

# WINNETKA NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

PO Box 3692, Winnetka, CA 91306  
(818) 648-6219

[www.winnetkanc.com](http://www.winnetkanc.com)



President	Vice President	Secretary	Treasurer	Sergeant At Arms
Jacque Lamishaw	Vacant	JJ Popowich	Robert Basch	Wayne Schulte
Board Members				
Armineh Chelebian	Dwight Burgess	Chris Jurgenson	Cynthia Conover	Rick Montaine
Alan Wolfe	Marilyn Robinson	Vacant	Vacant	Vacant

From: JJ Popowich  
 To: WNC Board Members, Public  
 Re: WNC Regular Board Meeting Minutes for 6/14/05

---

**1. Call to Order and Committee Members Roll Call.**

Dwight Burgess	Chris Jurgenson	Marilyn Robinson	Wayne Schulte
Cynthia Conover	Bob Basch	JJ Popowich	Armineh Chelebian
Richard Montaine	Jacque Lamishaw – Excused	Alan Wolfe – Absent	

**2. Approval of minutes from the last meeting.**

2.1. Approved as is.

**3. State and local government representatives updates: Senator Alarcon’s representative, Assemblyman Levine’s representative, Mayor Hahn’s representative, Councilman Smith’s representative, Councilman Zine’s representative, and other local or state government representatives that may wish to attend.**

- 3.1. Ms. Seaman, representing Assembly member Levine’s office announced there was a Senior Fair on 5/27 and that one of the results was a Senior Community Service guide, which she has brought to hand out. The guide includes many helpful services and programs which seniors may not realize are available. She announced an Identify Theft Forum on June 22, 2005, 6:30 PM, at the West Valley Police station, in conjunction with Councilmember Zine and other representatives. The forum will present information on how to protect your ID. It’s easier today for people to get a hold of your info. It will
- 3.2. Ms. Espinoza also announced the ID forum. She said that Councilmember Zine is working on a shopping cart ordinance. She said that there is a California Shopping cart retrieval service which will come out and retrieve carts that are reported if the company has a contract with them. Councilmember’s Zine and Smith introduced a motion awhile back that requires any business that has a certain minimum number of shopping carts to list a phone number to allow them to be retrieved and install some type of wheel locking device that would prevent them from being taken off the lot. They had a meeting with the NC Presidents and they are asking for our support on the item. She passed out a letter explaining it. They are looking for a letter from the NC’s.

She announced the deadline for applications for the Neighborhood Matching Fund grants. These are grants for murals, public projects, trees, and so much more. They will be available July 15<sup>th</sup>. The due date is October 27, 2005.

3.2.1. Ms. Dunne asked Ms. Espinoza about stores that had systems so that they lock the wheels or block the carts.

3.2.1.1. Ms. Espinoza said that some have these and some don’t.

3.3. Mr. Popowich said that Mr. Basch requested the following motion:

***“WNC-061405-8: Considering the deadline of June 21, 2005 for comments on Councilmember Zine’s proposed shopping cart ordinance will be before the next Regular Board meeting the WNC Regular Board should address this issue as an emergency item.”***

3.3.1. Mr. Popowich seconded the motion. He then called for any objections to the motion. No objections were made so the motion passed 9-0.

3.4. Mr. Basch proposed the following motion:

***“WNC-061405-9: The WNC Regular Board moves to support Councilmember Zine’s motion, and directs the Secretary to notify all City Council members of the decision.”***

He asked who would we send the letter to.

3.5. Ms. Espinoza commented the letter would be sent to

3.6. Mr. Popowich asked for discussion.

3.7. Mr. Schulte commented that the only thing he sees wrong with it is that poor people need the carts to get the packages home. There needs to be some option for them. Some markets have courier services, but not all.

3.7.1. Ms. Conover commented that it would be a different if they took it home and then took it back. If they did that then it would be good. However they aren’t. That’s a problem. Some are transients. Since they must abandon them it’s not going to end. She agrees there needs to be services for elderly and shut ins and there are some for those. But the business where they take it and abandon it and use it for their own needs as well is not good.

3.7.2. Mr. Popowich interjected and explained his rules. He said that in his meetings we will go around the table and each member will have an option to speak or they can be recognized and then speak. He would appreciate it if there were no interruptions.

