

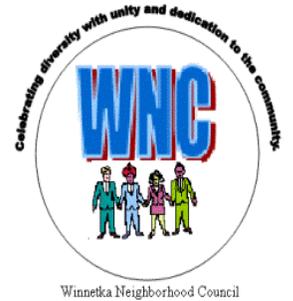


WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Table with columns for Chair (JJ Popowich), Vice Chair (Marilyn Robinson), and Committee Members (Dwight Burgess, Herbie Schwartz, Rick Montaine, Raquel Diaz, Open).

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 19, 2006 – 6:30 PM

Valley Village

20830 Sherman Way, Winnetka, CA 91306

The public is requested to fill out a "Speaker Card" to address the Committee on any agenda item before the Committee takes an action. Public comment is limited to 3 minutes per speaker...

The public may comment on a specific item listed on this agenda when the Committee considers that item. When the Committee considers the agenda item entitled "Public Comments," the public has the right to comment on any matter that is within the Committee's jurisdiction.

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 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.

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.

- 1. Call to Order and Committee Members Roll Call.
2. Approval of minutes.

Table with columns Present and Absent Excused, listing names like Popowich, Burgess, Robinson, Swartz, Montaine.

- 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 announced we would skip this item and move to item 4.
4. Discussion and possible action on a proposal to close the Gifford Street entrance to Runnymede Park.
4.1. Mr. Popowich introduced the item.
4.2. A stakeholder commented that after the gambling was cleaned up they noticed a number of children, possibly from a house near the entrance, loitering near the entrance.
4.2.1. Ms. Diaz asked if there was a problem with children from the apartments.
4.3. The stakeholder commented most of the trash and broken bottles is near that area. He commented that there are a lot of children hanging out near the entrance. He said he's noticed graffiti near that gate. He commented that they are still there at 10 or 11 at night.
4.3.1. Mr. Popowich commented that we really need to have a curfew.
4.4. Another stakeholder indicated it would be a good idea to close it. He sees kids drinking there and sitting on the steps blocking the entrance to the park.

- 4.5. A third stakeholder said he lives a bit further away. He likes the park and that is one of the reasons he moved there. At one point he said there was a lot of gambling and
- 4.6. Ms. Diaz asked about the stairs that were there and whether they were going to remove the stairs to discourage people from sitting there.
 - 4.6.1. Mr. Popowich said that is something that we would need to check on it.
- 4.7. SLO Raigoza commented that the area there is an open invitation to sit there because of the location and how it's hidden. She commented that she suggested that we look into closing the entrance to discourage it. She also commented that she has asked all of the cars and patrol in the area and they go by daily. However, she did point out that loitering problems are lower on the list.
 - 4.7.1. Mr. Burgess asked whether it would be a gate with a lock with access by LAPD and LAFD.
 - 4.7.2. SLO Raigoza commented that it may be a gate or block wall. It depends on what the City wants to do. She commented that even if it's a gate she can work with it. The gate will be a way to discourage it.
 - 4.7.3. Mr. Burgess asked about the steps and whether they would be removed.
 - 4.7.4. SLO Raigoza commented that even if they remain the gate would help.
- 4.8. There was a general discussion about the comments and emails that have been generated.
- 4.9. A stakeholder said he noticed that the problem seems to emanate from a house across from him. He feels that this house is where the majority of the children are coming from and since they moved in the problems began.
 - 4.9.1. SLO Raigoza said that she is aware of the house. She said that if it's during school hours or after curfew (10:30 PM) she can cite them. Other than that all she can do is ask them to go back to the house but she can't cite them for not doing that. She said that if they enter the park after 10:00 PM she can cite them.
- 4.10. There was some discussion on whether the steps were part of the park or city property.
- 4.11. A stakeholder commented that we should balance the usage of the park with the neighbors. The park is there for everyone to use and we shouldn't discriminate against anyone because of their situation or background. He said that he thinks it would be a good idea to place a gate and close it after hours. He feels a permanent barriers isn't fair.
- 4.12. SLO Raigoza commented that by closing that entrance doesn't prevent access to the park. She outlined all the other entrances on the side streets. She went on to say that today when she went by she noticed that there was graffiti on the steps and around the area. So now they are now loitering. She also commented that she has heard complaints from neighbors who don't use the entrance because they are intimidated by the children that loiter there.
 - 4.12.1. Mr. Popowich commented that he feels that we should be looking at which residents are suffering a greater impact. He pointed out that the neighbors who live right next to the park are the ones who seem to be complaining about the intimidation and now property damage. He feels that we have an obligation to act to protect them. He said the inconvenience of having someone walk around the block to protect the ones that are directly impacted.
- 4.13. SLO Velasquez commented that when he worked Vice in that area that particular entrance was used as an escape route when the police would approach from Runnymede or Leadwell.
- 4.14. A stakeholder commented that he is not opposed to a gate that can be opened and closed and locked every day by Recreation and Parks. He also pointed out that the stairs will still be there.
- 4.15. SLO Velasquez commented that the stairs can be used to hide drugs from police when they are approached
- 4.16. SLO Raigoza commented that she would prefer a wall. She feels that the gate can be jumped over much easier than a wall. She would prefer we adopt a wall, but would be happy with a gate.

