

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

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BOARD OF NEIGHBORHOOD COMMISSIONERS

REGULAR MEETING & TOWN HALL MEETING MINUTES - APPROVED

Tuesday, November 5, 2019 6:00 PM

LOCATION: Felicia Mahood Multipurpose Center

[11338 Santa Monica Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90025](#)

The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. The amount of time for each agenda item is to be determined by the Chair at each meeting. Speakers shall limit their comments to matters relevant to the item on the agenda. The Chair may rule that the speaker is out of order if the comments are not germane to the item under consideration. If multiple speaker cards are submitted on one agenda item, preference will be granted to members of the public who have not spoken previously during the meeting, either during general public comment or on another agenda item.

A member of the public wishing to speak on more than one agenda item at a single meeting shall limit his or her remarks to a total of five (5) minutes per meeting. Comments by members of the public who have submitted multiple speaker cards and want to speak on all items for up to five minutes at one time can choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items Comment period. Members of the public who choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items period will be given the opportunity to also speak during General Public Comments.

Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that are within the Board’s jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Forum period. Public comment is limited to 15 minutes maximum. No individual speaker will be allowed more than 3 minutes, unless presiding officer of the Board decides differently.

The agenda is posted for public review in Main Street Lobby of City Hall East at 200 North Main Street and at 20th Floor, City Hall, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. The Agenda and report(s) related to an agenda item will be available for review at

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www.Empowerla.org. Sign language interpreters, assisted listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting by contacting the Department at (213) 978-1551.

SI REQUIERE SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCION, FAVOR DE NOTIFICAR A LA OFICINA 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) ANTES DEL EVENTO. SI NECESITA ASISTENCIA CON ESTA NOTIFICACION, POR FAVOR LLAME A NUESTRA OFICINA AL (213) 978-1551.

1. [6:20 PM] Introduction (5 minutes)
2. [6:24 PM] Call to Order and Commission roll call (1 minute)

| Commissioner | Present | Absent |
|---------------|---------|--------|
| Atkinson | x | |
| Lipmen | x | |
| Shaffer | x | |
| Darett-Quiroz | | x |
| Wehbe | x | |
| Regalado | | x |
| Vo-Ramirez | | x |

3. [6:24 PM] Approval of the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of 10/21/19. [[Board of Neighborhood Commissioner Regular Meeting Minutes 10.21.19-DRAFT](#)]

Action: Motion made by Commissioner Shaffer and seconded by Commissioner Atkinson to approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting on 10/21/19. Motion passed.

| VOTE | Mover | Shaffer | Second | Atkinson |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| Commissioner | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
| Atkinson | x | | | |
| Lipmen | x | | | |
| Shaffer | x | | | |
| Darett-Quiroz | | | | x |
| Wehbe | x | | | |
| Regalado | | | | x |
| Vo-Ramirez | | | | x |
| Total | 4 | | | 3 |
| Motion | Carries | x | Fails | |

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4. [6:25 PM] Discussion with Neighborhood Council representatives on any Neighborhood Council Resolution or Community Impact Statement filed with the City Clerk which relates to any agenda item listed or being considered on this agenda for the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

Public comments: None

Neighborhood Councils comments: None

5. [6:26 PM] Multiple Agenda Items Comment – Comments by members of the public who have submitted multiple speaker cards and want to speak on all items for up to five minutes at one time can choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items Comment period. Members of the public who choose to speak during the Multiple Agenda Items period will be given the opportunity to also speak during General Public Comments.

Public comments:

Commissioner comments:

6. [6:26 PM] Verbal updates from representatives of the Mayor, Los Angeles City Council, and other City representatives. (10 minutes).

City representative comments: None

7. [6:26 PM] Discussion with various West Los Angeles Area Neighborhood Council representatives who wish to report concerns, operations, and best practices. Neighborhood Council representatives should complete their questionnaires in advance of the meeting. (Click on the link to view a copy of the document [\[Best Practices Questionnaire\]](#)) This matter will last a maximum of 20 minutes and the time will be divided among those representatives wishing to speak. (20 minutes).

Public comments: Lisa Morocco, Josh Nadel, Robin Greenberg, Ivan Spiegel

Commissioner comments: Commissioner Shaffer

8. [6:49 PM] Discussion to and possible action to change Neighborhood Council Best Practices Report and Questionnaire agenda item to read: "Discussion with various _____Area Neighborhood Council representatives who wish to report stories of success, challenges, and/or opportunities for outreach and collaboration."