3.7.3. Ms. Chelebian addressed Mr. Schulte’s concern. If there is an area where it will impact a neighborhood then maybe stores can have some type of program where people can sign up and they can track it...and agree to return it.

3.7.4. Ms. Espinoza said that part of the ordinance requires that there would be assign on the cart in various languages to show they can be returned

3.8. Mr. Montaine said it’s a great idea. He says he sees it in his neighborhood and those in his area are not considered poor and they still wind up abandoned in the alley. Maybe this will limit it more.

3.9. Ms. Robinson said she thinks it’s a great idea.

3.10. Mr. Burgess said he didn’t have a problem and it’s a good idea.

3.11. Mr. Jurgenson said that it’s a great idea that Zine is doing this. He said he was recently a victim of vandalism that resulted from someone pushing a shopping cart in front of his car which caused damage that the insurance wouldn’t even touch it. He really appreciates it.

3.12. Ms. Conover said that she has seen children playing in them and it is a danger to the community. Not only for vandalism but for child safety reasons.

3.13. Mr. Popowich said we have a motion and he will second the motion. He then called for a vote on the item.

3.14. Mr. Schulte asked if there was a way to add our concerns about those who need some types of services.

3.15. Mr. Popowich said that there are city services such as Access to ferry people if they are eligible.

3.16. Ms. Dunne commented that some stores also have web sites where people can order from for delivery.

3.17. Mr. Popowich called for any objections to the motion. Motion passed 9-0

#### **4. Discussion and possible action on the following motion:**

***“WNC-061405-1: I move that we send a letter to Mayor Elect Villaraigosa congratulating him on his victory and stressing the importance of working with NCs. Furthermore we will invite him to attend one of the next 6 meetings.” (Jurgenson)***

- 4.1. Mr. Popowich introduced the item and asked Mr. Jurgenson to comment on the motion.
- 4.2. Mr. Jurgenson said we need to stress the importance of how we developed the NC's into what they are today and that he can utilize the NC's to help him in his efforts. He would also like to post the next 6 meetings on there and invite him to meet with us.
- 4.3. Ms. Conover seconded the motion.
- 4.4. Mr. Popowich agreed that it's a good idea.
- 4.5. Mr. Basch said it's a great idea to get some recognition with the new mayor.
- 4.6. Ms. Chelebian asked if we wanted to invite him to us or whether it could be some type of event to recognize Winnetka. That way it would be good to show the community.
- 4.7. Mr. Montaine asked if Villaraigosa is the one that is not very fond of the NC's. He said that he would like us to stress that we want to work with him and that we want a district representative to attend as well.
- 4.8. Ms. Robinson no comment.
- 4.9. Mr. Burgess says he thinks it's a good idea.
- 4.10. Ms. Conover wanted to ask the Outreach & Events Committee if they wanted to list the Oktoberfest.
  - 4.10.1. Ms. Robinson said that is something we can list on the letter. She said she would ask the Chamber.
- 4.11. Mr. Popowich said we need an event to invite him to if we want it to be a community event. He went to say that otherwise it's a good idea to invite him to the Board meeting. He called for a vote on the motion. No objections were made to the motion.
- 4.12. Motion passed 9-0

**5. Discussion and possible action on a proposal by Mr. Popowich to the Finance Committee to adopt his spending plan proposal and move to configure the budget submitted to DONE for approval to support the spending plan.**

- 5.1. Mr. Popowich introduced the motion by stating that this would be an internal spending plan so that we can have fiscal responsibility and a guide on how we are to spend the money. He went on to say that this proposal is not to replace the budget but to provide a guide on how the budgeted money is to be spent internally. He continued to say that Mr. Basch can use this to create his budget categories and make them general as needed. He provided copies of the summary and passed around a complete breakdown for review. He asked Mr. Schulte to make copies of the Outreach & Events breakdown and briefly reviewed the remainder with the Board.
- 5.2. Ms. Conover pointed out that there is an election next month and asked if we shouldn't wait for a new Board.
  - 5.2.1. Mr. Popowich said he believes the budget is due this month to the city.
  - 5.2.2. Mr. Basch said yes, they would like to have it. But as long as we have it in then we will be ok.
- 5.3. Ms. Conover said that we have a general budget.
  - 5.3.1. Ms. Chelebian said that she thinks the present Board members who have gone through the committees, and who have gained experience are the best sources to do a budget. The new comers have yet to determine what is needed. This shows actual numbers based on what we have done. She concluded by saying that she believes we are best qualified to do this.
- 5.4. Mr. Popowich asked Ms. Robinson to review the Outreach & Events Committee budget since it's the largest portion.
- 5.5. Ms. Robinson said she feels its self explanatory.

