



543 N. Fairfax Avenue Room 106 Los Angeles CA 90036 323 651-3512
www.midcitywest.org

MCWCC Board Meeting of 02/12/08

MINUTES

Submitted by Joyce Kleifield, Administrative Manager
Subject to approval of the Board on 03/11/2008

1. **Call to Order/Introductions:** Chair, Andrew Lachman called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m. Of forty-three members, thirty (a quorum) were present.
2. **Opening Remarks:** Andrew Lachman pointed out that this board had reached its six month point and was poised to push forward and show what the organization is made of. He is taking the outreach responsibility seriously with the following actions:
 - An article appeared in the Park La Brea News / Beverly Press about open board seats
 - An upcoming newsletter is being prepared by the Communications Committee
 - A new list of organizations to reach out to is being developed
 - Emails have gone out to Residential Associations, Business Associations and Non-profits, challenging them to become involved

Mr. Lachman then praised the TPS Committee on their upcoming motion to hold a Town Hall meeting to get stakeholder input.

A presentation was then made to the Fairfax High School Marching Band to honor them for their accomplishments over the past 18 months. Band Leader, Ray Vizcarra and five students were present to accept the certificates provided to Mr. Vizcarra and all band members.

3. **Approval of Minutes:** Regarding Item 3, Approval of Minutes, Rickie Avrutin provided wording that she requested replace her board member comments on page 5, item 9, of the minutes for December 11th as follows: **“While she agrees with Jim O’Sullivan that directors should take their responsibility of service seriously, we should also be mindful that important but late night board deliberations, when many directors are mentally fatigued after long work days, do not always result in our wisest decisions. She then acknowledged and complimented Andrew on keeping our meetings moving in an orderly fashion and keeping the Board focused on matters properly before it.”** With no further changes, **the minutes of January 8, 2008 were unanimously approved.**
4. **Public Comment Period:**
 - Yuval Kremer commented on the Street Furniture issue, concerned that CD5 was receiving more than their fair share of the Public Amenity Kiosks and Pillars and asking that Councilmember Weiss not allow this.

5. **Elections for open Board Seats:** The floor was opened for any stakeholder who wished to run for any of the open board seats. Yuval Kremer declared his interest in running for the open Homeowners position and explained why he qualified and wanted to run. No other stakeholders presented themselves, there was no opposition. It was **moved and seconded that Mr. Kremer fill the Homeowners seat and then approved by acclamation.** Mr. Kremer then joined the board at the table.
6. **Financial Report:** Treasurer, David Strouse provided the current financial report (on file) which was unanimously approved by the board.
7. **Announcement from City Representatives:**
 - CD4 Field Deputy, Carolyn Ramsay announced that she had been promoted to Director of Communications for CD4 and she introduced Nickie Azary who would be replacing her as Field Deputy.
 - Jenny Wood, Field Deputy for Assemblymember Karen Bass, introduced herself and highlighted legislation and events happening within their district. She provided her contact information as well: jenny.wood@asm.ca.gov and 323.937.4747
8. **Committee Reports/Motions:**

a. Arts & Recreation: The committee announced that the monthly Art Walk would take place Saturday, February 16th. The focus will be on Wilshire galleries with LACMA as the host gallery.

b. Election Committee: Chair, Charles Lindenblatt stated that there will be a presentation by the City Clerk at next month's board meeting. Elections will be held one of the last three weeks in June. On March 26th a regional meeting will be held to decide which day – by majority vote of the neighborhood councils in that region. As all Neighborhood Council elections will only be held in the even numbered years, the Board must decide whether they want two year terms with the whole board up for election or four year terms with staggered elections. This will be noticed for the next board meeting.

c. Education Committee: Chair, Judy Perez presented and explained the following motion, seconded by Steve Kramer:

To request \$500 in funding from the FY07-08 MCWCC Special Projects Budget for support of the March 5th MCW / Fairfax High School partnership event at Hancock Park School.

With no discussion, it was passed unanimously by the board.

A copy of a letter of support – based on the Fairfax/MCWCC partnership, signed by Andrew Lachman, for Small Learning Communities at Fairfax High was in each board member's packet. Pierson Blaetz explained the importance of the board providing this type of advocacy.

A motion for the \$1,000.00 that has been set aside for a Fairfax project will be brought to the board by the education committee at a later date.

d. Transportation-Parking-Streetscape:

i. Chair, Jeff Jacobberger presented the following motion:

The Mid City West Community Council supports converting the 600 block of South Cloverdale (between 6th and Wilshire) to a one-way street, and sending the attached letter to property owners on that block requesting that they support this change.

Two stakeholders were present and spoke in favor of the motion. During discussion, Sabrina Simmons called for the question with over two-thirds approving ending discussion. The vote resulted in twenty-four (24) voting in favor; zero (0) opposed and two (2) abstaining.

ii. Jeff Jacobberger presented the following motion:

The Mid City West Community Council supports efforts to increase the flexibility of taxicabs to pick up and discharge fares on Los Angeles streets without risking a ticket, so that taxicabs can play an increased role in providing transportation alternatives to personal automobiles.

The Transportation Parking and Streetscape Committee is directed to submit a Community Impact Statement re Council File #07-3989 re MCWCC's position on this issue.

There was no discussion, the motion passed unanimously with one person abstaining.

iii. So he could provide comment, Andrew Lachman passed the gavel to 1st Vice Chair, Wayne Sachs. Jeff Jacobberger explained the following motion:

The Mid City West Community Council will sponsor or co-sponsor a Town Hall-style meeting of stakeholders regarding Mayor Villaraigosa's "Olympic West / Pico East" proposal.

The Transportation Parking and Streetscape Committee is directed to schedule and organize the Town Hall, and work with the Communications Committee to publicize the meeting.

The issue was coming before City Council on February 13th, if the proposal was eliminated, there would be no Town Hall. Rickie Avrutin called for the question and over two thirds voted to end discussion. A vote was taken with the motion passing unanimously. Joel Rosansky asked to make sure that such a meeting was not scheduled for a Friday or Saturday.

iv. Jeff Jacobberger explained the City contract with CBS/Decaux to provide street furniture with advertising on it – stressing that the issues were about the proposed locations, not about the merits of the program itself. Discussion ensued resulting in a motion to table this item. The motion was seconded. Fourteen (14) voted in favor to tabling the discussion; eight (8) opposed and two (2) abstained.

e. Communications/Outreach:

i. Chair, Merrill Whatley presented and explained the following motion:

To request \$900 in funding from the FY07-08 MCWCC Special Projects Budget to cover Lineal Media (LM) invoices for MCWCC website maintenance and hosting.

With no discussion, the motion was unanimously approved by the board with one abstaining.

ii. Mr. Whatley stated that he would have a newsletter at the next board meeting.

f. Land Use Committee: Chair, Brad Seiling announced that there were three big projects that will be coming before the committee: 1) A Caruso development on Burton Way 2) A project on Weatherly, off Burton Way 3) The Casden Project on the Ross site. Developers are seeing input from Neighborhood Councils prior to going to planning now.

9. **Public Comment Period:** No public comment at this time.

10. **Board Member Comments:** Various Board Members provided comments.
Meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.