



Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Congress

Senate Meeting

Saturday, November 4, 2006

LADWP Building

Hope & First Streets, Los Angeles

Minutes

1. Meeting was called to order at 10:08am by Chair, Brady Westwater
2. Roll Call: Delegates from the following member Neighborhood Councils were present: Central San Pedro, Coastal San Pedro, Downtown LA, Encino, Granada Hills North, Greater Valley Glen, Harbor Gateway South, Historic Cultural, Historic Highland Park, Lincoln Heights, Mar Vista, Mid City West, North Hills West, Northridge West, Reseda, Silver Lake, Studio City, Sunland Tujunga, Tarzana, Venice, West Hills, West Los Angeles, West Van Nuys/Lake Balboa, Westchester Playa Del Rey, Winnetka, and Woodland Hills-Warner Center.
3. The City Attorney is not being consulted by DONE, and DONE may be doing things that are not legal. LANCC can hire attorneys, while the NCs can not. Jim Alger was appointed Chair of the Legal Action Committee to explore and gather information. The committee will then decide if it is proper for the LANCC to have an attorney and find out what our rights are. DONE is using rules to control NCs and we must have clarification as to our rights and, if possible, the ordinances that back it up. A motion was made and seconded for the committee to report back to the Congress. The vote was unanimous.
4. NCs would like to have input into the choosing of a new GM for DONE. A committee was formed with Daniel Villegas as Chair. They will explore the problems with the current DONE administration and set parameters for the new GM.
5. The "No on Prop R" committee thanked NCs for their support, and stated that they were extremely short on funds. They mentioned that Eric Garcetti set up a meeting with the League of Women Voters on election day.
6. James Okazaki, new co-chair of the transportation committee, stated that he wanted to be the Greg Nelson of transportation. Allyn Rifkin, previously with the Department of Transportation, will co-chair. Transportation is not local, it's regional, and must be looked at with a global approach. The city Planning Dept actually develops the transportation plans. Traffic will get worse, and it must begin to be worked on now. It will take one to two years to come up with a master plan. Mr. Okazaki and Mr. Rifkin will guide LANCC in its decisions.
7. Jason Lyon spoke on the Council File Number issue. 51 of 86 NCs have approved the measure. The motion will expire in approximately six months, and must be followed up on now. A motion was made to set up an ad hoc committee to assist and plan to push the Council File Number motion through. They will notify the 35 non-voting members and educate the City Council. Encino and Highland Park NCs will co-chair. The motion carried unanimously.
8. The City Charter gives the Congress the right to form the Congress of Neighborhoods and for DONE to assist. DONE states they do not have enough personnel to do it at this time. This will require time and commitment of LANCC delegates, and working with the mayor's office is good long-term policy. The delegates were asked to contribute their time and effort to the cause. A motion was made and seconded that the Congress work individually and collectively to make the Congress of Neighborhoods a success. It carried by a unanimous vote.
9. The minutes of the October 7, 2006 meeting were approved as corrected by a unanimous vote.
10. The DWP-MOU Oversight Committee asked LANCC to deal with issues since they are not allowed. They asked that the Congress be the enforcement arm of the DWP-MOU Oversight Committee. Motion was made, seconded and passed, with one vote opposed, and one abstention.

11. L.A.'s Economic Development Dept needs to discuss funding. Some areas get a lot and some get nothing. They must look at the larger view and adequately portion the funds. A motion was made and seconded to form a committee to review and determine how revenues are spent in City funds to promote citywide economic development and the visitors bureau. The vote carried with two opposed and one abstention.
12. An email will be sent regarding the formation of collaboration committees. We must search out leaders and experts in each field to co-chair with the LANCC.
13. The Cultural Committee will send emails when their next meeting will be.
14. Under Public Comments, a concern was raised that we were setting up too many committees and that there were not enough people to staff them. It will be taken under study.
15. The meeting was adjourned at 1:18pm.