5.6. Mr. Schulte said that if we had extra money.

5.7. Mr. Popowich explained that he feels there should be some fiscal responsibility for the Council. This will also make committee business quicker as they can refer to the spending plan without having to go before the Board every time, and finally it will make us all accountable. We can now be accountable.

5.8. Ms. Conover asked if this would be set in stone.

5.8.1. Mr. Basch said that the budget we send to the city is very general. That way we have flexibility. He pointed out that rent categories may not be needed. He said that is the reason for being general. He said DONE suggests that it not be too specific so that if it doesn't fall into a category funds can be used.

5.9. Ms. Conover said that if we pass this then it's written in stone.

5.9.1. Mr. Basch said that if we do this as a motion then this is written in stone for an internal budget.

5.9.2. Ms. Conover said that if something comes up then we would have to post a motion to change it.

5.9.3. Mr. Basch said that last year we did a survey of the needs of the committee. So we had an internal guide on what we were going to spend money for. He said that in one case we had funds for a computer but we never got to it because we didn't have a place for it. This would be something that could be submitted to the new board on what we are going to do. This has nothing to do with what we are going to send to DONE. He recommended that it would not be a motion so that there is no conflict and suspicion of what DONE sees in the minutes.

5.9.4. Ms. Chelebian asked if it's a guide.

5.9.5. Mr. Basch said his experience with DONE says that this could be a problem.

5.10. Mr. Jurgenson said that what we should have is transparency with the budget so people can see what we have if they ask.

5.10.1. Mr. Basch said that the by laws outline how this happens. It's a Brown Act issue as well. If they request it in writing then we can provide it. This is a guideline. It's not something that should be in the minutes.

5.11. Mr. Popowich asked for advise on how we could re word this to set it as a guide, not conflict with DONE, but still give the WNC a spending plan that outlines how we are spending our funds.

5.11.1. Mr. Basch said that the Board has put into writing a potential spending plan that could be modified by a new board. This is to be used as a guideline only.

5.11.2. Ms. Chelebian said that the wording should be general enough so that it's not in conflict, but it should be specific enough to stress that we would like to stay within these guidelines. She doesn't want them to come back that it was just suggested and through it away.

5.12. Mr. Popowich and Mr. Basch discussed various wording for the motion and proposed the following motion.

***“WNC-0608065-10 : Whereas the Board believes that there should be some type of fiscal responsibility internally for a spending plan. The Board resolves to create a Proposed WNC Spending Plan Outline with approximate guidelines for expenditures based on estimated expenses for FY 2006. This document is an estimate to be used as a guideline for expenses only, subject to changes as required by the WNC Board. Therefore we direct the Budget and Finance Committee to take this into consideration in creating the budget for submission to DONE.” (Popowich-Basch)***

5.13. Ms. Conover commented that most people want to work with existing rules and processes. They don't really want to reinvent the wheel.

5.14. Ms. Chelebian says that she feels it should be something that is respected by the new Board and she hopes that it will be followed.

5.15. Mr. Burgess seconded the motion.

5.16. Mr. Popowich called for objections to the motion.

5.17. Motion passed 9-0.

5.18. Mr. Popowich said that he would hope that the next Board, whether he is on it or not, would adhere to this budget going forward in the spirit in which he presented it.

**6. Discussion and possible action on the following Committee reports & recommendations:**

- Facilities Committee Report: No Committee Report.

- Finance Report (including Treasurer's Report) (Basch)

1. Mr. Basch presented his finance report. As of this minute we spent \$13,450.49 thru June 14<sup>th</sup>. This means we have \$36,545.51. The budget and finance committee will have a meeting within the next 10 days to create the budget for FY 2006 that will be submitted to DONE. We are unable to submit it to DONE until the next Board meeting. Last year it took about two weeks. This year it should be a bit faster since the current debit card doesn't have to be re-issued. He said that the unspent funds will be rolled over in some form, and possibly for up to three years. That hasn't been finalized by the CC and they continue to come out with new regulations.

