



**Minutes of the 147th Meeting of the  
Palms Neighborhood Council (PNC) and its Representative Assembly  
General Meeting, Wednesday, January 6, 2016  
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: Motions/Resolutions (as stated at the Meeting, which take precedence over versions written on the Agenda, if different); quotes (words that have quotation marks (“”) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and other wording from the Agenda such as the first paragraph(s) of some Items. Items are listed in and match the same order as on the Agenda.

**I. WELCOMING REMARKS**

Call to Order (Stewart)

President Marisa Stewart welcomed everyone and called the Meeting to order at 7:12 p.m. She explained procedures and reminded “to be respectful of each other.”

**II. ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS**

A. Roll Call (Nguyen)

Secretary Len Nguyen called the roll. Nine of the nine Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Willie Bell, Dr. Wayne Byrd, Nick Greif, Faye Johnson, Eli Lipmen, Len Nguyen, Paulina Quaranta, Cat Stevens and Marisa Stewart. One Board Member was absent (Mendoza). [Eduardo Mendoza was appointed to the Board in below Item #V. A.] 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, Resident 2, and Business 1 and 2). [To apply, see <http://PalmsLA.org>.] Also attending: 10 Stakeholders and guests.

B. MOTION: Approve minutes from 10/7/15 Assembly meeting

**MOTION** (by Mr. Nguyen, seconded by Mr. Grief): The Palms Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its October 7, 2015 General Assembly Meeting as written.

**MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION** (by Mr. Nguyen). There was no opposition.

**MOTION PASSED** with no opposition.

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS.** -- There was no comment.

**IV. 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>), was not present and there was no report.

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](http://www.LAPDOnline.org/pacific_community_police_station)), was not present and there was no report.

C. Other Government Departments/Agencies.

Jeff Zimmerman, Independent Elections Administrator (IEA) (213.978.1551), explained his role and is available to help with the PNC Election that will be on Sunday, June 5, 2016 from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. online or in person at Fire Station 43, 3690 Motor Avenue, Palms.

**V. PRESIDENT'S REPORT** – Update

A. MOTION: [see the below Motion].

Ms. Stewart explained that Mr. Mendoza was unable to attend this Meeting but that he has been a regular attendee and is willing to be a Board Member.

**MOTION:** (by Ms. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Greif): The Palms Neighborhood Council appoints Eduardo Mendoza as PNC Business Representative 1 (Venice Blvd.).

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Greif noted that Mr. Mendoza also is the Election Chair and urged checking if there is any conflict.

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

**MOTION PASSED** with no opposition.

B. MOTION: [see the below Motion].

Ms. Stewart explained the event and that the vendor is Hillcrest Party Rentals, which charged \$2,884.50 but gave the PNC a 50% discount to \$1,492.25.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Nguyen): The Palms Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$1,500 for tents, tables and chairs in support of 2015 LAPD Pacific Division Winter Wonderland.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Lipmen was concerned about funding an event that already happened and that the PNC was not on event outreach material; he encouraged instead making a Neighborhood Purposes Grant to the LAPD.

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

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

C. MOTION: [see the below Motion].

Ms. Stewart explained the event; volunteers are needed, including 16 drivers and counters, “to get a count of the people that are in our area.” The Culver-Palms Church wants to help.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Stewart, seconded by Dr. Byrd): The Palms Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$1,000 for food and outreach materials to support Palms Neighborhood Council participation in the 2016 Homeless Count.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Greif explained that the Count is “crucial” to helping determine homeless services funding; he volunteered to coordinate the PNC’s participation. The Count will be Tuesday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at night.

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

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

D. Discussion and possible action to appoint a PNC representative for 2016 Homeless Count.

Mr. Greif volunteered; see above. No Motion was made or vote taken.

- E. MOTION: Allocate up to \$500 for outreach materials for Town Hall on new school proposed for Motor/National.

Ms. Stewart explained the issue and the need to inform Stakeholders. The school would have around 700 students.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Stewart, seconded by Mr. Greif): The Palms Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$500 for outreach materials for a Town Hall on new school proposed for Motor/National.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholder Kalani Whittington believed that there has not been enough outreach for other events. Stakeholder Lee Wallach noted that a traffic study is available to see on the Motor Avenue Improvement Association website; he was concerned that some traffic issues were not being addressed or accurately measured. He believed that building the school would be good but that Motor and National would be “the wrong location.” Mr. Lipmen noted that 50 people attended the PNC Planning and Land Use Committee Meeting at which this was discussed; he believed that much less funding is needed. Ms. Johnson believed that the outreach is needed. Mr. Greif reported that the Outreach Committee supports having a Town Hall Meeting.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Greif, seconded by Dr. Byrd, accepted by Ms. Stewart): to add the phrase “a Planning and Land Use Committee” so that the Motion would be “The Palms Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$500 for outreach materials for a Planning and Land Use Committee Town Hall on new school proposed for Motor/National.”

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

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED** with no opposition.

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Bell, seconded by Ms. Johnson, accepted by Ms. Stewart and Mr. Greif): to add the phrase “and Transportation and Safety Committee” so that the Motion would be “The Palms Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$500 for outreach materials for a Planning and Land Use Committee and Transportation and Safety Committee Town Hall on new school proposed for Motor/National.”

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

**AMENDMENT to the FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with all nine in favor; zero opposed; zero abstained.

**AMENDED FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a roll call vote of the nine eligible voters present with eight in favor (“Yes” or “Aye”) (Bell, Byrd, Greif, Johnson,

Nguyen, Quaranta, Stevens and Stewart); zero opposed; one abstained (Lipmen).

F. MOTION: Approve PNC Self Assessment Form for fiscal year 2014-15

Mr. Nguyen explained the Form.

