



**Minutes of the 135th Meeting of the
Palms Neighborhood Council (PNC) and its Representative Assembly
General Meeting, Wednesday, March 4, 2015
IMAN Center, 3376 Motor Avenue, Palms, California**

PNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary; Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript or comprehensive record of what was said at a Meeting. Exceptions: Motion(s) (included as stated at the Meeting, or, if not stated, as written on the Agenda); quotes (words that have quotation marks (“ ”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and Agenda wording copied into the Minutes.

I. WELCOMING REMARKS

Call to Order (Stewart)

President Marisa Stewart welcomed everyone and called the Meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. She reminded about the Code of Conduct.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

A. Roll Call (Nguyen)

Secretary Len Nguyen called the roll. Seven of the nine Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Willie Bell, Nick Greif, Faye Johnson, Eli Lipmen, Len Nguyen, Cat Stevens and Marisa Stewart. Two Board Members were absent: Dr. Wayne Byrd and Paulina Quaranta. The PNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven (see <http://empowerla.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/07/Palms-NC-Bylaws.pdf>), so the Board could take such votes. Nine of the 13 Board Seats were filled (by election or appointment). Four Board Seats were vacant (Vice-President, and Business 1, 2 and 3). Also attending: 13 Stakeholders and guests.

B. MOTION: Approve Minutes from 2/4/15 Assembly meeting

MOTION (by Mr. Nguyen, seconded by Ms. Stevens): The Palms Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its February 4, 2015 General Assembly Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED with no objection.

III. COMMUNITY/GOVERNMENT REPORTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS (Representatives from government offices, police and community based organizations)

A. L.A. City Council District 5 Deputy Joseph Galloway

Joseph Galloway, Field Deputy for L.A. City District Five Councilman Paul Koretz (323.866.1828; Joseph.Galloway@LACity.org; <http://CD5.LACity.org>), announced that smoke alarm detectors would be provided as part of the My Safe LA program. The DWP installed lighting “in the alleyway behind the Post Office.” Curb cuts will be installed next to Woodbine Park. The City Bureau of Sanitation encourages submissions for its My Clean Streets Program. He encouraged reporting illegally parked recreational vehicles. There is an ACE (Administrative Citation Enforcement) Program for reporting quality of life issues.

B. LAPD Senior Lead Officer Juan Ceja

Juan Ceja, LAPD Pacific Division Senior Lead Officer (310-482-6334; 32929@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.LAPDOnline.org/pacific_community_police_station), was not present and there was no report.

C. Other Government Departments/Agencies

There were no other reports at this time.

IV. PRESIDENT’S REPORT – Update

A. Neighborhood Purpose Grants

Ms. Stewart reported that Applications have been received and will be Agendized.

B. Community Projects

Ms. Stewart reported that projects will be developed.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Green (Miller) – Update, next meeting on Wednesday, March 11, 7:00 p.m. (2nd Wednesday)

Chair Charles Miller encouraged the use of reusable cups rather than Styrofoam. He reported that he attended a “Health Equity Roundtable” and a City event regarding the uses of native plants. He clarified that “drought-tolerant exotics” use more water than non-drought-tolerant native plants. He also attended the “Green Expo” and the Mar Vista Community Council Meeting. He will report about the City Council District Five “Biodiversity Panel.” The next Committee Meeting will be March 11th, location to be announced. On March 28th the Committee will be planting native trees on Overland Avenue and issuing Green Certifications for Palms restaurants. The Committee is working with the Green Gardens Group in April or May to install a sample residential landscaping design at a Palms apartment building. Mr. Miller requested and Mr. Nguyen agreed to post a native plants list on the website.

B. Planning and Land Use (Anderberg) – Update on Overland Ave. Streetscape Charettes, next meeting on Monday, March 16, 7:00 p.m. (3rd Monday)

Chair Neal Anderberg reported that the Committee discussed a by right eight-unit development. He updated about the March 11th and 15th Charettes.

C. Transportation and Safety (Bell) – Update, discussion/possible action re: Palms/Jasmine crosswalk, next meeting on Monday, March 23, 7:00 p.m. (4th Monday)

1. MOTION: [see below “Palms Middle School” was corrected to “Palms Elementary School.”].

Mr. Bell attended the CPAB (Community Police Advisory Board; see http://lapdonline.org/pacific_community_police_station/content_basic_view/8984) Meeting. Overall crime is down, though “property crime is up.” He will request that more lighting be installed at the northwest corner of Motor Ave. and Venice Blvd.

