

WEST OAKLAND PROJECT AREA COMMITTEE (WOPAC)
GENERAL MEETING AGENDA
Wednesday, August 8, 2007 6:30—9:00
West Oakland Senior Center, 1724 Adeline Street

AGENDA

I. Welcome, Call to Order and Roll Call

Roll Call:

Amao, Beasley, Bouze, Eschelle, Gerstenberger, Gordon, Herbert, Horiuchi/McGee, Howard, Hurwich, Kidd, Lowe, Mac Donald, Rice, Parrott, Wells, Wyrick-Parkinson

II. Approval of Minutes for Meeting Held July 11, 2007

III. Open Forum (2 minutes each)

IV. Chairpersons Report (5 minutes)

V. Committee Reports (5 minutes each)

1. Community Outreach/Equitable Development Committee (5 minutes)

- Gentrification Event Planning
- Picnic

2. Neighborhood Planning Committee (5 minutes)

- Project: Dogtown Community Park--- Willow Rosenthal - *This project was heard at the July 5 Planning Subcommittee and was reported out at the July 11 General Meeting.*
- Project: Worker Bees--- Mr. Aaron Salmon *This project is scheduled for the August 2 Planning Subcommittee.*

3. Trees and Transportation Committee (5 minutes)

VI. ORA Staff Report (5 minutes)

- Administrative Items and Correspondence
- WOPAC Budget Update

VII. Old Business

1. Security Programs (30 minutes)

2. Housing Monies--- Housing Staff (25 minutes)

3. Caltrans Site Update--- 7th Street Community Partners (10 minutes)

4. Vision Statements for Project Area Neighborhoods (10 minutes)

5. Bullet Train (10 minutes)

VIII. New Business

1. Neighborhood Project Initiative Program- ORA staff (20 minutes)

IX. Announcements (2 minutes)

X. Future Agenda Topics and New Business (3 minutes)

XI. Adjournment

Written correspondence should be addressed to:

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ADDRESSING THE WEST OAKLAND PROJECT AREA COMMITTEE

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MEETING MINUTES

I. Welcome, Call to Order and Roll Call

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Larry Rice at 6:39.

Roll Call:

Present: Kidd, Herbert, Gerstenberger, Rice, Wells, Parrott, Wyrick-Parkinson, Beasley, Gordon, Lowe, Alternate McGruder for Mac Donald

Absent: Hurwich, Booze, McGee,

Excused: Howard, Amao

Vacant: Clawson/McClymonds/Bunch Community Organization

II. Approval of Minutes for Meeting Held July 11, 2007

MOTION by Bruce Beasley, seconded by to Joe McGruder approve the minutes for July 11.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

III. Open Forum

Speakers: Mr. Marcus Johnson

IV. Chairpersons Report

Chair Rice visited Mayor Dellums' office on July 13 and delivered the two letters of invitation that the WOPAC had sent him. Mr. Rice gave the letters to Mayor Dellums' appointment secretary who told him that she would give them to Dan Lindheim. As of the time of the meeting, Wendy Simon had not heard from anyone from the Mayor's Office.

Chair Parrott asked the WOPAC to move the September meeting date to September 19 because of Rosh Hashanah which affects some WOPAC members and WOPAC staff.

MOTION by Stefanie Parrott, seconded by Bruce Beasley: to move the September meeting one week later to September 19 in observance of Rosh Hashanah.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

Staff will check with the Senior Center and arrange the new date if the room is available.

Chair Parrott also noted that the new format for the refreshments with less plastic was successful. Bruce Beasley asked staff to ask the caterer for more juice and less soda. Staff will follow up on this request with the caterer.

V. Committee Reports

1. Community Outreach/Equitable Development Committee

Ms. Stefanie Parrott reported. The Gentrification Forum will be held on October 20 at the West Oakland Senior Center. Lance Freeman can not attend as previously announced. The participants will be Larry Rosenthal, Maureen Kennedy, Councilmember Nancy Nadel and Jomoke Hodge. The committee will try to find two more panelists.

2. Neighborhood Planning Committee

Ms. Madeline Wells reported. This committee met August 2 and heard a presentation from WorkerBees, an apprentice program for teaching young men construction skills. They also remove graffiti. The Committee recommended that the organization obtain non-profit status and return in the future.

The WOPAC then considered a vote on Dogtown Community Park. Ms. Willow Rosenthal answered questions. This project had been heard at the July 5 Planning Subcommittee and had been reported out at the July 11 General Meeting. After discussion, the following motion was made:

MOTION by Stefanie Parrott, seconded by Bruce Beasley: to fund City Slicker Farms (CSF) to develop Fitzgerald and Union Parks in the amount of \$100,000. Matching funds to complete the project are to be raised within twelve months. CSF should return to update the WOPAC the project's progress.

