

DRAFT

MINUTES OF THE BRENTWOOD COMMUNITY COUNCIL MEETING

Zoom Session

Wednesday, October 13, 2021

(This was a virtual meeting via Zoom.)

CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chair Michelle Bisnoff called the meeting to order at about 7:00 p.m. and conducted a roll call.

Council members present:

REPRESENTATIVES

Abramson, Daniel
Bisnoff, Michelle
Blum, Len
Brown, Pamela
Goldstein, Doris
Haley, John
Jordan, Carolyn
Kahn, Terri
Klein, Raymond
Krell, Marilyn
Simmons, Sheila
Smolen, Neil
Stein, Richard

Watts, Larry

ALTERNATES

Blackman, Kate
Freedman, Nancy
Flannigan, Kathleen
Hulett, Judie
Jamal, Amber
LoBuglio, Caroline
Lyon, Janet
Morgenthaler, Alisa
Rose, Herb
Legal counsel:
Charlie Morgan

*Note: Only those Representatives and Alternates who are present at the meeting will be listed; late arrivals are asked to announce themselves so the Board can recognize them and list them as present.

LASD Lt. Bill Kitchin, Head of the LASD Homeless Outreach & Service Team.

The Chair next introduced LASD Lt. Kitchin who gave a brief update on his team's outreach and assessment efforts at the San Vicente Blvd. VA Encampment. The team is now working to transition encampment residents from the street to various shelter opportunities. He also responded to a number of questions related to the immediate future of the encampment, i.e. when will its resident be fully relocated from the street to the various shelter options and what can be done to avoid an ongoing crisis at the location after the current resident are provided and shelter and the tents are removed. One major problem he identified is the current inability of the VA to accept new arrivals seeking services on a 24/7 basis, which means a homeless veteran arriving in the evening will have no option other than the sidewalk. The Chair noted that the VA has been asked to provide round the clock services. The VA seems to acknowledge the problem, but to date hasn't implemented the necessary services.

LADWP Report on Electric Bills

The Chair then recognized Ann Santilli and George Chen from the LADWP. Ms. Stanfill explained generally why people may be experiencing high electricity bills and what to do if one believes their bill is erroneous. She explained that water and power usage fluctuates throughout the year and sometimes customers confuse months when reviewing their invoice. Customers with questions should contact the Office of Public Accountability or Debra Hong for explanations and assistance and to learn about various programs, including home vehicle charging, incentive opportunities, etc.

LAPD Crime Update: Matt Kirk LAPD Senior Lead Officer for Brentwood (34713@lapd.online) presented his monthly crime update, specifically addressing thefts from multi-family parking areas, but other areas as well. He stressed how surveillance videos can provide crucial evidence in identifying and locating suspects, as well as being used at trial. He also answered a number of questions concerning the DUI resulting in the death of a bicyclist on Church Lane.

Chair Announcement and Motion.

The Chair next announced that there will be a public hearing on Mt. St. Mary's University on October 21, 2021 and provided information on how to participate. She then recognized Ray Klein who has prepared a draft motion related to the project.

Member Klein noted that the MSMU application is simply to replace an old gym, but in fact the project involves much more. He explained that the project will increase the commercialization of the facility, increase traffic, may divert City resources in the event of a fire and there are no caps upon enrollment. In view of the foregoing, he moved as follows:

WHEREAS THE Mt. St. Mary's project:

Would permit multiple new events for up to 400 outside guests per day that would generate 310 outside guest vehicle trips per day;

Would permit a 12 week summer camp for up to 200 campers and 40 staff that would generate 236 vehicles trips per day;

Would permit the average daily vehicle trips to increase from 1800 (2018 number) to over 2100 average daily vehicle trips;

Would not cap student enrollment at the Chalon campus, thereby continuing MSMU's view that it has the right to increase from its current student enrollment of about 1500 students to over 2100 students and to request more in the future.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED,

In view of the increased traffic impacts and the intensification of use in a VHFHSZ, the following required findings to approve the project cannot be made:

The project's location, size, height, operations and other significant features will be compatible with and will not adversely affect or further degrade adjacent properties, the surrounding neighborhood or the public health, welfare and safety.

The above motion was seconded and following discussion, the above resolution was adopted.

Approval of Minutes

The Chair moved and was seconded by Member Freedman to approve the September 2021 Minutes as drafted. The motion was adopted.

Environmental Committee

The Chair recognized Nancy Freedman who gave a brief report on efforts to eradicate the gopher infestation on the San Vicente Blvd. median.

Nominating Committee.

The Chair next reported that the following members have been nominated to serve on the Nominating Committee: Pam Brown; David Melnick; and Len Blum. There were no further nominations and the foregoing were elected to serve on the Nominating Committee.

Motion on Municipal Code § 41.18

The Chair presented a draft letter to Councilman Bonin requesting pursuant to Municipal Code § 41.18 calling for "sensitive enforcement" at specific locations within Brentwood that should be designated "no camping zones."

Thereupon a motion duly made and seconded, the draft letter was approved.

WRAC Motion on Council File 21-0929

There was a brief discussion concerning the motion proposed by WRAC on Council File 21-0929. The background of which had been previously circulated to BCC members.

Upon a motion duly made and seconded to support the WRAC Motion on Council File 21-0929, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, BCC, recognizing that protecting our children and supporting our schools are priorities for the vast majority of WRAC constituents with families, supports the resolution in CF 21-0929 and additionally, to afford maximum protection to communities near schools, ask that the “radius” prohibition be specified as 500 ft. from the exterior boundary of each of the sites.

Board Comments:

Member Jordan noted there has been a recent outbreak of canine influenza in the community for which a vaccination is available.

Member Simmons inquired of Member Jamal about the impact of recent regulations requiring restaurants to confirm vaccination status of customers. Member Jamal only observation was that this will require some additional work by restaurant staff.

Public Comment. None were made.

THEREUPON, a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm

Next meeting : November 10th, 2021

Respectfully submitted,

Larry Watts,
Secretary