Official Minutes of the
NORTH RIDGE EAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (NENC)
General Board Meeting
Wednesday, September 17, 2008
Andasol Elementary School Auditorium, 10126 Encino Ave., Northridge, CA

Call to Order: Steve Patel, President, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peter McCarty.

Roll Call
Board Members present:

- Steve Patel, President
- Peter McCarty, 2nd Vice-President
- Barry Greenberg, Secretary
- Yeprem Davodian, Owner/Employee Rep.
- Alice McCain, At-large Rep.
- Thomas Baker, 1st Vice-President
- Kelly Lord, Treasurer
- Pam Butts, Renter Rep. Dir. of Public Relations
- Nestor Fantini, Resident Prop/Bus Owner Rep.
- Lucille Meehan, Resident Property Owner
- Carol Moore, Resident Property Owner

Board Members absent: Don Dwiggins, At-large Rep. (excused); Conner Lansdale, CSUN Appointed Student Rep. (un-excused); and Judith Nutter, CSUN Appointed Rep. (excused).

Eleven of the 14 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting, which is a quorum, and the business of the Council could be conducted. Also attending were 22 Stakeholders and Guests.

1. Approval of Minutes
   a. General Meeting of 08/20/2008

MOTION (by Mr. Lord, seconded by Ms. McCain): to approve the Minutes of the August 20, 2008 General Board Meeting.
MOTION PASSED without objection.

2. Special Meeting – 09/02/2008

a. Approval of NENC Budget – The "[NENC] Approved Budget for Year 2008-2009" was distributed.

MOTION (by Mr. Davoodian, seconded by Mr. Lord): to approved the Minutes of the September 2, 2008 Special Board Meeting.

MOTION PASSED without objection.

[Motions which were covered at the Special Meeting of 09/02/2008]

b. Approval of $1,000 Funding for Devonshire Volunteer Surveillance Team (VST) – Mr. Patel said that the final budget was approved and will be on the DONE (L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment) (213-485-1360; lacityneighborhoods.com) website soon. The $1,000 is for VST cameras.

c. Appointment of Representatives for Mayor’s Budget Day – Mr. Patel appointed Mr. Greenberg and Mr. Lord to represent the NC at the Mayor’s Budget Day.

3. Public Officials

a. Tamar Galatzan – Mr. Greenberg explained that Ms. Galatzan, L.A. Unified School District 3 Board Member (213-241-6386; tamar.galatzan@lausd.net) was unavailable to appear.

[The following Matter taken out of order of the Agenda]

b. Stakeholder Roger is willing to work on public safety. Mr. Patel reminded about the November 13th Great ShakeOut Emergency Response Drill to prepare the community for disasters (www.shakeout.org). Mr. Greenberg announced an Emergency Preparedness Faire this Saturday at the Panorama City Mall. Mr. McCarty expressed that community volunteers are needed to coordinate emergency preparedness services.

c. Grieg Smith, CD-12 – Mr. Patel announced on behalf of John Bwarie, Deputy District Director for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith (818-701-5253; john.bwarie@lacity.org), a Community Cleanup Day on September 27th.

4. Public Comments

a. Stakeholder Richard Fisk announced the October 4th Granada Hills Street Faire from 10:00 – 5:00 on Chatsworth St.

b. Stakeholder Glen Wilson noted that Plummer Street east of Reseda Blvd. to CSUN (California State University at Northridge) needs repaving. Stakeholder Pat LoPresti announced that there’ll be left-turn signals on Reseda Blvd. before year’s end. Traffic flow was discussed.

5. Old Business
a. USTA – Presentation and proposal for community Tennis Tournament at Salute for Recreation: Jason Liss, Cindy Bertematti (818) 883-9370 or cindy.bertematti@lacity.org.