Public comments:

Commissioner comments: Commissioner Shaffer, Commissioner Lipmen

Action: Move to:

1. **FIND** the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) request to change Neighborhood Council Best Practices Report and Questionnaire agenda item to read: "Discussion with various _____Area Neighborhood Council representatives who wish to report stories of success, challenges, and/or opportunities for outreach and collaboration. This matter will last a maximum of 20 minutes and the time will be divided among those representatives wishing to speak. (20 minutes).", and
2. **APPROVE** the change to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners agenda.

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| VOTE | Mover | Shaffer | Second | Wehbe |
|---------------|---------|---------|---------|--------|
| Commissioner | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
| Atkinson | x | | | |
| Lipmen | x | | | |
| Shaffer | x | | | |
| Darett-Quiroz | | | | x |
| Wehbe | x | | | |
| Regalado | | | | x |
| Vo-Ramirez | | | | x |
| Total | 4 | | | 3 |
| Motion | Carries | x | Fails | |

9. [6:53 PM] Verbal updates from representatives of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates. Neighborhood Council Budget Advocates provide input to the City on the City’s Budget. Additional information regarding the Budget Advocates is available at <http://ncbala.com/>. (10 minutes).

Budget Advocates comments: Josh Nadel

Public comments: None

Commissioner comments: Commissioner Shaffer, Commissioner Atkinson

10. [7:05 PM] General Public Comments - Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction. This agenda item will last a total of 15 minutes and no individual speaker will be allowed more than three minutes. (15minutes)

Public comments: Ivan Spiegel, J. Ross, Elizabeth Wright, Cindy Cleghorn, Steven Sanov,

Commissioner comments: Commissioner Lipmen, Commissioner Shaffer

11. [7:21 PM] General Manager’s Report. (10 minutes)

- a. Briefing on Departmental activities.
- b. Staffing, budget, elections and other operational matters.

Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (D.O.N.E.) comments: Mike Fong, Director of Government and Policy, reported General Manager Raquel Beltrán has attended over thirty percent of neighborhood councils on her Listening Tour. Mike thanked neighborhood councils that have completed the Demographic Survey. Mike thanked Cindy Cleghorn and the Congress of Neighborhood Planning Committee. The Homelessness Liaison meeting will be held in January 2020. Mike thanked the budget advocates for meeting with Mrs. Beltrán, and Armando Ruiz during the budget process. The Neighborhood Council reforms regarding uniform voting age of sixteen and minimum age for a board member position being set to eighteen were approved by City Council. Mike Thanked Obiamaka Ude, Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate, for her work with D.O.N.E.

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and dedication to the neighborhood council system. Friday, November 8, 2019 is her last day with the department. Mike congratulated Atziri Camarena on her appointment as a Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate with D.O.N.E. Atziri will serve in the Central and East area. Mike thanked Commissioner Regalado for meeting the the City Clerk..

Public comments:

Commissioner comments

12. [8:13 PM] Discussion and possible action regarding training for the neighborhood council board members. Discussion may include creating policies for mandated leadership for board members and candidates. It may also include request to Department of Neighborhood Empowerment for arrangement of standardized trainings as outlined by Administrative Code 22.801(h). The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners request that Neighborhood Council board members and stakeholders provide feedback to staff and commission. (Attachment provided day of meeting)

[Administrative Code: 22.801](#) Duties of the Department. The Department shall: (h) arrange training for department staff and neighborhood councils' officers and staff, such as training in leadership, cultural awareness, dispute mediation, civics, communications, equipment utilization and any other training necessary to achieve the goals set forth in [Section 22.809](#)

Public comments: Cindy Cleghorn, Josh Nadel, Gilbert Arevalo,

Commissioner comments: Commissioner Lipmen, Commissioner Shaffer, Commissioner Atkinson, Commissioner Wehbe

13. [8:39 PM] Discussion and possible action regarding dispute resolution for the neighborhood council board members. Discussion may include creating policies for mandated conflict resolution for board members and candidates. It may also include request to Department of Neighborhood Empowerment for arrangement of standardized trainings as outlined by Administrative Code 22.801(h). The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners request that Neighborhood Council board members and stakeholders provide feedback to staff and commission. (Attachment provided day of meeting)

[Administrative Code: 22.801](#) Duties of the Department. The Department shall: (h) arrange training for department staff and neighborhood councils' officers and staff, such as training in leadership, cultural awareness, dispute mediation, civics, communications, equipment utilization and any other training necessary to achieve the goals set forth in [Section 22.809](#)