- Outreach & Events Committee Report: (Robinson)

*“WNC-061405-2: The Winnetka Neighborhood Council approves the Outreach & Events Committee report & recommendations.” (Popowich)*

1. Ms. Robinson said that we don't meet until the 27<sup>th</sup> of June, so there are no specifics.

2. Mr. Popowich commented that we have already discussed the only action taken by the Outreach & Events Committee in his submission of a spending plan.

- PLUM Committee report: (Popowich)

*“WNC-061405-3: The Winnetka Neighborhood Council approves the PLUM Committee report & recommendations.” (Popowich)*

1. Mr. Popowich read off the motions that were summarized. He presented examples of the Cingular locations and provided a synopsis Need's Runnymede Ave property issues and of the newest form of Inclusionary Zoning called Fair Start Homes.

2. Mr. Schulte said the first few motions were alright. He asked for clarification on the CRA issue.

3. Mr. Popowich summarized again. He stated that the property was originally purchased for a low income housing project with funds from a state loan. The project was never built and the funds were due back to the state. The developer failed to repay and offered to sell the property to the City for a large profit. The City balked and the loan was not re-paid. At last knowledge could not be found. As a result the state will foreclose on the property. The motion called for the state to provide the CRA first option on the purchase of the property so that we can work with them to get the best project possible.

4. Mr. Schulte said he would like to see something added to the Fair Start Home motion. He would like to see something under item 4-e which covered self employed people for incentives on home ownership. He also commented the 50% income level was ok.

4.1. Mr. Popowich pointed out that it's not really reasonable to incent everyone. This was for people struggling. He also commented that 50% of one's income is not a healthy amount and could lead to more foreclosures which would not help anyone.

5. Mr. Basch commented on item 4-d. He said that flipping property within 5 years it seems more a long term item. He doesn't understand that how that could be acceptable. He felt it should be for under one year only.

5.1. Mr. Jurgenson asked what about taking out the five years.

5.2. Mr. Basch said that he doesn't think that's agreeable.

5.3. Mr. Jurgenson said that we should remove it.

5.4. Mr. Basch said that it's not reasonable.

5.5. Mr. Popowich explained it was there to prevent developers from pulling a fast one and making a profit through trickery. He provided an example of a developer putting a relative in a unit and then selling it in under five years for market rate. He commented that this was a way to address NC concerns about the first IZ which called for the property to be affordable for ever and preventing those who worked hard and held on to it from realizing some benefits. He also pointed out there were additional penalties after the five years which say that if you sell it for a profit then you have to share it.

5.6. Ms. Conover said this also establishes stability and prevents new people from moving in and out all the time. She also linked it to marriage rules and divorce. She linked it to stability to the family.

5.7. Mr. Montaine said that part of the Fannie Mae requirements state you have to live there for one year before you move out. How does this work here.

5.8. Mr. Popowich pointed out that you have to live there as well.

6. Mr. Schulte asked if this will create a new department for monitoring the process.

6.1.1. Mr. Popowich said that no.

7. Mr. Basch said he would rather see it that if they sell it then there is a sliding scale of what they can sell it for.

7.1. Mr. Popowich said that it's kind of like that. ..It's a penalty.

7.2. Mr. Basch said that he understands but that if they resell it then they can limit the price of the property so that the city is not involved.

8. Mr. Schulte asked if we can't limit the appreciation.

9. Mr. Popowich said that the reason for the appreciation is so that the people can benefit. He also talked about this being added last time to counter the forever affordable rule.

10. Mr. Basch said that he seconded it.

11. Ms. Seaman asked to be copied in on the Runnymede and the IZ issues to her office.

12. Mr. Schulte said he abstained.

13. Mr. Montaine said he abstained.

14. Motion passed 7-0-2

- Public Safety Committee Report (Popowich)

***“WNC-061405-4: “The Winnetka Neighborhood Council approves the Public Safety Committee report & recommendations.” (Popowich)***

1. Mr. Schulte asked about the budget portion, and whether this means they are separate.

1.1. Mr. Popowich said this is only its spending plan that I used to create the budget. The idea is to give some type of guidelines for the committee so that they can spend it some way. Doesn't affect the Board. Still requires signatures and so on to be approved by the city.

