

BOARD OF THE WEST ADAMS
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
P.O. BOX 78474
323-451-9262

Steven Meeks - President
Yolanda Davis-Overstreet - Vice President
Josef Siroky - Treasurer
Kristyn Yancy - Secretary
Sean Curley - Parliamentarian
Eva Aubry - At Large Representative
Jace Dawson - At Large Representative
Connye Thomas - At Large Representative
Clint Simmons - Homeowner Representative
Leslie Graham - Youth Representative
Leon Burdeos - Community Interest Stakeholder
Richard Williams - Business Representative
Kenneth Layton - Business Representative
Vacant - At Large Representative
Vacant - Homeowner Representative



**West Adams Neighborhood
Council**

West Adams Neighborhood Council
Meets Every Third Monday of the Month @
Vineyard Recreation Center, 2942 Vineyard Ave,
Los Angeles, CA, 90016

DEPARTMENT OF NEIGHBORHOOD
EMPOWERMENT
City Hall
200 N. SPRING ST. 20TH Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90012 TELEPHONE: (213) 978-1551
TOLL FREE: 311
FAX: (213) 978-1751
E-MAIL: empowerla@lacity.org

Draft Regular Board Meeting Minutes
Virtual Meeting
Monday, May 18, 2020

1. Welcome and Call to Order

Steven Meeks	Present	Connye Thomas	Present
Leslie Graham	Present	Sean Curley	Present
Richard Williams	Present	Jace Dawson	Present
Leon Burdeos	Present	Kristyn Yancy	Present
Eva Aubry	Absent	Clint Simmons	Present
Yolanda Davis-Overstreet	Present		

1. Welcome, Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Meeks called the meeting to order at 6:43 PM: Quorum met.

2. Government Representatives: None present.

3. General Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items: two minutes per person (until 7 PM)

Sheryl Francis - She asked if anyone was aware of a petition to sell alcohol at Delicious Pizza on Adams. President Meeks stated that the Council was aware and gave contact information for Ms. Francis.

Tracy Weisert - She asked why the meeting was not a video Zoom. President Meeks stated that that option was not available.

Brian Piatek - He stated that the City is working on a streamlined application process for alcohol sales for restaurants.

4. Administrative Items:

5. Secretary's Report: Discussion and possible action on approval of December 2019 and 2020 January,

February Board Meeting Minutes

Ms. Overstreet moved to approve the December 2019, 2020 January, and February minutes. Ms. Yancy seconded. Ms. Graham, Mr. Burdeos, and Mr. Williams voted no. 6/3/0. Passed.

Mr. Burdeos moved to disapprove the December 2019, 2020 January, and February minutes. Not seconded.

6. Monthly Expenditure Reports: Discussion and possible action on approval of December 2019, 2020 January, February, March and April MER's

Coach Wheeler stated his concerns with the amount spent on refreshments at meetings.

Mr. Burdeos moved to reject the December 2019, 2020 January, February, March and April MER's. Not seconded.

Ms. Overstreet moved to approve of December 2019, 2020 January, February, March and April MER's. Ms. Graham seconded. Mr. Burdeos and Mr. Williams voted no. 7/2/0. Passed.

7. Presentations: A. Whole Foods Representative – up to 10 minutes

Stephen Jamieson, a lawyer representing Whole Foods; Kim West, a store team leader; Diana Purcell; Tristana Purkle; Susan Livingstone; and Ryan Besett made the presentation. Ms. West stated that hiring would take place within the community and that skills would be taught to employees. She stated that STAR training would be performed for alcohol service. Ms. Purkle spoke about the Whole Foods youth program. Ms. Purcell spoke about the Whole Cities Foundation. Jenny spoke about the Southern Pacific Region Community Engagement Program.

Ms. Overstreet asked if any of the programs existed in the area and what Whole Foods planned to do about food deprivation in the area. Mr. Jamieson spoke about how Whole Foods planned to assist schools in the area and Ms. Livingstone addressed the company's COVID-19 response.