Public comments: None

Commissioner comments: Commissioner Lipmen, Commissioner Atkinson

14. [8:50 PM] Discussion and possible action regarding whether the Commission should consider a policy establishing a uniform process for the censure of Neighborhood Council board members. Reasons for establishing a policy would include openness, fairness, and a proper degree of procedural due process and provide consistent guidelines to Neighborhood Councils when enforcing provisions of their bylaws and other applicable policies regarding proper conduct of board members. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners request Neighborhood Council board members and stakeholders provide feedback to staff and the

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commission. (See attachment – [Censure Motion-10-30-19](#))

Public comments:

Commissioner comments:

15. [8:57 PM] Discussion and possible action regarding whether the Commission should consider a policy establishing a uniform process for the removal of Neighborhood Council board members. Reasons for establishing a policy would include openness, fairness, and a proper degree of procedural due process and provide consistent guidelines to Neighborhood Councils when enforcing provisions of their bylaws and other applicable policies regarding proper conduct of board members. The Department of Neighborhood Empowerment and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners request Neighborhood Council board members and stakeholders provide feedback to staff and the commission. (See attachment – [Removal Policy Motion-10-30-19](#))

Public comments: None

Commissioner comments: Commissioner Shaffer, Commissioner Lipmen

16. [7:27 PM] Discussion and possible action on Bylaws Amendment and Board Structure Change for the Westside Neighborhood Council. Westside Neighborhood Council is requesting to modify its Board structure by **increasing its total Board size** from seventeen (17) to nineteen (19) members by:

1. **Adding** one (1) new Business Seat (Seat 19), and
2. **Adding** one (1) new Residential Seat (Seat 18).

The Department report recommends that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners:

1. **FIND** the Westside Neighborhood Council's (WNC) request to change their Board structure consistent with the principles governing a Certified Neighborhood Council's purpose and operations per Article VI, Section 3(c) of the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils, and
2. **APPROVE** the change to the Westside Neighborhood Council's bylaws.

[\[WNC Bylaw Amendment Application, WNC Approved Bylaws 06-01-15, WNC Approved Bylaws 02-26-19, WNC Copy of Amended Bylaws, Department Report for WNC Board Structure Change 10-22-19, WNC Demographic Data, WNC ACS Estimates 2014-2017 Data, Newly Proposed Westside NC Map with Board Structure Change to Seat 18 and 19\]](#)

Public comments: Freddy Cupen-Ames, Terri Tippit

Commissioner comments:

Action: Move to:

3. **FIND** the Westside Neighborhood Council's (WNC) request to change their Board structure consistent with the principles governing a Certified Neighborhood Council's purpose and operations per Article VI, Section 3(c) of the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils, and
4. **APPROVE** the change to the Westside Neighborhood Council's bylaws.

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| VOTE | Mover | Atkinson | Second | Shaffer |
|---------------|---------|----------|---------|---------|
| Commissioner | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
| Atkinson | x | | | |
| Lipmen | x | | | |
| Shaffer | x | | | |
| Darett-Quiroz | | | | x |
| Wehbe | x | | | |
| Regalado | | | | x |
| Vo-Ramirez | | | | x |
| Total | 4 | | | 3 |
| Motion | Carries | x | Fails | |

17. [7:45 PM] Discussion and possible action on Bylaws Amendment and Boundaries Adjustment for the North Westwood Neighborhood Council. North Westwood Neighborhood Council is requesting to modify their Bylaws by:

1. Submitting a boundary adjustment that shares facilities with the Westwood Neighborhood Council: Los Angeles Fire Department Station 37 (1090 Veteran Avenue), UCLA Outpatient Rehabilitation Services (1000 Veteran Avenue), the Westwood Branch Library (1246 Glendon Avenue), Westwood Recreation Center (which includes Westwood Park, Aidan’s Place, and Bad News Bears Field—1350 Sepulveda Blvd.) and Westwood Gardens Park (10853 Wellworth Ave.).

The Department recommends that the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners:

1. **FIND** North Westwood Neighborhood Council’s request to change their boundaries consistent with the principles governing a Certified Neighborhood Councils’ purpose and operations per Article III 2(a) ii of the Plan for a Citywide System of Neighborhood Councils; and
2. **APPROVE** the change to the North Westwood Neighborhood Council’s bylaws to adjust its boundaries to share Westwood Recreation Center and Westwood Gardens Park with Westwood Neighborhood Council, as these facilities are designed for public use and are geographically compact and contiguous to NWWNC’s existing boundaries.