The motion passed with unanimous approval.

3. Trees and Transportation Committee

Steve Lowe reported. The Committee is concerned about the possible bullet train station. Stefanie Parrott suggested that the Committee invite key bullet train decision makers, such as MTC, to their meeting. Chair Rice asked that the matter be referred back to the Trees and Transportation committee

Mr. Lowe also reported that it appeared that the Raimondi Park renovation project didn't have enough funding and requested that WOPAC agendaize this topic to consider more funding.

VI. ORA Staff Report

Ms. Wendy Simon, WOPAC staff, reported. She will ask the WOPAC to approve a motion for extending the WOPAC for an additional year so that she can prepare the staff report. She will also develop a request for money set aside to pay for City staff for various projects and will probably request the WOPAC to approve design monies for the Façade Improvement and Tenant Improvement Programs.

The city is presently recruiting for an Urban Economic Analyst I position to work in the West Oakland Unit of the Redevelopment Division.

Ms. Kiri Eschelle has resigned because of her business commitments. Ms. Simon will advertise the new WOPAC vacancy. The vacancy is for the Clawson/McClymonds/Bunche subarea community organization.

Ms. Parrott brought up the topic of Ms. Hui-Chang Li, who worked with the WOPAC this summer, citing her excellent work.

MOTION by Stefanie Parrott, seconded by Bruce Beasley: to send a letter thanking Ms. Li for her work.

The motion passed unanimously.

MOTION by Bruce Beasley, seconded by Steve Lowe: to authorize the WOPAC Chairs to contact Ms. Li and ask her if a letter of recommendation from the WOPAC would benefit her in her future career.

Vote: Ayes: 7

Noes: 0

Abstentions: 2

Wendy Simon then presented the WOPAC Budget Update and noted that the tax increments had been increased from the previous estimates. The \$2,000 that the WOPAC voted last month to spend on Lance Freeman's travel expenses will be saved for another possible panelist from outside the area. Ms. Simon announced that the City Attorney had opined that this was a possible use of redevelopment funds; however, she was still working on finding the process for reimbursing a non-City employee.

VII. Old Business

1. Security Programs

Neighborhood Services Coordinator Sandra Saunders-West and Lt. Paul Berlin attended for this item. Ms. Saunders-West gave an update on Measure Y. Lt. Berlin stated that the following locations would be good locations for security cameras:

1. 8th/Campbell
2. 8th/Center
3. 8th/Mandela Parkway
4. 29th/MLK
5. 10th/Willow
6. 12th/Peralta
7. 31st/West
8. 600 block of Sycamore Street
9. Meade/Athens
10. Meade/Market
11. Apgar/MLK

The cameras need DSL lines and WiFi cards for officers. The cameras cost approximately \$17,000 each.

MOTION by Steve Lowe, seconded by Stefanie Parrott: to fund ten cameras at approximately \$20,000 each for a trial period of one year for a total of \$200,000 of funding

The motion passed unanimously.

There was one speaker for this item--- Ms. Mary Casserly.

2. Housing Monies

Ms. Marge Gladman, Housing Development Manager, presented. She briefly reviewed all of the Housing Department's various programs that have been presented to the WOPAC during the last several months and reiterated that staff needs to work in existing program parameters and not develop new

programs. Staff is in the process of developing a recommendation for West Oakland housing funds and hopes to return in September with the recommendation.

3. Caltrans Site Update

Mr. Jens Hilmer of the Redevelopment Division informed the WOPAC that 7th Street Community Partners had just requested that this update be postponed until the next meeting.

4. Vision Statements for Project Area Neighborhoods

The West MacArthur/Hoover subarea is incorporating comments from Betty Marvin of the City's Planning Department. The Vision Statements are not yet finished.

5. Bullet Train

This item was discussed under the Trees and Transportation Committee.

VIII. New Business

1) Neighborhood Project Initiative Program

Ms. Christine Lebron, Redevelopment Division staff, summarized some key points regarding this program because of lack of time. This topic will be agendaized for the September meeting to continue and finish her presentation. She reminded members of the memo sent to them in the second packet which contains a full description of the program and requested them to read it.

IX. Announcements

Ms. Ellen Wyrick-Parkinsen and Mr. Ray Kidd made announcements.

X. Future Agenda Topics and New Business

There were no future agenda topics.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:25.

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