2. Mr. Basch said it has nothing to do with the committee. There are rules that have to be followed.

3. Mr. Montaine seconded the motion.

4. Mr. Popowich called for any objections to the motion. Motion passed 9-0

- Public Works & Transportation Committee Report (Chelebian)

***“WNC-061405-5: “The Winnetka Neighborhood Council approves the Public Works & Transportation Committee report & recommendations.” (Popowich)***

1. Ms. Chelebian introduced the report. She outlined the item that was voted on by the Board regarding the MTA and the sound wall. She detailed some of the issues of concern that the property owners brought up. This is nothing new. The bottom line is we are putting it into action, requesting the MTA Orange line to come to a town hall meeting with the interested parties and the entire city, county, and other agencies that involved. She detailed that request by the property owners to list their concerns so we can place them in front of the officials so that they can open up a dialogue. She went on to say that there is a 10,000 lb gorilla dropped into the back yards of some people.

1.1.1.1. Mr. Popowich said the press release will go out this week probably.

2. Ms. Conover asked if all the reps and officials will be CC'd for the meeting date.

3. Ms. Chelebian said that the date has not been confirmed yet. We will do that at a later date. She said we will also reach out to the other NC's that are affected and see if they want to do this.

4. Ms. Chelebian read off the motion. She commented that we have a problem in this Board that some people go to various meetings that we don't know about and that we don't know what they are doing or what information is being provided and this should address that. She also spoke about the conflict of interest issues and making sure that we don't put someone in there where we may have problems with their actions later on. She also commented about alternates and the need for them.

She spoke about Mr. Montiane's bus bench proposal regarding bus benches in the Chatsworth that are supported by the Chatsworth Chamber. She asked him to elaborate on it.

4.1.1. Mr. Jurgenson said that he saw them and thinks they are terrific. He said that about a year ago when Viacom came to us about a year ago, why we didn't do that.

4.1.2. Mr. Montaine said the Viacom benches are a deal with the city and will remain.

4.1.3. Mr. Popowich said there are places where there are stops with no seating so people wind up sitting on walls and lawns.

5. Ms. Conover asked a question about the liaison for the DWP, she asked who the liaison is.

5.1.1. Ms. Chelebian said Ms. Lamishaw is the current liaison.

5.1.2. Ms. Conover said so there is a problem with the way he's doing it.

5.1.3. Ms. Chelebian said we just want it to be more democratic process.

5.1.4. Mr. Popowich clarified we do not have one and that is something that she volunteered for on her own. In hindsight she should have asked us, but she didn't. This is for qualifications going forward.

5.1.5. Mr. Basch confirmed that we do not have anyone. He also said that there are things going on now that we don't have a rep for.

5.1.6. Mr. Popowich said we have to select someone within 90 days.

5.1.7. Ms. Conover said that we need to put this out there because this is a very heavy responsibility and we need to get it out there. She thought the deadline was past.

5.1.8. Ms. Chelebian said that she agrees and that it would be open to all stakeholders. However, she is concerned that we see all the folks come to meetings but they don't come back. We need someone who will be there and be counted on.

5.1.9. Ms. Conover again stated her opinion that we need someone out there.

5.1.10. Mr. Basch opened a discussion on the second position for the regional Board for the MOU.

5.1.11. Ms. Conover stated that she doesn't know anyone who has this type of time. Asked if she knew what the issue was.

5.1.12. Ms. Chelebian said that she didn't. However, she said the issue is to make sure that people don't self appoint themselves.

5.1.13. Ms. Conover suggested that at the election we should hand out a notice asking people letting them know we are looking for people.

5.1.13.1. Mr. Basch said he is concerned that it would need to be approved by the League of Women Voters.

5.1.13.2. Ms. Conover commented it's the best way we can reach out.

5.1.13.3. Mr. Basch said that this is an important position.

6. Mr. Popowich closed the discussion on that issue and said the issue of who is a later discussion. Right now we are talking about qualifications.

7. Ms. Chelebian discussed the last item on the issue about a rep to Smith's Service Cabinet. She explained how this item came about and the process of how the first meeting developed. She explained the concept of having a system to track issues brought to the Councilmember's office so that it can be tracked and not lost and that residents can get feedback and status on their requests. She also asked for an alternate later on.