**MOTION to REFER to COMMITTEE:** (by Mr. Lipmen, seconded by Mr. Greif): The Palms Neighborhood Council refers completion of the PNC Self Assessment Form for fiscal year 2014-15 to its Executive Committee for presentation to the Board.

**MOTION to REFER to COMMITTEE PASSED** with seven in favor; two opposed (“No” or “Nay”) (Stevens and Stewart); zero abstained.

## **VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- A. Transportation and Safety (Bell) – Update; next meeting on Monday, January 25, 7:00 p.m. (4th Monday). -- Mr. Bell noted the Meeting at Fire Station 43.
- B. Green (Quaranta) – Update; no November meeting; next meeting on Wednesday, January 13, 7:00 p.m. (2nd Wednesday). -- Ms. Quaranta noted this and encouraged joining the Committee.
- C. Planning and Land Use (Anderberg) – Update; next meeting on Monday, January 18, 7:00 p.m. (January returns to regular 3rd Monday).
  - 1. MOTION: Support the proposed small-lot subdivision at 3724 Vinton Ave.

Committee Chair Neal Anderberg reported that the developer, Modative, has requested to divide the lot between Venice and Regent “into five smaller lots” to sell them. Modative representative Krystal Navar and Project Manager Katherine Costa displayed a rendering and site plan and presented about the five-unit, R-3-zoned project. The lot is 55,145 square feet, or 50 feet by 150 feet. Each unit would be 1,800-2,000 square feet. They could build up to nine units. All will have three bedrooms and three or 3 ½ bathrooms and two parking spaces. There would be no guest parking; it is not required because the project would have less than nine units. Most parking would be off Vinton; two spaces would be off the alley. It would be “townhouse style” and “fee simple,” with no homeowners association. There would be a 25-foot front yard setback with “all native to drought-tolerant landscaping.” It would be “just over 43 feet” high; the limit is 45 feet. Mr. Greif noted that Ms. Costa, who also is a Member of the PNC Planning and Land Use Committee, recused from voting on the project in the Committee. He indicated that the Committee supported the project because it complies with all requests and guidelines and is “a model project.”

**MOTION** (by Mr. Greif, seconded by Dr. Byrd): The Palms Neighborhood Council supports the proposed small-lot subdivision at 3724 Vinton Ave.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Wallach encouraged the Board to work with the developer for community improvements. Mr. Lipmen noted the project's value as a precedent for community planning and working with developers.

**MOTION PASSED** with no opposition; one abstained (Stewart).

Ms. Navar said the City Planning Hearing will be in March. The Committee will send information to Mr. Nguyen, who will draft a letter of support.

2. MOTION: Appoint Ethan Becker to the PNC Planning & Land Use Committee.

**MOTION** (by Mr. Greif, seconded by Ms. Stevens): The Palms Neighborhood Council appoints Ethan Becker to the PNC Planning & Land Use Committee.

**DISCUSSION:** Mr. Anderberg explained that Mr. Becker, who was not in attendance at this Meeting, requested to join the Committee and that Mr. Becker is a Planning degree student and works with DONE [the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment]. Board Members expressed support.

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

**MOTION PASSED** with no opposition.

- D. Outreach (Stewart/Nguyen) – Update; next meeting on Thursday, January 14, 7:00 p.m. (2nd Thursday). – Mr. Nguyen noted the Meeting at Fire Station 43.

## **VII. EXECUTIVE OFFICER REPORTS**

- A. Treasurer (Greif) – Update

**MOTION:** Approve Treasurer's Report & Monthly Expenditure Report.

Copies were distributed of the October, November and December 2015 PNC "Monthly Expenditure Report," the "[PNC] FY 15-16 Budget Adopted on 7-1-15," the "[PNC] Balance Sheet for FY 2015-16 Prepared as of 1/4/2016," the "[PNC] Statement of Expenditures for FY 2015-16 Prepared as of 1/4/2016," and a list of "Purchases by Line Item" so far this Fiscal Year. Mr. Greif reviewed expenses and the Budget; the balance was \$28,727.98.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Greif, seconded by Ms. Johnson): The Palms Neighborhood Council approves its Monthly Expenditure Reports and Treasurer's Reports for October, November and December 2015.

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

B. Secretary (Nguyen) – Update -- Mr. Nguyen indicated that there was no report.

C. Community Organization Rep. (Byrd) – Update -- Dr. Byrd indicated that there was no report.

### **VIII. AREA REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

#### **A. Business Rep. 3 (Johnson)**

Ms. Johnson reported Stakeholders' concerns about homeless people around the bicycle path behind the Albertson's and Ross stores. Also, a new four-way stop was installed at Cardiff and Regent.

B. Residential Rep. A (Bell) -- Mr. Bell indicated that there was no report.

#### **C. Residential Rep. B (Stevens)**

Ms. Stevens reported that two new businesses opened: Vee's Café and the Rose Market. Keystone Ave. was paved from Palms to Venice; she worked with CD5's Joseph Galloway to ensure that enough notice was provided to Stakeholders regarding vehicle parking. Trees on the 3500 and 3600 blocks of Keystone are dying from the drought.

#### **D. Residential Rep. C (Lipmen)**

Mr. Lipmen reported that Woodbine Park is thriving. Kogi Barbeque opens soon at Palms and Overland. The construction at National and Overland is for a new Coffee Bean.

E. Residential Rep. D (Quaranta) -- Ms. Quaranta indicated that there was no report.

### **IX. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Stewart declared and it was agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, possibly edited by PNC. *The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.* The PNC Minutes page is <http://palmsla.org/about/pnc-meeting-minutes>.