

**Northridge East Neighborhood Council
Andasol Elementary School Auditorium
10126 Encino Ave., Northridge, CA
Wednesday, August 16, 2006**

9 in attendance in addition to the Board of 13.

- 1. Call to Order: 7:13 p.m. by Kelly Lord, President NENC.**
- 2. Roll Call:** James Gardner, Peter McCarty, Lucille Moore, Barry Greenberg, Ray Calnan, Don Dwiggins, Kelly Lord, Alice Natalie McCain, Rev. Charles Bunnell, Caroline Moore, Thomas Baker, Harold Ellison. Absent: Judith Nutter. Steve Patel arrived late. Pledge of Allegiance.
- 3. Minutes: (Bunnell/Dwiggins) moved to approve July minutes. Motion passed unanimously.**
- 4. DONE Project Coordinator Tom Soong:** Thanked Board Members for the mini training they participated in prior to the meeting. Mayor's Budget Day is Sept. 9th at 8:00 a.m. at City Hall. He invited the Board Members to get involved in the budget process.
- 5. CD 12 Deputy Director John Bwarie:** Described the Personal City Service Program, which allows NCs to purchase City services for their areas like asphalt repair, tree trimming, library services, and Recreation and Parks services, among others. The Community Beautification Program training is Sept. 19th for this area. It is a matching grant program where community groups can trade man-power for City funding on local projects. Oct. 8th is the Neighborhood Community Service Partner Program. Details will be confirmed by the end of August. Community Initiative Statement was before the City Council, which allows NCs to submit motions to the City Council to be acted on their agenda. This was sent back to the Committee to review the language after coming before the Council. For tree planting to be approved, residents will be asked to sign a form promising to maintain each tree they plant on their property for five years before a permit will be issued.
- 6. Northridge Recreation Center Theatre Program Partnership Not to Exceed \$2,500:** Presentation/Action:
Steve and Jasmine of Northridge Recreation Center Theatre Program explained what the Northridge Park Players is doing. It is a community - based youth and teen theater group that meets at the Rec Center and provides performances. Steve and Jasmine asked whether the NENC could provide financial support as they are currently about \$5,000 in the red. This money is used for salaries for instructors, light rentals, and sound system. Costumes are paid for by the attendees.

The Board discussed the benefits of funding this program and whether it is a worthwhile purpose for NENC Outreach funding. Board Member suggestions included: having the Theatre Group approach CSUN's theater department for assistance, make other outreach efforts to the community, and how the NENC would be promoted in their publicity materials and programs. Treasurer Steve Patel stated that the monies would come out of last year's budget.

Motion: (Greenberg/McCarty) moved, "That the NENC provide maximum funding of up to \$1,200 in one-to-one matching funds provided that the program provides proof of the matching sources outside of the NC."

(McCain) offered an amendment that removed reference to the matching funds and raised the amount of funding to \$2,500." (as stated on the agenda). Greenberg did not accept the amendment.

Acting as parliamentarian, McCain stated that her motion was a secondary motion, which the Board needed to vote on before they voted on the original, unamended motion.

McCain's amended motion was presented for a vote: "That the NENC provide \$2500 to the Northridge Recreation Center's Musical Theater Program." Vote: 11-1-1. Motion carried.

The Board then voted on the original, newly - amended motion. The vote was: 11-1-1. The motion carried.

7. Board Member Reports:

Lucille Meehan reported on her Street Services Committee's plan to hold a raffle for stakeholders who would like their sidewalks repaired with the NENC providing a portion of funding using the City's 50/50 sidewalk repair program.

Following Lucille's report, Mark Simon of L.A. Street Services was introduced. Mark is the coordinator for the City's 50-50 Sidewalk Repair Program, then explained the program and how it works:

Under the 1911 Code for the City of L.A., the sidewalks are considered the property owner's responsibility unless damage is the result of tree root growth. Up until 1974, the City cited homeowners if they did not make necessary repairs. In 2000, the federal govt. mandated that handicapped access ramps be installed. In 2005, the first pilot program for the 50-50 Sidewalk Repair program was initiated in L.A. It was very successful and it is now ongoing.

How it work is that residents who are interested in sidewalk repairs can call for an estimate: (818) 374-6857 Bureau of Street Services. They must identify themselves as Northridge residents and must be owners of the residential

property. After receiving an estimate, which is now \$12 per sq. ft., that estimate is divided between the property owner and the City. The estimate includes any tree work, concrete work, and labor. Once accepted, the work must be done during the current fiscal year. This is a year – to – year program that goes from July 1st, the start of the fiscal year, to June 30th. The average cost last year was \$1300 for reconstruction of sidewalks.

The Board discussed how to get involved in this program, as well as alternatives to reconstruction such as the asphalt temporary patch and grinding down the uplifts when they are minor.

8. July 2006 – July 2007 NENC Preliminary Budget Approval:

Treasurer Steve Patel reviewed the 2006 – 2007 fiscal year budget for NENC and expenditures for last year. He said, the carryover from last year was \$37,392, and the Card Carryover balance was \$4,660 from last year. This year, NENC gets new funding of \$50,000, which with the balance from last year equals \$92,052.

CD 12's John Bwarie pointed out that Steve needs to assign expenses for the current fiscal year's budget for that money to be released. Steve said that the \$2,500 funding request approved tonight, August 16, for the Musical Theater Program would be listed under last year's Outreach expense. He added that monies would be set aside as "Reserves" for the sidewalk repair program in the next budget. When a board member asked whether any group could request funding from NENC, Thomas Baker stated that the NENC uses the "Adopt a Street Program" in all requests received for funding. This is a community clean up project where those groups who receive funding contribute volunteers to help out with the street cleaning projects.

Ray Calnan suggested NENC allocate the current surplus of \$60,182.00 listed. **(Bunnell/Gardner) moved, "That NENC allocate the current surplus of \$60,182 listed in the budget to the following categories: 30% to Outreach, 10% to Meetings, 50% to Special Projects, and 10% to Administrative categories."** The motion carried unanimously.

9. Zoning and Nuisance of Fraternity Houses on Halsted at Etiwanda:

Steve Patel reported there is no update on this matter. However, on another matter previously reviewed by the Board, an illegal repair shop operating out of a home on Garden Grove has been cited.

10. NENC Advisory on \$1 Billion Housing Affordability Bond Issue.

11. NENC Advisory on L.A. City Council Members Term Limits:

Don Dwiggin reported that the City Council has approved two ballot measures for the November election. One measure would extend City Council term limits while the other pertains to a Bond to provide affordable housing in the City.

On Sept. 28, 2006, The Valley Alliance will present a public forum to explain the ballot measures and present information on these to stakeholders. Don said that they are recommending NCs oppose passing both measures because they were not presented in the proper manner to the Neighborhood Councils before the vote was taken. Barry explained that the City Council used a process to extend term limits under "ethics reform," which he said put a favorable spin on the measure. The term expansion would be from the current two - term limit to three.

**Motion: (Greenberg/ Calnan) moved, "That the NENC take a position that they oppose the method the City Council took in voting to place both measures on the ballot before presenting them to the NCs."
The motion carried unanimously.**

12. Public Comment: Armando Flores, a UCLA student, distributed the Neighborhood Council Survey #2 to Board Members.

13. Meeting Adjourned: 9:12 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Pat Kramer, Apple One.