



Northridge East Neighborhood Council

Meeting Minutes: October 18, 2006 Andasol Elementary School Auditorium 10126 Encino Ave.

1. **Call to Order** by Chuck Bunnell, Secretary of NENC, with a review of policies and procedures for the Neighborhood Council Meeting.
2. **Roll Call:** Kelly Lord, Don Dwiggins, Thomas Baker, Chuck Bunnell, Ray Calnan, Barry Greenberg, Judith Nutter, Lucille Meehan, Caroline Moore, James Gardner, & Harold Ellison. Steve Patel and Peter McCarty came after roll call. Pledge of Allegiance followed.
3. **Minutes: (Bunnell/Baker) moved to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2006 monthly board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.**
4. **Presentation: Valley Grassroots for Democracy:** Randy Gold and Michael Jay from Valley Grassroots spoke about election protection security measures and risks. Michael said that electronic machines are known for their ability to be tampered with and since they are now used exclusively in City elections, there is cause for concern that election results could be rigged. He said it's possible to hack into the system, have machines loaded with false information, and even to have different names come up after residents vote. He spoke about legislation that protects voters and provides for the right to use paper ballots, which can then be hand-counted. **He suggested the NENC contact the L.A. Board of Supervisors to ask them to make recommendations and enact policies for choosing voting systems.** He suggested that the machine software and system should be open to all and auditable.
5. **New Cell Site: 17710 Lassen Rooftop:** Matthew Yoon, Site Acquisition Specialist for World Trade Communications spoke to the Board about launching a new site for his company. They are proposing a 48' high antenna on a rooftop site at Lassen by White Oak, an existing apartment complex. A hearing date has not yet been set. The proposed launch for their cell phone service is Feb/March 2007. There is no existing network right now. **Thomas Baker suggested to the Board that no action be taken until the hearing takes place so the NENC can hear what the stakeholders want.**
6. **Request from property owners at 18232 and 18240 Superior St. for a zoning change to divide a residential lot:** Property owners Stan Khaykin and Elliott Galynsky explained to the Board that they would like to divide this lot into two halves and build a second home next to the existing house. They said they are seeking a RE11-1 zoning change for a single-family residence. Specs: The entire parcel is 22500 sq. feet. The houses would be two-stories high, each 2,500 sq. ft. After the homes are completed, the owners will sell them as single-family residences. Instead of taking action, Thomas Baker proposed that the Board members take a closer look at the property and that the property owners return for action at a future meeting.
7. **Senior/Caregiver Workshop for the North West Valley to take place Nov. 18th.** Patricia Herrera, Director of Development for the nonprofit organization Community Integration Services announced a workshop for seniors and their caregivers. Her organization runs an adult day care operation with enrichment educational programs for seniors and those with

disabilities, presented in Armenian and English. Patricia asked NENC to consider funding the purchase of cases of books by a famous Armenian author who is to speak at an upcoming workshop. The request was in the amount of \$2,576.35. After discussion, a motion was introduced to fund one case of books for this workshop and to distribute those books to Northridge area libraries. **(Baker/Patel) moved, "That NENC purchase a case of books for \$340.00 plus tax, pending approval from DONE. The books will be distributed to Petit Park Library, Darby Library, and Mid Valley Library."** The motion passed unanimously.

8. **State Legislation pertaining to Zoning for Board and Care Facilities:** Barry Greenberg said there is a City Council proposal to ask State Legislators to limit the number of board and cares in the City. Since there is no action expected until after the November election, this item was tabled. Steve Patel noted that more information can be found on this on Council member Greig Smith's website.

9. **Initiation of NENC's 50/50 Sidewalk Repair Program for Resident Homeowners:** Ray Calnan spoke about this program, initiated under the City's Bureau of Street Services Program, where NENC would hold a lottery to offset the cost of repairs to homeowners whose names are drawn. Ray suggested that anyone who wants his or her sidewalk repaired must contact the City, directly, by the end of November to get on the schedule for this fiscal year. They also must be willing to pay half of the cost for the repairs of existing sidewalks on their property that are damaged.

Lucille Meehan, chairperson for NENC's Street Services, said she has received information from the City Attorney that they are reviewing the NENC's Sidewalk Repair Program. Once she has a chance to speak to DONE Rep. Tom Soong and others involved, the Board will take action to initiate this program. The Board felt it was prudent to wait for a financial commitment from the City before taking any action.

Action on DONE General Manager Lisa Sarno's Extension: Barry Greenberg told the Board that Ms. Sarno is not well respected by many of the NCs due to some comments she has made and the general way she relates to Neighborhood Council reps. He then introduced the following motion:

"Resolved the NENC believes that Neighborhood Councils are a vital force in bringing reform to the City of L.A. Resolved that to foster and empower the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment, said Department needs a General Manager committed to the Empowerment of NCs. Resolved that Lisa Sarno is the wrong individual to be at the helm of DONE at this time. Resolved that NENC believes that the City Council should in its role decline to continue the appointment of Lisa Sarno and should ask the Mayor to appoint a more appropriate general manager." This motion did not receive a second.

10. **Los Angeles World Airports presentation by Sheryl L. Thomas-Perkins: Tabled.**

11. **Board Member Reports and Comments:**

- Thomas Baker reported that the Community Clean up held on October 8th was very successful. About 150 people contributed to the clean up removing 75 bags of trash from the parking lot of the Mid Valley Library, Darby (Northridge) Library, Dearborn Elementary's Literacy Garden and Dearborn Park. Trees were also planted by volunteers in Dearborn Park. Outback Restaurant was acknowledged for donating chicken, steaks, salad and rice, which they prepared on BBQ, grills for volunteers. NENC provided the BBQ grills and funding to cover the cook's salaries as well as for free T-shirts for the volunteers.

- Steve Patel distributed free lawn signs that say, “Watch out for Children.”
- Barry Greenberg suggested that the Outreach Committee purchase street banners to help get NENC more exposure. His thought is that individuals and businesses within Northridge East could sponsor the banners at a cost of \$50 to \$100. Council member Greig Smith’s office has said they would waive any costs for hanging the banners.
- Chuck Bunnell asked for information on how to get abandoned cars removed.

12. Public Comment:

- Jesse Gutterman from Northridge Park Recreation Center thanked the Board for contributing funding to their summer show. He presented the Board with a framed playbill signed by the cast. Thomas Baker suggested the artwork be hung at the Rec Center.
- Pat Lo Presti, a stakeholder, asked the Board if any new action has been taken to alleviate frat house noise and problems. Steve Patel said the City’s Prosecuting Attorney is trying to build a case for this but he would try to expedite things. He asked Pat, and any other stakeholders who are interested in helping, to try to provide documentation of problems and bring it to the Board.
- Janis Barquist, a candidate for Superior Court in the judicial election, introduced herself and her goals for this seat. She is currently a deputy city attorney and a pro team judge. Her website is: www.barquistforjudge.com.

Thomas Baker introduced Andy Anderson who was instrumental in the formation of the NENC.

13. Meeting Adjourned: 8:45 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Pat Kramer, Apple One, October 28, 2006