MOTION (by Mr. Bell, seconded by Mr. Greif): The Palms Neighborhood Council supports the following Resolution: Whereas Neighbors and the Palms Neighborhood Council requested the Installment of a smart crosswalk with flashing lights at the intersection of Palms Blvd. and Jasmine Ave. This crosswalk will be a direct crossing from the south of Palms Blvd. to access Woodbine Park. It is by the Palms Elementary School. The students and residents south of Palm Blvd. will have a direct crossing for Woodbine Park. This crosswalk will enhance the safety of both pedestrians and drivers. Therefore, be it resolved that the Palms Neighborhood Council will write to Los Angeles City Councilmember Paul Koretz, and the Department of Transportation to install this crosswalk immediately for the safety of Palms residents.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Miller explained that the Committee previously “did a lot of research” on this and the PNC passed Motions; “a lot of people have supported this . . . no one objected.”

MOTION PASSED with no objection.

D. Projects & Policy (Byrd) – Update

Dr. Byrd was not present and there was no report.

E. Outreach (Nguyen) – Update

Mr. Nguyen reported that the Committee discussed outreach materials and the January 28th Palms Homeless Count.

1. Bike Rodeo 2015

Mr. Nguyen reported that the Rodeo will be Saturday, May 16th from 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to set up, greet, staff arts and crafts tables, and more.

2. Homeless Resources Fair

Mr. Nguyen described the March 7th, 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. event.

VI. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS

A. Treasurer (Greif) – Update

1. MOTION: Approve Treasurer’s Report & Monthly Expenditure Report for March 2015.

Copies were distributed of the now-old and new versions of the PNC “Monthly Expenditure Report for February,” the “[PNC] Statement of Expenditures for FY 2014-15 Prepared as of 2/27/2015,” the “[PNC] Balance Sheet for FY 2014-15 Prepared as of 2/27/2015,” the “P-Card Charges,” and the “[PNC] FY 14-15 Budget Adopted on 9/3/14.” Mr. Greif described the revised Monthly Expenditure Report form and reviewed expenses. He reported that the PNC has “almost \$30,000 to spend” by the June 30th end of this Fiscal Year.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Greif, seconded by Ms. Stevens): The Palms Neighborhood Council approves its Treasurer’s Report and Monthly Expenditure Report for February 2015.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Greif described the Neighborhood Purposes Grant application process.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the seven eligible voters present with all seven in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Bell, Greif, Johnson, Lipmen, Nguyen, Stevens and Stewart); zero opposed; zero abstained.

B. Secretary (Nguyen) – MOTION: [see below].

Mr. Nguyen noted “Blitz Repair Form” street repair requests made to the City Bureau of Street Services; at this Meeting more requests were made and included. He reported that requests can also be made through the “MyLA311” phone application and by calling 3-1-1.

MOTION (by Mr. Nguyen, seconded by Ms. Stevens): The Palms Neighborhood Council approves the location list for the next Street Services Palms NC Blitz.

DISCUSSION: Requests will be prioritized.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Ms. Stewart). There was no objection.

MOTION PASSED with no objection.

C. Community Organization Rep. (Byrd) – Update

Dr. Byrd was not present and there was no update.

VII. AREA REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS

A. Business Rep. 3 (Johnson)

Ms. Johnson reported that Stakeholders were concerned about safety and businesses were concerned about people “who hang out” at the corner of Bagley and Venice.

B. Residential Rep. A (Bell)

Mr. Bell indicated that there was no report at this time.

C. Residential Rep. B (Stevens)

Ms. Stevens reported that she is working with Ms. Quaranta regarding “parking availability versus red zones.”

D. Residential Rep. C (Lipmen)

Mr. Lipmen noted the curb cuts installed by Woodbine Park. He will work for more community improvements and encouraged submitting website comments.

E. Residential Rep. D (Quaranta)

Ms. Quaranta was not present and there was no report.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Stakeholder Lee Wallach reported that the Farmers Market is “very successful” and that “an urban garden network” is growing at “local elementary schools”; donations are welcomed. He named a number of community projects the PNC can support.

IX. ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Stewart declared and it was agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 8:58 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by PNC. *The first paragraph of some Items may be directly copied from the Agenda.*