

**MINUTES OF PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING  
MID CITY WEST COMMUNITY COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, September 27, 2011**

Held at the NCJW Building, 543 N. Fairfax Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90036

*ATTENDING: Committee members: Paul Kuszynski, Ernest Mauritson, Liz Sterbenz, Stefani Poretz, Tara Brown and Nancy Vimla; Guests: Bob Abrahams, Sheryl Turner*

Liz Sterbenz called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm.

The Committee approved the minutes of the June 28, 2011 meeting by a vote of 6 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

During the Public Comment period, Lois Luger announced that she would like to be considered for a stakeholder member position on the committee if one would become available. Joan Taylor spoke about the proposed citywide sign ordinance and would like the committee, and MCW board, to take a position on this issue. Paul Kuszynski mentioned that the Transportation, Parking and Streetscape Committee had a motion already in the works that was to be presented at the next MCW Board meeting on October 11. Joan Taylor also raised concerns about electronic abuse.

Senior Lead Officer Art Gallegos gave a crime report for the area. After a series of commercial and residential burglaries, some arrests have been made that are tied to many of the area break-ins and robberies. The West Hollywood Sheriff's Department arrested two suspects that have been identified and linked to about 5 robberies in our area. In addition, the LAPD Special Enforcement Unit made an arrest of an individual who is suspected in 25 – 30 commercial burglaries in the area.

A neighborhood group from the blocks of 500 – 600 N. Edinburgh Ave. came to the meeting to report on an ongoing noise disturbance due to protestors on the block. The protestors are part of an animal rights group, and are targeting the residence of a person they believe to be a part of a company which they oppose. The neighbors are being disturbed by the protestors who must remain 100 feet away from the residence they are protesting, and who therefore are in front of other homes and using bullhorns. Senior Lead Officer Art Gallegos addressed their concerns and gave them advice and instructions on how to create a paper trail of police reports. He also advised the residents to avoid direct confrontation with the protestors, and let the police handle any one-on-one interaction. The committee voted 6 – 0 to draft a letter of support of the neighbors in their right to a peaceful home, as long as we are keeping in line with DONE recommendations. A follow up report will be given at the next meeting.

The committee voted 6 – 0 to sponsor the upcoming Park La Break Health Care Forum on Monday, October 24, 2011 at 7P. The committee will contribute \$25 from the MCW

Outreach funds in return for a logo on all promotional materials and the opportunity to have a table at the booth for the distribution of MCW information. Nancy Vimla volunteered to help out at the event, as did community member Lois Luger. A motion will be brought to the board meeting on October 11 for board approval.

The committee designated member Nancy Vimla to be an additional key holder for the emergency supplies at the Farmers' Market, and Ernie Mauritsen announced that the Farmers' Market will provide a padlock for the supplies at no cost to the committee. There is ongoing discussion with the NTP and Farmers' Market about the access plan for these supplies.

The committee approved 6 – 0 the budget resolution for National Night Out. \$44.31 was spent in support of the August 2, 2011 event, out of the \$350 that was approved by the board in July.

The committee discussed potential projects for the upcoming year, and research will be done by assigned committee members for the next meeting. Ideas include: CERT Training class, possibly held in a new location within the MCW area; sponsorship of a Blood Drive with Cedars; a self-defense class; a CPR/First Aid class; and National Night Out 2012.

The committee decided 6 – 0 to cancel the scheduled meetings on Tuesday, November 22, 2011 and Tuesday, December 27, 2011. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 25, 2011, followed by Tuesday, January 24, 2011.

During Board comments, Liz Sterbenz reported on the LA Congress of Neighborhoods that was held on Saturday, September 24.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45PM.