8. Mr. Montaine seconded.

9. Mr. Popowich called for objections. None were made. The motion passed 9-0.

- Rules, Elections, and By-Laws Committee Report: Update on any committee action applicable. (Basch)

1. Mr. Basch stated that we are going to have another election. He said that we have the official letter from DONE approving our "Re-Do". He read portions of the letter. He said that we have mailed out the candidate letters to each candidate including a pre addressed post card in case they wanted to withdraw.

2. There was a discussion about deadlines for the bios.

3. Mr. Basch asked about progress on the post card issues for free from the city. We don't want to miss that.

4. Mr. Popowich said that we will have it done this week. But he asked Mr. Fitzgerald to provide the info to Marilyn, and he has not.

5. Mr. Basch said hat Mr. Fitzgerald was pretty specific and he can outline it.

6. Mr. Popowich will call.

7. Discussion and possible action on the following motion regarding Community Impact Statements.

***"WNC-061405-6: The WNC directs the Secretary to register the WNC for the City Council's Community Impact Statement system. Furthermore the WNC resolves that those holding the office of President and Secretary be authorized to input WNC Board motions, passed or failed, by the WNC Board and the voting total." (Popowich)***

7.1. Mr. Popowich explained the system. He also explained why he worded the last part of the statement to prevent someone from putting in their own opinion.

7.1.1. Ms. Chelebian asked if this was strict enough to prevent that.

7.2. Ms. Conover asked if we can show there is dissent.

7.2.1. Mr. Popowich said that we can include the vote total. He said he is open to that.

7.2.2. Ms. Conover pointed out that sometimes there are issues which the community and Board is divided and that should be reflected so they know how the community can be represented.

7.3. Mr. Basch asked for logistics on how this would work. He said that he is concerned about the word "opinion" and what that may mean. It is allow to vague.

7.3.1. Mr. Popowich said that he had two accesses to make sure someone is always there. He is open to changing the motion.

7.3.2. There was discussion on wording including how to show when a motion failed or when we were against us.

7.4. Mr. Robinson seconded the motion.

7.5. Mr. Popowich called for a vote.

7.6. Mr. Jurgenson abstains.

7.7. Motion is passed 8-0-1

**8. Discussion and possible action on the following motion:**

*“WNC-061405-7: The WNC resolves that any neighborhood council should have the ability to both comment on issues before the City Council as well as ask for issues of importance to be addressed by the City Council. Therefore the WNC moves to support the efforts of the Silver Lake Neighborhood Council to allow any neighborhood council the ability to submit items of interest to the City Council directly as outlined in Council Clerk memo 05-575, via the community impact statement system.” (Popowich)*

8.1. Mr. Popowich explained that this was an item that we had briefly discussed a while back but that no action was taken because we ran out of time. The current system allows us to comment on issues already on the council’s agenda. This would allow any NC to place an item on the agenda for their consideration.

8.1.1. Ms. Chelebian asked if we clarify who would be able to do this or would it be covered by the previous motion. This working does not specify who would be able to do it.

8.1.2. Mr. Popowich explained this would cause him to write a letter to the Silver Lake NC and to Councilmember Smith and Councilmember Zine as well.

8.2. Ms. Conover seconded.

8.3. Mr. Basch would like to add that when we send letter representing the NC that the Board members get copies of the letters that are issued.

8.4. Mr. Popowich asked if we can take it further and post it on the web site. There was a brief discussion and it was decided that posting the letters on the web site along with the decision would be a good idea.

8.5. Mr. Popowich called for any objections to the motion. The motion was passed 9-0

8.6. Mr. Popowich said he will post the letters from this point on.

**9. Public Comments – Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Committee’s subject matter jurisdiction.**

9.1. Ms. Chelebian stated that this committee has gone so smoothly. We talked and we discussed and we moved on.

9.2. Mr. Jurgenson said this is one of the best yet.

**10. Committee Business –**

**A. Comments on Committee Member’s own activities/ Brief announcements.**

**B. Brief response to statements made or questions posed by persons exercising their general public comment rights.**

**C. Introduction of any new issues for consideration by the Committee at its next meeting/request that the item be placed on the next meeting’s agenda.**

**D. Requests for Committee Members to research issues and report back to the Committee at a future time.**

**11. Adjournment**