Mr. Williams stated that he was glad that Whole Foods was coming back to the community and that this matter should have gone to the Land Use Committee first.

Mr. Burdeos stated his concern with the selling of alcohol and overcharging. Mr. Jamieson stated that the company sought to provide alcohol that people enjoyed with their meals.

Ms. Graham asked what percentage of the store was devoted to alcohol. Mr. Jamieson stated that it would be 2% and would be located to the side and rear. He stated that age would be thoroughly checked and that employees would be properly trained in the selling of alcohol.

Brian Piatek asked how many local hires the company anticipated. Ms. West stated that that would depend on store size and sales and stated that the company had a great track record with retention and local hiring.

Mr. Dawson stated his concerns with local businesses being driven out by a new market. Mr. Jamieson

stated that locations were chosen based on local need and that customers generally prefer buying all of their food and beverages at a single location.

Mr. Simmons asked how alcohol would be sold. Mr. Jamieson stated that a number of single beers would be sold but that those were not the type which were generally bought and drunk outside the store.

B. Dynasty's United Youth Association (D.U.Y.A) – up to 5 minutes

Dynasty Taylor gave the presentation and described the organization's request for \$4,000. She stated that there would be a greater need for virtual summer programs this year. She stated that services would be provided Monday through Friday and that there would be no charge for students who met certain criteria for the first two lessons.

Mr. Burdeos stated that Ms. Taylor was attempting to capitalize off of the COVID-19 pandemic. Ms. Taylor stated that the organization's goal was to provide needed services to students.

Mr. Williams stated his concerns with taking the program to Baldwin Hills. Ms. Taylor explained why the organization was providing services to students outside the area.

Ms. Overstreet asked how the organization identified students who needed services. Ms. Taylor stated that she planned to partner with teachers to identify those students.

Ms. Thomas stated her concerns with the program duplicating services already provided in the area. Ms. Taylor stated that she was open to working with the Board in any way to figure out which services were needed in the area.

8. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Karen Hernandez

She introduced herself and provided her background with DONE. She stated that June 8th was the deadline for checks to be received from the Board.

9. Old and New Business

A. Discussion and possible action on case # ZA-2919-6527-CUB - Whole Foods conditional use - alcohol sales

President Meeks introduced the item. He stated that the Land Use Committee could meet to review the item. Ms. Yancy, Ms. Graham, and Ms. Overstreet stated their preference to vote on the item. Brian Piatek stated his support for voting on the item. Mr. Dawson stated his support for tabling the item until next month.

Ms. Graham moved to approve the item. Ms. Curley seconded. Mr. Williams stated his support for having the Land Use Committee consider the item first. Mr. Burdeos stated his concern with increased alcohol abuse. Mr. Dawson stated his concern that the market might not benefit the community. Mr. Simmons stated his support for having the Land Use Committee consider the item first. Ms.

Overstreet stated that she did not believe Whole Foods selling alcohol would be a detriment to the community. Mr. Williams and Mr. Burdeos voted no. 8/2/0. Passed.

B. Discussion and possible action on selecting a card holder

President Meeks introduced the item. Ms. Overstreet volunteered.

Mr. Dawson moved to approve the item. Ms. Curley seconded. Mr. Williams stated his support for the treasurer being a default card holder. Ms. Graham, Mr. Williams, and Mr. Burdeos voted no. 5/3/0. Passed.

C. Discussion and possible action on selecting a treasurer

President Meeks introduced the item. Mr. Dawson stated his support for selecting the treasurer.

Ms. Overstreet moved that Mr. Dawson become the treasurer. Mr. Williams seconded. Mr. Simmons stated that there was a flaw in the ethics training program. Mr. Burdeos voted no. 7/1/0. Passed.

D. Discussion and possible action on website updating & Board Member website training not to exceed \$500

President Meeks introduced the item.

