

Minutes of the Northridge East Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Wednesday January 18, 2012

1. The meeting was called to order by President Steve Patel at 7:00 PM.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by the students of Our Lady of Lourdes School.
3. Roll Call (Mr. Draiman) – Determination of Quorum – Present: Steve Patel, Don Dwiggins, Jay Draiman, Nestor Fantini, Lucille Meehan, Steven Ramirez, Kelly Lord, and Ahmer Qureshi; Absent: Alice McCain (excused), Peter McCarty (excused), Stephen Hubbard (excused), Brittny McCarthy (excused) and Darren Hause.
4. Agenda Setting Meeting Participation (Mr. Patel) – Steve Patel, Peter McCarty, Don Dwiggins, Jay Draiman, and Kelly Lord.
5. Approval of Minutes (Mr. Draiman) – **Mr. Lord made a motion for the NENC to approve the Minutes of the December 21st meeting, seconded by Mr. Draiman. MOTION PASSES (8-0-0).**
6. Comments from Public Officials (Mr. Patel) – a. CSUN - *Harold Hellenbrand appointed interim president of the university until a new president is selected.*
7. Public Comments (Mr. Patel) – a. *Karen Green, Education Committee – Our Lady of Lourdes (pre-K – 8th grade) Open House on January 29th from 10am – 12pm;* b. *Brian Reff and Glen Wilson (NWN) in opposition of proposed removal of 7 yellow benches on Reseda Blvd., to keep streets pedestrian-friendly*
8. Treasurer’s Report (Mr. Dwiggins) – *No additional expenditures since funding has been suspended by DONE due to some receipts they are missing; Submitted application for P-card received by DONE; Funding for website: Bill is due and any Board Member may use their own personal credit card to pay and be reimbursed in the interim (See Item #18, which was also discussed at this time by the Treasurer).*
9. New Board Appointments and Executive Committee (Mr. Patel) – (2) New Board seats/positions open. *If interested and living within boundary apply by emailing bio or contacting the Board*
10. Update on DONE's meeting (Mr. Patel) – *Meeting to be scheduled*
11. Redistricting motion by NCs (Mr. Draiman) – *Awaiting final resolution on the new proposed boundary (405 fwy as eastern border, County line as western border, removal of small area at Roscoe and Balboa into Encino, incorporating all of West Hills, and Northridge South NC as the southern border)*
12. Sidewalk Easement (Ms. McCain) – *No update*
13. VA Status & volunteers (Mr. Lord) – *Peggy (Stakeholder) spoke in opposition of the conversion of the VA to a sober living home; Attorney Bill Daniels to file a temporary restraining order and lawsuit; Veterans Service Organization have no standing on the issue, so she is looking for individual veterans to use their names on the pro bono lawsuit; If interested in helping, please contact the Board.*
14. Proposed removal of 7 yellow benches on Reseda Blvd. (not the ones at bus stops) ~ **Item Tabled**
15. (Mr. Dwiggins) a. Sewer charge rate increase – **Item tabled**; b. Green Vets LA – logo on bags – **Item tabled**; c. LA Rain-gardens – Tree People and LA DWP are pushing LA Rain-gardens, **Item tabled**; d. Smoke free air for all – **Item tabled**
16. P Card activation – *Confirmed application received by DONE; awaiting meeting with DONE*
17. Congressional candidate forum March 14, 2012 (Mr. Patel) – *Stakeholders are confused as to what area District 30 covers and who is the candidate; NENC is looking for other organizations to work with rather than putting together a debate by themselves, as several groups have expressed interest*
18. Standing Expenditures Approval (Treasurer, Mr. Dwiggins) – *Demand warrants for operating expenses will still be honored by DONE.*
 - a. **Mr. Dwiggins made a motion to approve funds of \$150 monthly for lease of meeting facilities at Northridge Woman’s Club, seconded by Mr. Fantini. MOTION PASSES (Vote: 8-0-0)**
 - b. **Mr. Dwiggins made a motion to approve funds of \$827 for Gmail for email services for one year, seconded by Mr. Qureshi. MOTION PASSES (Vote: 8-0-0)**
 - c. **Mr. Dwiggins made a motion to approve funds of up to \$40 quarterly for Telephone services for**

