

**Westdale Homeowners Association
Board of Directors Meeting
Home of Bob and Leah Oye
Tuesday, April 9, 2019**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 p.m. by the President, Jerry Hornof, in the lovely home of Bob and Leah Oye. Snacks provided were cookies, munchies, bottled water, coffee, and a box of delicious chocolates.

Present were: Jerry Hornof, Barbara Algaze, Judy Bauman, Heather Butterfield, Shari Dunn, Lori Gilder, Debbie Kaplan, Ethel Oderberg, Jami Olsen, Leah Oye, Larry Shuman, and Marjorie Templeton

Absent were: Geoff Forgione, Carl Ginsberg, Ina Lee, Lisa Rosenbloom, and Jay Swerdlow.

Jerry Hornof – Opening Remarks

We began the meeting by going around the table, with each member sharing what is new in their lives. We heard about various trips, family events, and new babies. Debbie reported about the passing of former member Bette Rudick. Her husband, Larry is still on the Alzheimer's floor in the Sunrise facility.

Jerry was pleased with the responses he received after the annual meeting at the park. He got numerous calls from residents who had various concerns and one from George Oswald who is concerned that the new trees being planted in the neighborhood are not following the consistent pattern of one different variety up and down each block. Jerry referred him to the Mar Vista Community Council committee that is working for the subject.

Jerry discussed various issues in the neighborhood. One of them is the work being done to convert the old Fire Station #62 to a Community Center building. There will be a picnic/fund raiser to raise money from neighborhood residents.

Jerry complimented the look of the Villager. He thinks that it looks good. Based on the calls he got as a result of annual meeting, he thinks that people are reading the Villager.

Jami Olson – Membership

Jami reported that he received a number of new membership dues....two thirds of them from the 3100 block of Stoner. His thanks go to the block captain who made a super strong effort to get so many of the residents to pay their dues. Leah said it was Cynthia.

Jay Swerdlow – Treasurer's Report

Jay is still traveling in Asia. There will be a follow up report when he returns.

Leah Oye – Crime and Community Policing

The “security walks” have been very helpful for residents. There were two conducted recently; on McLaughlin and on Purdue. The most helpful piece of information is that the majority of crimes are “crimes of opportunity;” such as parked cars with bags or items in clear view. One lady had her car windows broken into and a bag of clothes intended for a thrift shop was taken. The last years for which numbers are available showed that there was an increase in property crimes in the area from 2017 – 2018. If you would like to schedule a security walk for your block, ask Leah.

Larry asked “...how many patrol cars are there in our area?” Leah reported that the Pacific Division has eight sections and there is one patrol car for each section. Our section runs from Sawtelle on the east to Lincoln Boulevard on the west; the 10 freeway to the north and Venice Boulevard to the south. Everyone agreed that it is a large area for only one patrol car.

The next meeting for the block captains will be about earthquake issues.

Heather Butterfield – Welcoming Committee

Heather reported that she has gone from “welcome bags” to a “welcome plant.” She said that she gets contact information from Debbie for new residents. Barbara told her the name and address of her new neighbor who just moved in next door.

Marjorie Templeton – Website

There was a problem with the WordPress website and Ina was able to get her border to fix it. It is nice to have friends and acquaintances who know the WordPress program.

Lori Gilder - Windward School Liaison

Lori reported that they are doing some building at the Windward school but she is not sure what it is. There will be a summer school program for younger kids at the facility.

Shari Dunn - Mar Vista Elementary School Liaison

The new principal is pretty good. Many of the classroom roofs were leaking during the big rains. The facilities are all pretty old; there is a real need to invest in infrastructure. The parents’ organization is “super involved” with what is happening. They have raised over \$500,000; the goal was \$70,000. They raised \$30,000 to \$40,00 more than last year. However all improvements have to go through LAUSD.

There was a discussion about how happy parents are to contribute to the public school since it saves them the phenomenal sums charged by private schools.

Jerry Hornof – Park Advisory Committee

Our park director is Carolyn Lammers. The patio area on the north side of the building has been enclosed with a fence. This provides for outside storage, and prevents homeless people sleeping there.

The Windward school made a contribution for a new scoreboard. There is discussion about making improvements to the pool area so that it can be used year round. One possibility is a “use arrangement” with the Windward School. Also the possibility of making it indoors and/or a heated pool that can be used all year.

There was a lot of opposition when the Roller Hockey facility was built that adults would not use it, but we now have 17 adult teams and over 1700 individual adults in the program. People are coming from as far away as Valencia and Long Beach to watch the games. They play on Mondays at 7, 8, and 9 p.m.

Marjorie Templeton – Villager

Dina Kaplan has joined the staff of the Villager. She will be reporting on “Focus on the Neighborhood.” Jan Burns will remain as proof reader only.

Transportation and Airport

The Santa Monica airport is scheduled to close in 2028. Developers are funding the project going forward; they want to build housing; Santa Monica residents are tired of gridlock; they want another park. Jami said that it will be hard to get zoning approval to build on that space as gas, oil, and other contaminants have been building up for years in the soil.

There was a brief discussion about a proposed “entry fee” for cars driving to, from, or through parts of Los Angeles. New York City residents are also facing legislation for such a fee to drive to, from or through Manhattan.

New Business - California SB 50

Lori brought in information about a “Overdevelopment legislation being passed in Sacramento.” We all are concerned about the possible legislation that will eliminate low density residential neighborhoods in West Los Angeles.

According to the flyer, “SB 50 ELIMINATES ALL LOCAL ZONING, INCLUDING HISTORICAL PRESERVATION, ALL SINGLE FAMILY, AND ALL OTHER LOW DENSITY RESIDENTIAL ZONING WITHIN A HALF MILE OF TRANSIT AND WITHIN A HALF MILE OF A “JOBS RICH AREA.”

The legislation will eliminate all zoning restrictions within a ½ mile of any public transportation. The bill will affect single family housing in communities of Beverly Hills, Pasadena, Pacific Palisades, San Pedro, Brentwood and Westwood. The plan is to increase the availability of housing by driving down rental rates of housing.

The legislation will take away local control of housing and development. The flyer encourages residents to become knowledgeable about the issue and contact your Representatives and State Senators and tell them how you feel about it.

Ethel Oderberg – 2019 Block Party

There was a consensus that the 2018 Block party was a huge success largely due to the involvement of Loren Altman on Colby Avenue. After the party she expressed the opinion that it wasn't as bad as she had anticipated. It was suggested that Ethel talk to her about having the 2019 block party on Colby again. Ethel will do that and report back. Ethel also told us of some shortcuts that were taken in ordering food that made that part of the party easier than in previous years.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 p.m.

Barbara Algaze,
Recording Secretary