



**Minutes
General Meeting
January 3, 2008**

The meeting was called to order at 7:11 p.m. by the Presiding Officer Jill Hill. Also present were Board members Joan Greenwood, Maria Norvell, Nancy Risch, Timothy Risch and Jim Trout.

Welcome and Opening Remarks: Following the flag salute, Ms. Hill welcomed new members and first time attendees. Members of the audience attending for the first time introduced themselves: Warren Furitani (Democratic Nominee for the 55th Assembly District), Nick Diamantides (Reporter for the Signal-Tribune), Ed Van (Magnolia Industrial Area Business Owner) and Barry Walsh (resident).

Input to the Board: No member or public comments were made. Attendees were reminded that there is a suggestion box on the sign-in table during meetings just in case they thought of something later or did not want to comment in public.

Announcements: There will be an electronic waste roundup in the Second District on Saturday, January 12th. Members were reminded that fluorescent bulbs and batteries can no longer be included with household trash.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes for the November 1, 2007 General Meeting were approved without corrections except for minor typographical errors noted by the Secretary.

Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane Report: Maria Norvell updated the membership on the status of donations to Friends of WANA Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane. As of the meeting night, \$12,800 had been received. Several pledges are still outstanding. Twenty-five WANA members had made contributions including 11 donations of \$100 or more. Ador Raquel donated her contest night prize of \$50 back to Friends of WANA for next year. A detailed report will be presented in February when Janet Deats returns from her extended trip to Georgia. Plaques were presented to major sponsors for the 2007 Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane displays: Ed Van of Vanco Properties, Rich Brandt representing Firefighters Union 372, Barry Walsh of Atlas Marine and Joan Greenwood and John Gailey. Plaques will be sent to Pacific Hospital, Supervisor Don Knabe and the Long Beach Convention Center.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer Nancy Risch reported that WANA had a balance of \$1,197.92 in the checking account. Expenses since forming WANA in August 2007 totaled \$1,606.28.

Membership Report: Maria Norvell reported that membership applications have been received from 85 addresses.

Police Report: Sergeant Coy has been assigned as the community representative for WANA meetings. He can be contacted at 570-3413. He reported on the continuing investigation being conducted by the West Division on the New Year's Eve shooting on the 1900 block of Pine Avenue. He encouraged everyone to participate in the Peace March scheduled for January 12th at Martin Luther King, Jr. Park.

Seventh District Council Report: Councilmember Uranga reminded members to vote on February 5th and thanked Mr. Furitani for attending the WANA meeting. (Half of the Seventh District is in the 55th State Assembly District.) She also expressed her gratitude to the sponsors and city employees for their support for the Parade and Lane. She noted that the cost to the City each year is on the order of \$60,000, but the Parade is the only one the nation to go through a neighborhood. She also announced that the Long Beach Police Department would be adding 18 motorcycle patrol officers to the traffic control staff and reminded everyone to put out their Christmas Trees for recycling on January 12th.

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Sixth District Council Report: Councilmember Dee Andrews thanked Mr. Furitani for attending the WANA meeting. He also announced the dates and times of various activities honoring Dr. King from January 12th through 19th. Mickey Mouse will be the Grand Marshall for the Parade scheduled for 10:30 a.m. on the 19th. He reminded the attendees of the importance of forming Neighborhood Watches.

President's Report: Veterans Park is not available on the first Thursdays of the month until 2009. A vote was taken to determine if the meetings should be kept at Jackie Robinson Academy on the first Thursday or changed to the second Monday at Veterans Park. The vote was 18 to 5 to keep the meetings at Jackie Robinson Academy on the first Thursday. A sign up sheet for newsletter copying and distribution was circulated. Members were reminded about WANA's goal of adding 20 Neighborhood Watch groups in Wrigley.

Program: Tom Reeves, who has been the City Prosecutor for ten years, gave an enlightening presentation on the City's efforts to obtain and enforce gang injunctions and prosecute graffiti offenders. He estimated that there are five to six thousand gang members in Long Beach. Gangs now have websites. He expressed his dismay that National Geographic Magazine gave gang membership publicity on the cover of a recent issue. He noted that It costs the City almost \$500,000 per year to "paint-out" graffiti in addition to volunteer time. The City is setting up cameras with trip wires in targeted areas to catch offenders in the act of defacing property with graffiti. The targeted areas are based on an investigation of specific culprits in collaboration with the schools.

50/50 Opportunity Drawing: The holder of the winning ticket donated his share in the amount of \$23.00 to Friends of WANA for Daisy Avenue Christmas Tree Lane.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by
Joan V. Greenwood, Secretary

Approved Without Corrections: February 7, 2008