[\[NWWNC Area Map, NWWNC Department Report, NWWNC Approved Bylaws 091818, NWWNC Bylaw Amendment Application, NWWNC Proposed Bylaw Revisions Article III\]](#)

Public comments: Steve Sanov, Amir Tarighat, Seme Park

Commissioner comments: Commissioner Shaffer, Commissioner Lipmen, Commissioner Wehbe

Action: Move to table to November 18, 2019.

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| VOTE | Mover | Shaffer | Second | Wehbe |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| Commissioner | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
| Atkinson | x | | | |
| Lipmen | x | | | |
| Shaffer | x | | | |
| Darett-Quiroz | | | | x |
| Wehbe | x | | | |
| Regalado | | | | x |
| Vo-Ramirez | | | | x |
| Total | 4 | | | 3 |
| Motion | Carries | x | Fails | |

18. [9:14 PM] Commission Business - Comment from Commissioners on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction. (15 minutes)
- Comment on Commissioners' own activities/brief announcements.
 - Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights/ask staff questions for clarification.
 - Introduce new issues for consideration by the Commission at its next meeting and direct staff to place on the agenda.
 - Ask staff to research issues and report back to the Commission at a future time.

Commissioner Shaffer reported the General Manager of D.O.N.E. attended the October 26, 2019 Neighborhood Council Emergency Preparedness Alliance meeting.

19. [9:17 PM]Adjourn
 Action: Commissioner Wehbe made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Atkinson seconded the motion. Motion passed.

| VOTE | Mover | Lipmen | Second | Atkinson |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------|----------------|---------------|
| Commissioner | Ayes | Nays | Abstain | Absent |
| Atkinson | x | | | |
| Lipmen | x | | | |
| Shaffer | x | | | |
| Darett-Quiroz | | | | x |
| Wehbe | x | | | |
| Regalado | | | | x |
| Vo-Ramirez | | | | x |
| Total | 4 | | | 3 |
| Motion | Carries | x | Fails | |

Future Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Meetings (INFORMATION ONLY) *(Please note: The items listed below are tentative and may be subject to change. You are encouraged to visit the City's*

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website at www.lacity.org to view Commission agendas and [subscribe](#) through the City's Early Notification System Subscription page to receive the Commission's agendas via email.)

- Regular Meeting on Monday, November 18, 2019 at 1:00 pm - City Hall, 10th Floor, Rm 1050, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Regular Meeting & Town Hall on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 6:00 pm – City Hall, 3rd Floor, Rm 351, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90012
- Regular Meeting on Monday, December 16, 2019 at 1:00 pm - City Hall, 10th Floor, Rm 1050, 200 N. Spring St., Los Angeles, CA 90012

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FINALIZATION OF BOARD ACTION:

Per City Charter Section 245, the Board's determination shall become final at the expiration of the next five meeting days of the Council during which the City Council has convened in regular session, unless the City Council acts within that timeframe by a two-thirds vote to bring the action before them or to waive review of the action.

EXHAUSTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE REMEDIES:

If you challenge these agenda items in court, you may be limited to raising only those issues you or someone else raised at the public hearing or in written correspondence on these matters delivered to this agency at or prior to the public hearing. California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.6 governs the time in which a party may seek judicial review of this determination. Under that provision, a petitioner may seek judicial review of any decision of the City pursuant to California Code of Civil Procedure Section 1094.5 only if the petition for Writ of Mandate pursuant to that section is filed no later than the 90th day following the date on which the City's decision became final.

RECONSIDERATION:

The Commission may make a **MOTION TO RECONSIDER** and alter its action taken on any item listed on this agenda at any time during this meeting, or make a **MOTION TO RECONSIDER** at its next regular meeting as indicated below:

If the Commission moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at the *initial* meeting wherein an action was taken, then the underlying item may be reconsidered at that time.

If the Commission moves and approves a Motion for Reconsideration at *the next regular meeting* then consideration of the item may *only* occur at this regularly scheduled meeting if the item for consideration has been placed on that meeting's agenda. If the underlying item for reconsideration has not been placed on the agenda for that next regular meeting, then it shall be considered at a subsequent meeting pursuant to the Ralph M. Brown Act.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS:

In compliance with Government Code Section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners in advance of their meetings, may be viewed at the office of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, located at City Hall, 20th Floor, 200 North Spring Street, Los Angeles, California 90012, by clicking on the Department's Web site at <http://www.EmpowerLA.org> or at the Commission meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, contact the Department at (213) 978-1551 or via e-mail: Commission@EmpowerLA.org.