Ms. Overstreet moved to approve the item. Ms. Yancy seconded. Ms. Overstreet described the item. Ms. Thomas stated her concern with not having Board members committed to the training. Brian Piatek stated that this was a good investment. Mr. Williams stated that he wished to be put on the list. Ms. Graham stated that this was not fiscally responsible. Mr. Simmons asked how many people could be trained for \$500. Ms. Graham and Mr. Burdeos voted no. Mr. Simmons was ineligible to vote. 7/2/0. Passed.

E. Discussion and possible action on NPG funding request from D.U.Y.A. not to exceed \$4999.00

Ms. Graham moved to approve the item. Ms. Yancy seconded. Mr. Burdeos stated his support for the item to be tabled. Ms. Overstreet stated her support for getting more details on the program. Mr. Williams asked how much instruction students would receive per week and stated his support for the program. Ms. Taylor stated that students would receive one hour of instruction per week and that she would be willing to fill out a budget request. Ms. Thomas stated that her concern that services not be duplicated but that she was not questioning the work the program was doing. President Meeks and Ms. Graham stated their support for the program. Ms. Thomas and Mr. Burdeos voted no. Mr. Simmons was ineligible to vote. 7/2/0. Passed.

Ms. Thomas moved to amend the item to include the stipulation that the Board would work with the vendor to maximize the services provided by the program and prepare the plan with the Board. Mr. Burdeos seconded. Ms. Yancy, Ms. Overstreet, Ms. Graham, Mr. Dawson, President Meeks voted no. Mr. Simmons was ineligible to vote. 4/5/0. Not passed.

F. Discussion and possible action on ratifying emergency expenditure funding on masks, hand sanitizer, gloves, fresh produce and prepared meals in the amount of \$3153

Ms. Graham moved to approve. Ms. Overstreet seconded. Mr. Burdeos stated that he was opposed. Mr. Williams asked about the vendors and stated his concern with Board members not being informed about the item. President Meeks provided the background for the vendor. Mr. Burdeos voted no. Mr. Simmons was ineligible to vote. 8/1/0. Passed.

G. Discussion and possible action on approval of current fiscal years encumbrance of funds for; storage and PO Box rental, website maintenance, note taker not to exceed \$4500

Ms. Graham stated her support to table the item. Mr. Williams asked about the breakdown of the funds. President Meeks provided the breakdown of the funds. Mr. Simmons stated his support for receiving non-profit rates for the storage rental.

President Meeks tabled the item.

H. Discussion and possible action on Bylaws amendment suggestions

1) ABSENCES

Four excused or unexcused absences will result in removal. Leaving a meeting early will be deemed an unexcused absence.

President Meeks tabled the item.

2) SECRETARY

Shall be corresponding -The president shall be responsible for having a minute taker at all monthly and special board meetings.

President Meeks tabled the item.

3) CARD HOLDERS

One of the two card holders shall make required payments within seven days of Board approval or payment requests.

President Meeks tabled the item.

4) FINANCE COMMITTEE

All funding requests must go before the Finance Committee at least thirty days before a regular monthly meeting. The Finance Committee will make any recommendations for funding to the full board.

President Meeks tabled the item.

5) STANDING COMMITTEES

Separate the Education/Youth Committee back into separate committees

President Meeks tabled the item.

6) TERM LIMITS

Term limits for President

President Meeks tabled the item.

7) FUNDING

Dollar or number of requests cap on Funding requests with Board Member affiliated entities

President Meeks tabled the item.

8) REMOVAL

Streamline process and remove ambiguity

President Meeks tabled the item.

9) PRIOR AMENDMENTS

Language edits to prior approved bylaws amendments

President Meeks tabled the item.

I. Discussion and possible action on the purchase of a exterior bulletin board case for Vineyard Recreation Center not to exceed \$500

President Meeks introduced the item.

