



Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Congress

Senate Meeting

Saturday, September 9, 2006

LADWP Building

Hope & First Streets, Los Angeles

Minutes

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:15am by Chair, Brady Westwater
2. Roll Call: Delegates from the following member Neighborhood Councils were present:
Arroyo Seco, Atwater Village, Central San Pedro, Coastal San Pedro, Downtown LA, Empowerment Congress SE Area, Encino, Granada Hills North, Harbor Gateway South, Historic Cultural, Historic Highland Park, Mar Vista, Mid City West, North Hills West, Pico Union, Reseda, Silver Lake, Studio City, Tarzana, West Hills, West Van Nuys/Lake Balboa, Woodland Hills.
3. The minutes of August 5, 1006 were approved as amended.
4. The Organization and Structures Committee report was called out of order as it may have an impact of the meeting. Standing Rule No. 10 was re-written to clear the language. Standing Rule #10 was unanimously approved. Regarding Standing Rule No. 13 the committee also felt that the word delegate was more appropriate than the word senator in referring to the individual NC representatives. A motion was made to make the title of delegate or senator an either/or, and leave it to the representatives what they wished to call themselves. The motion and Standing Rule #13 were passed with one abstention.
5. Coastal San Pedro NC presented a resolution of no confidence in Lisa Sarno, DONE GM, citing a list of grievances, and asked the Congress to send it to the NCs with a recommendation to pass the resolution. The motion was made and passed with 8 against and 2 abstentions.
6. Reports:
 - a. LA City Proposition R has generated more lawsuits. It has an appeals court hearing on Oct. 3, however, a decision may not come down until after the election.
 - b. Council File Number issue was briefly discussed. (No action taken.)
 - c. The DWP MOU committee reported that they will ask for a study by an independent auditor to determine if the cost reductions plan has been fully implemented. There is a possibility that if these recommendations are implemented, there would be no need for the 2007/8 water rate increase. They asked all NCs to weigh in on this matter and send their responses to Winifred Yancy at DWP. September 20 is the deadline for input.
 - d. Gil Garcetti met with various NC representatives at Hollywood City Hall on Sept. 16 to discuss the lack of NC participation in Proposition H. He spent a great deal of time discussing Proposition H, and when it came time to discuss NC participation in this and future bond issues, he had to leave for another meeting.
 - e. Luciana Dar presented the report on the status of the 501(c)3 status of the Congress. The paperwork has not yet been completed but it is expected to be soon. She stated that a budget for LANCC must be prepared, and grants requested. The grants will be used to support educational activities and expenses for LANCC. She asked for donations to fund our activities until we are funded.
 - f. Adrienne O'Niell reported on the executive board meeting held on Sept. 14. The board positions were defined at the meeting. It was also decided that Outreach must continue both in getting the delegates to the monthly meetings and to continue to recruit non-participating NCs. The board is still working to get a comprehensive email listing of all delegates.

7. Discussions/Motions:

- a. Brady Westwater discussed creating a transportation committee. James Okazaki, a retired long time transportation Dept. employee has agreed to co-chair this committee. A motion was made to have a LANCC delegate co-chair all committees and to have the committees send the delegates email reports and messages. The motion passed unanimously. Brady then stated that he will work on setting up the structure of the committees.
- b. If the Congress is going to plan the next Congress of Neighborhoods, they must begin the planning now. The executive board will discuss this matter and start the planning process. Jim Alger will work on this and get back to the Congress with information.
- c. M. Villegas requested automatic membership in the Congress for all NCs. While an admirable goal, it is in violation of our charter. Atwater Village NC made a motion to table this discussion. The motion passed with 2 opposed.
- d. DONE has undertaken several initiatives without NC input. They have stopped educational classes for NCs, but are offering classes to the general public. A motion was made for the executive committee to ask DONE why all policy decisions are not notified and NCs asked for their input. A motion was made authorizing the board, on behalf of the NCs, to come up with a proposal that the delegates can act on. The motion passed unanimously.
- e. It was asked if the 912 Commission could interview possible candidates for the DONE GM position. It was suggested that NCs act by planning area to have representatives to help select the new GM. A motion was made to agendize this item in October for submission to the mayor for the selection process. The motion was approved unanimously.
- f. Bob Gelfand reported that he hopes to get the city council to approve NC participation on the CRA board, or CAF advisory committee. A motion was made approving this item and unanimously passed.

8. It was suggested that a telephone tree be set up to remind delegates of meeting dates. It was suggested that this be printed and given out at the next meeting. The City Controller meeting regarding the DONE audit elicited many comments about DONE's lack of performance. Sept. 25 is the meeting date for the Woodland Hills Warner Center meeting regarding a mini Staples Center in their area. There was a possible court settlement on the ACLU lawsuit against the city regarding the homeless issue. Watch for more information. Greg Nelson stated that Proposition R is an opportunity to expand NC power. Boards must get active.

9. The meeting was adjourned at 1:05pm.