1&1, seconded by Mr. Draiman. MOTION PASSES (Vote: 8-0-0)

d. Mr. Dwiggins made a motion to approve funds of \$100 monthly for web services for Aaron Devandry, seconded by Mr. Draiman. MOTION PASSES (Vote: 8-0-0)

e. Mr. Dwiggins made a motion to approve funds of up to \$150 for Food/Refreshments for greet & meet at meetings, seconded by Mr. Lord. MOTION PASSES (Vote: 8-0-0)

f. Mr. Dwiggins made a motion to approve funds of less than \$200 per meeting for Minute Taker, Gabriella/AppleOne Services, seconded by Mr. Lord. MOTION PASSES (Vote: 8-0-0)

g. Mr. Dwiggins made a motion to approve funds of \$250 for monthly Ad for Decisions Duplications, seconded by Mr. Qureshi. MOTION PASSES (Vote: 8-0-0)

19. Standing Committee Reports –

a. Finance Committee Update (Treasurer, Mr. Dwiggins) – *No update*

b. Environmental Committee (Mr. Dwiggins) – *No update*

c. Land Use Committee (Mr. Lord)

1. 18342 Halsted Update ~ ***Item Tabled***

d. Outreach Committee (Mr. McCarty) – *No update, not present; Mr. Draiman suggests acquiring the massive database of emails for outreach purposes*

20. Other Committee Reports – a. Northridge Vision Committee Update (Mr. Patel) – *University Village plan to revitalize Reseda & Prairie corridor is in preliminary stages*

b. Education Committee (Mr. Fantini) – *Next bi-monthly meeting January 25th at 4pm at Darby Elementary; Looking for more teachers to train this summer (Invent for Life program) to bring more engineering into our schools (Grades 5-12); Organizing an Education Forum in the 2nd week in March*

21. Status of 2012 Elections (Mr. Dwiggins) – *Due to funding cuts, City Council approves DONE to hold elections; NENC's stance is they prefer to hold their own elections with an independent election administrator, possibly in the fall of 2012; LA Neighborhood Council Coalition meets Saturday, January 21st at LA City College*

22. Request for approval by Ms. Jodi Wood, representing City Homes Corp. of Case #71664: Vesting Tentative Track Map 71664, 18432-18452 Halstead St. Project: Zone change request from RA-1 to R3-1 for a 43-unit condo building. 4 story over parking garage, which includes density bonus units with 4 set aside for very low income. Requesting a height increase and density bonus increase, parking reduction included in density bonus also, removal of 15' line incidental to BTT 71644. (Mr. Lord) – Brian Reff and Glen Wilson (NWNC) speak in opposition of several issues: 4 story height of complex (stand out against most other buildings in the area being of 3 story height); exemption of 15ft. setback distance from property line (loss of sunlight); no discussion of traffic mitigation; only 93 parking spots (not enough, less than 2 per unit) and located just north of Northridge Post Office (concerns of tenants parking in PO lots); Suggest less units, more parking; Planning and Land Use Management (PLUM) Committee meetings held the 1st Monday of each month at 7pm at Northridge Park, full presentation by representatives at next meeting

23. Additional notices/comments – a. Mr. Ramirez thanks all who donated toys for the “Toys for Tots” Drive, which were very much appreciated by the children at Youth Rec. Center on Wilbur; b. Richard Fisk announces Police Chief Beck's proposal to not impound cars of unlicensed drivers, suggests NENC write a letter of opposition, Mr. Lord suggests adding this as Item to next month's Agenda, Stakeholder suggests having an ACLU representative speak; c. Stakeholder new to area inquires about tax benefits for beautification and community redevelopment, and asks why there seem to be more fast food & chains than locally owned restaurants, Mr. Patel disagrees since there are over 27 independent restaurants within walking distance, a CSUN student suggests www.csuneats.com as a guide to local eateries; d. Ms. Meehan suggests homeowners purchase a sub meter, have a plumber install it, secure a permit from the City, and submit it to the DWP (approx \$500) which save a lot of money, Mr. Draiman agrees, but suggests making sure the plumbing within the house, especially between the front and back of the house, is tied, otherwise you may need to run a pipe to connect the systems.

24. Adjournment (Mr. Patel) – **Mr. Lord made a motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Mr. Fantini. MOTION PASSES (8-0-0). Meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.**