. Popowich asked said he is planning to do it in his area.

8.7. Ms. Robinson asked if this was a Public Works & Transportation issue.

8.7.1. Mr. Popowich said he was keeping it under the Public Safety Committee because it was his idea.

8.8. Ms. Robinson asked about the cost.

8.8.1. Mr. Popowich commented that the cost is absorbed by the city.

8.9. Mr. Montaine asked about the cobblestone near the cross walks.

8.9.1. Mr. Popowich said that down time they even do them artistically as a beautification project.

8.9.2. Mr. Montaine commented that in Calabasas they have the cobblestone and that seems to slow it down.

8.10. Mr. Popowich brought the discussion back around to the topic and made the following motion:

“WNC-112105-3: The WNC will offer a letter to stakeholders who wish to canvass their neighborhood asking for signatures for the speed bumps. The letter outlines the program offered by the city and state support for this process.” (Popowich)

8.11. Ms. Diaz seconded the motion.

8.11.1. Mr. Popowich asked for any additional comments on this issue.

<i>Committee Member</i>	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>Abstain</i>	<i>Notes</i>
JJ Popowich	X			
Marilyn Robinson	X			
Dwight Burgess	X			
Herbie Swartz	X			
Rick Montaine	X			
Raquel Diaz	X			
Totals	6	0		

8.12. Mr. Popowich announced the motion passed 6 – 0.

9. Discussion and update on a request to work on speed bumps per stakeholder requests on Oakdale between Cantley & Valerio.

10. Discussion and possible action on making arrangements to hand over the video cameras donated to the California CHP.

10.1. Mr. Popowich reported that he attempted to get these at the Topanga Sears and they do not carry it. The Sears web site does also not carry it. He was able to find it in Chicago for a higher price though. He said we may have to pass another motion to approve the higher price because the original motion limited it to \$500.00.

10.1.1. Ms. Robinson said they are available at Sears Northridge.

10.1.2. Mr. Popowich said that if we can't find them here we may have to increase the amount we passed for it.

10.2. Ms. Robinson said that she has the contact info for the Lieutenant at DOT that we are to provide them too. Once we get them she can have him pick it up at her place.

10.3. Mr. Popowich commented he would like a picture handing them over.

10.4. Mr. Swartz said the Police catalogs may have these in them. He will research that as well.

11. Discussion and possible action on concerns regarding liquor sales at the new Vallarta Market on the corner of Corbin and Vanowen. This is a reconsideration of an issue addressed at a Board meeting. This may include a discussion and action on steps to protect nearby schools from exposure to alcoholic beverages and disorderly conduct.

11.1. Mr. Popowich explained that this was placed on the agenda because of recent information on the Brown Act and it may have been an invalid motion.

11.2. Mr. Montaine explained his desire for more info based on crime in that area with the various places that sells alcohol.

11.3. SLO Raigoza received Mr. Popowich's email. She said she ran the crime stats in that area and there are not reports since September of problems at 7-11 or the restaurants. She said there have been some loitering issues at the car wash.

11.4. Mr. Montaine asked about the patrons at the car wash and if they had inquired if they were asked where they were getting the alcohol.

11.4.1. SLO Raigoza couldn't speak to that issue. She said they had their own alcohol in an ice chest and have their events there.

11.5. Mr. Montaine asked if there were any complaints from the school.

11.5.1. SLO Raigoza said the only complaints are traffic and parking issues. She is currently addressing the parking problems in that area and has had Valley Traffic out there.

11.6. Mr. Montaine asked if we need to restrict it at all since there isn't any problem.

11.6.1. Mr. Popowich said we approved the liquor license. It's a standard license and whatever it covers. He's not sure we can even restrict that.

11.7. Ms. Robinson said this probably came up since there have been problems at the Vallarta in Canoga Park.

11.8. Mr. Montaine said he feels that we should recommend that this is not something we can pursue further. He feels that since we have stats showing that nothing is going on in that area it's more a "feel good" motion and not really needed at this time.

11.9. A stakeholder asked for clarification on what this is.

11.9.1. Mr. Popowich went through why.

11.10. The stakeholder asked why that motion was passed.

11.10.1. Mr. Popowich said he can't speak as to why it was brought up but he thinks it was due to the school children in the area.

11.11. Sergeant Padilla suggested that we ask Vallarta if they would voluntarily not sell the single cans.

12. Committee Business –

- A. **Comments on Committee Member's own activities/ brief announcements.**
- B. **Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights.**
- C. **Introduction of any new issues for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting/request that the item be placed on the next meeting's agenda.**
- D. **Requests for Committee Members to research issues and report back to the Committee at a future time.**

13. Adjournment