Mr. Williams moved to approve the item. Ms. Yancy seconded. Ms. Overstreet stated her support for tabling the item. Brian Piatek stated that the bylaws required that the agendas be posted at the Vineyard Recreation Center. Ms. Overstreet asked if a physical posting was still required. Ms. Hernandez stated that it was. Ms. Weisert stated her support for the item. Mr. Simmons was ineligible to vote. 7/0/0. Passed.

J. Discussion and possible action on purchase of tablet security cable or stand/holder, carrying cases for two tablets and wireless mike set, not to exceed \$500

President Meeks introduced the item.

Mr. Williams moved to approve the item. Ms. Overstreet seconded. 7/0/0. Passed.

K. Discussion and possible action on emergency funding spending not to exceed \$1847

President Meeks tabled the item.

10. Standing Committee and City Liaison Reports Announcements

President Meeks tabled the item.

11. Discussion and possible action on the selection of Home Owner, Business and At Large Representatives

President Meeks tabled the item.

12. Discussion on agenda setting June Monthly and Special Meeting(s)

President Meeks introduced the item. He explained why an item raised by Ms. Thomas was not put on the agenda.

The Board agreed to schedule a virtual Special Meeting on 5/21/2020 from 6-7:30 PM.

13. Adjourned at 9:43 PM.

VIRTUAL MEETING TELECONFERENCING NUMBER FOR PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In conformity with the Governor's Executive Order N-29-20 (MARCH 17, 2020) and due to concerns over COVID-19, the West Adams Neighborhood Council meeting will be conducted entirely telephonically.

Every person wishing to address the Neighborhood Council must dial 1-669-900-6833 and enter 95936612418 and then press # to join the meeting. Instructions on how to sign up for public comment will be given to listeners at the start of the meeting.

THE AMERICAN WITH DISABILITIES ACT - As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and, upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services and activities.

Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices and other auxiliary aids and/or services, may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days (72 hours) prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting Department of Neighborhood Empowerment by email, NCsupport@LACity.org or by telephone 213-978-1551.

PUBLIC ACCESS OF RECORDS – In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed at Vineyard Recreation Center at our website: westadamsmc.org or at the scheduled meeting. In addition, if you would like a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact WANC by email SMEEKS.WANC@gmail.com or by telephone, 323-451-9262..

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS – The public is requested to dial *9, when prompted by the presiding officer, to address the Board on any agenda item before the Board takes an action on an item. Comments from the public on agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the agenda that

are within the Board's jurisdiction will be heard during the General Public Comment period. Please note that under the Brown Act, the Board is prevented from acting on a matter that you bring to its attention during the General Public Comment period; however, the issue raised by a member of the public may become the subject of a future Board meeting. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless adjusted by the presiding officer of the Board.

PUBLIC POSTING OF AGENDAS – WANC agendas are posted for public review as follows:

- Vineyard Recreation Center, 2942 Vineyard Ave, Los Angeles, 90016
- www.WestAdamsNC.org
- You can also receive our agendas via email by subscribing to L.A. City's Early Notification System at <https://www.lacity.org/subscriptions>

RECONSIDERATION AND GRIEVANCE PROCESS - For information on the WANCs process for board action reconsideration, stakeholder grievance policy, or any other procedural matters related to this Council, please consult the WANC Bylaws.

SERVICIOS DE TRADUCCIÓN - Si requiere servicios de traducción, favor de avisar al Concejo Vecinal 3 días de trabajo (72 horas) antes del evento. Por favor contacte a WANC at (323) 451-9262, o por correo electrónico smeeks.wanc@gmail.com para avisar al Concejo Vecinal.

Notice to Paid Representatives - If you are compensated to monitor, attend, or speak at this meeting, City law may require you to register as a lobbyist and report your activity. See Los Angeles Municipal Code §§ 48.01 et seq. More information is available at ethics.lacity.org/lobbying. For assistance, please contact the Ethics Commission at (213) 978-1960 or ethics.commission@lacity.org