- 4.17. There was a discussion about gates in alleys that are used to control access and prevent problems.
- 4.18. SLO commented that the gate can be jumped as well. If the police are chasing a subject they will always go for a gate over a wall.
- 4.19. SLO Velasquez commented that walls are a deterrent to crime in a wall because it cuts off the escape route. This really serves as a deterrent to crime in an area.
- 4.20. Mr. Swartz said we should request the stairs be removed.
- 4.21. Mr. Popowich pointed out that Parks & Recreation could not be relied on to close the gates for staffing reasons. The Rangers are also very understaffed with only four for the Valley.

WNC-PS-011906-01: The WNC will recommend to Recreation & Parks, the Park Rangers, Councilmember Zine's office and the LAPD that the entrance at Gifford Street entrance be closed. The WNC prefers to recommend that the entrance be walled off and the stairs be removed to discourage sitting and loitering next to the wall. In the event that a wall is not a viable option we request that a gate be installed to block that entrance and the stairs be removed or replaced with a ramp. (Popowich)

4.22. Mr. Burgess seconded.

4.23. Call 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			
Rick Montaine	X			
Raquel Diaz	X			
Schwartz, Herbie	X			
Totals	6	0	0	

4.24. Motion passed 6-0.

4.25. Ms. Diaz took this opportunity to compliment the LAPD for a recent response to a call she made regarding illicit activity. The officers did respond and wound up confiscating two large bags of meth and confiscated a car.

4.26. SLO Raigoza thanked Ms. Diaz. She went on to thank the members of the community who call in the crimes. She said that she believes officers are being even more responsive and it is because the members of the community are being active.

4.27. Ms. Diaz asked SLO Raigoza to look into an RV on Quartz that seems to be permanently parked.

4.28. SLO Raigoza asked her to provide her with the info and she will look into it.

5. Discussion and possible action on holding a Winnetka Night Out at the Runnymede Park pending stakeholder involvement.

5.1. Item was tabled due to lack of stakeholder interest and participation.

6. Discussion and possible action on stakeholder requests to write a letter to the LAPD asking for increased patrols around the Saticoy & Oso St intersections. They are reporting an increase in public inebriation, loitering, and other activities.

6.1. Mr. Popowich read the letter.

6.2. SLO said that area (Mason to Winnetka, Sherman Way to Saticoy) has a lot of narcotics, gang, stolen cars, and so. She has personally walked through the area and met with each of the landlords or managers. She has met with them and reviewed the property and listed the things at each location which needs to be corrected. She is working with Building & Safety, LAPD, LAFD and others to provide a list of what needs to be corrected. She has also provided managers and owners with a new Trespass letter which needs to be filled out because many of them have expired. She has only received 4 letters back. These letters allow them to cite and arrest for trespass.

She also advised us that they do have narcotic officers in that area and submits regular reports. They also have Vice officers working the drinking. She has opened a CERA project which focuses an area where there is a consistent problem. She also has bicycle patrol over there.