Mr. Liss, Tarzana Recreation Center Director, and Leonard Johnson, Salute to Recreation Junior Novice Tennis Tournament Director, described the Tournament and “Quickstart Tennis” program for entry-level children ages five to ten. Diane Brooks of the U.S. Tennis Association (USTA) further explained the program, read and distributed copies of a letter from the USTA to the NENC, distributed and explained a “Request and Funding” list, and demonstrated the equipment. Funding would only be used for equipment at the Northridge Community Center. Registration is in February for March – June classes. The Board agreed to agendize this for a vote at next month’s General Board Meeting.

b. Cindy Cleghorn – Plancheck website proposal – Mr. Lord explained that Ms. Cleghorn could not attend. Plancheck is an Oversight Committee that works with the L.A. Planning Dept. and will be a “best practices clearinghouse for NCs.” He’s asking the NC to allocate up to $2,000 to fund one-time only Plancheck website design work. The Committee will maintain and own the website. Mr. Greenberg is concerned about the website’s viability and longevity. Mr. Lord responded that the Planning Dept. “charged the Committee” with getting this information to the NCs. It was agreed to refer this to the NC’s Planning and Land Use Committee.

c. Zelzah Speed Limit, Use of Radar on Zelzah (BG) -- Mr. Greenberg distributed a letter from Stakeholder Anita SantoSpirito opposing speed limit increases on Zelzah Ave. between Nordhoff and Rinaldi Sts., and explained that the increases were “put in abeyance “ for “at least 60 days.” Mr. Patel explained the history of NC involvement in this and concerns regarding radar speed enforcement. There was extensive discussion regarding the process to provide input for the traffic speed survey.

6. New Business

a. CSUN CERT 1 Training – Mr. Patel explained that the next CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program (818-756-9674; cert-la.com, lafdcert@lacity.org) class will be October 15th – November 19th at CSUN.

b. Invitation to Grieg Smith to speak about Renew L.A. – Possible Action – Mr. McCarty will contact Councilman Smith’s Office.

c. Appointment of Youth Representative – Possible Action – Mr. Patel explained the position. Mr. McCarty explained outreach efforts for the position, which is open to 16 to 18-year-olds.

d. “Did You Know” Program, Sidewalk, parkway, and public Access Maintenance – Mr. Greenberg distributed a letter and copy of the relevant Municipal Code from Councilman Smith, and explained that landowners with an abutting parkway are “legally responsible” for maintaining it even if a wall
separates it from their home and “even if they never go on the other side of the wall.”

e. Neighborhood Preparedness Ambassador Program (PM) – Possible Action

Mr. Davoodian distributed a flyer and “Sample Agenda” and explained the Program, which will be held on a January day from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the CSUN International Student Exchange Center. Volunteers are needed and food will be served.

7. Committee Reports

a. Education – LAPD (Los Angeles Police Dept.) Sergeant Don Graham, also the NC Education Committee Chair, announced a Committee Meeting on October 5th at 4:30 in this room, “taking proposals for possible funding opportunities.”

b. Public Safety/Traffic – Mr. Greenberg and Sgt. Graham explained the Committee’s work and Mr. Patel announced that the Public Safety/Transportation and Emergency Preparedness Committees will be combined.

c. Emergency Preparedness – (See above Section b).

d. Environment – Mr. McCarty reported that he’s helping in “forming coalitions of nearby NCs” regarding a proposed nearby toxic recycling center; also that composting training is being provided. Mr. Greenberg is working with the DWP (L.A. Dept. of Water and Power) (800-342-5397; ladwp.com) on a community garden under the high-tension wires.

e. Salute to Recreation – Mr. Baker stated that the Committee will start working in January.

f. Senior – Mr. McCarty said that there’s no report.

g. Website – Mr. Greenberg reported that he’s investigating options regarding costs.

h. Planning and Land Use -- Mr. Fantini distributed the “Land Use Committee’s Report” and reported that Mr. Lord is seeking consultant help for the Committee. He explained the 18232 W. Superior St. project. Mr. Greenberg said that the project is out of the NC’s area. A Stakeholder is concerned about project noise. Extensive discussion followed, especially regarding single-family residences being used as multi-family housing. Mr. Patel announced a September 18th, 1:00 hearing regarding the project. Mr. Fantini announced the next Committee Meeting as September 24th at 7:00 p.m. (information: n.fantini@nenc-la.org). Mr. Patel encouraged people to bring ideas regarding Reseda Blvd. beautification to the NE/W Vision Committee.

8. Melvin Cañas (arrived late and was heard prior to the adjournment) Neighborhood Empowerment Analyst, DONE (818-374-9953; melvin.canas@lacity.org), distributed a handout about, announced and described the Congress of NCs on October 11th.
9. **Adjournment**

   **MOTION** (by Mr. Lord): to **ADJOURN** the Meeting.

   Mr. Patel **ADJOURNED** the Meeting without any objections at 9:00 p.m.

Certified True and Correct, this 17th day of October, 2008

Barry M. Greenberg, Esq., CPA
Secretary