- 6.3. Mr. Popowich asked if we can get some crime statistics for that area with citations issued and so on. He also asked what we can do to help.
- 6.4. SLO commented she can provide some information but not all of it because she only has access to what is there. She went on to say that education is a key because people need to know that if they call the police they can report a crime without being identified specifically except for the purposes of contact by the LAPD.
- 6.5. Mr. Montaine asked what languages would be useful in that area since she is from that area.
- 6.6. SLO Raigoza commented that English and Spanish is the best bet.
- 6.7. Mr. Popowich asked if it would be useful to send a letter in English and Spanish to encourage stakeholders to report problems.
- 6.8. SLO Raigoza commented that would help. She would also encourage the managers to return the trespass letters and signs.
- 6.9. Mr. Montaine asked if some of the managers may be part of the problem.
- 6.10. SLO Raigoza commented that it's possible. She commented on the apathy in the area. She also commented that some of the apartments don't have managers.

WNC-PS-011906-2: The WNC will create a letter in both English & Spanish to be sent to stakeholders in that area of the Oso & Saticoy encouraging them to report crimes and provide them with information on how to report the crimes. Furthermore the WNC will send a letter to apartment managers, with the assistance of the SLO Office, encouraging the managers to return the trespass letters and post signs. Furthermore the WNC authorizes the expenditure of funds to mail the letters in the sum not to exceed \$500.00. (Popowich)

- 6.11. Ms. Diaz asked if we can place a deadline.
- 6.12. Mr. Popowich commented that we can't force them. We can keep it on the agenda and monitor it and if we do not see improvement we can invite B&S to a meeting and work with them and the SLO to target the area.
- 6.13. Ms. Robinson asked if the owners were local or not.
- 6.14. SLO Raigoza commented that a lot of them are rental companies or out of state owners.
- 6.15. A stakeholder asked how many times they have been fined.
- 6.16. SLO Raigoza commented she was not certain. She said that this falls under the area of B&S and the Neighborhood Prosecutors office. She would like to see if we can work on encouraging it first.
- 6.17. Mr. Montaine seconded.
- 6.18. Call the 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			
Rick Montaine	X			
Raquel Diaz	X			
Schwartz, Herbie	X			
Totals	6	0	0	

6.19. The motion passed 6 – 0.

7. Discussion and possible action on creating a list of survey questions for the WNC survey.

7.1. Brainstorming

- 7.2. Would you like to receive information regarding how to determine whether you have sexual offenders in the area?
- 7.3. Would you like the WNC to provide funding to place Neighborhood Watch signs in your Neighborhood Watch area?
- 7.4. Do you think there is a problem with overnight parking in your area?
- 7.5. Do you feel that speed bumps are deterrents to speeding and accidents? If so would you like the WNC to dedicate funding to educating stakeholders how to apply for speed bumps?
- 7.6. Should the WNC dedicate funding to educating stakeholders about illegal dumping and graffiti?
- 7.7. How effective do you feel the safety measures on the Orange Line are in preventing accidents?
- 7.8. How would you rate the importance for placing "rail road" style gates at intersections?
- 7.9. How important do you feel a community wide Emergency Preparedness program for Winnetka?
- 7.10. How would you rate the need for local emergency supply storage?
- 7.11. How would you rate the safety of the streets around your local school?
- 7.12. How aware are you of the CERT program and how to participate in training?
- 7.13. How aware are you of the Neighborhood Watch program in your area?

8. **Public Comment:**

- 8.1. A stakeholder brought up Valerio and Mason and the high number of accidents.
- 8.2. SLO Raigoza commented that the Valley Traffic Bureau has been monitoring the area and have done surveys. She said that the officer does patrol that area and he does issue tickets.

9. **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.**
 - i. Mr. Montaine asked about the apartments on Vanowen and De Soto.
 - ii. SLO Raigoza commented that there is some crime in that area, but most of the managers in that area do call in and report problems.
- 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.**

10. Future Agenda Items and other Calendar Events (*All meetings held at Valley Village, 20830 Sherman Way, Winnetka, CA 91306 unless otherwise noted*):

- Public Works Committee Meeting: January 26 , 2006 @ 6:30 PM
- Outreach & Events Committee Meeting: January 23, 2006 @ 6:30 PM

11. Adjournment

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.