

## Minutes of the Meeting of the Northridge East Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

August 19, 2009

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:08PM by President Steve Patel.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peter McCarty.
3. Roll Call: Steve Patel, Thomas Baker, Peter McCarty, Barry Greenberg, Kelly Lord, Pamela Butts (excused), Yeprem Davoodian, Don Dwiggins (excused), Nestor Fantini (excused), Alice McCain, Lucille Meehan, Caroline Moore, Brittany McCarthy, Connor Lansdale (tardy), Steven Ramirez. Quorum was present.
4. Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes from July 15, 2009 made by Mr. Lord, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. McCarty. None opposed, motion passed.
5. Comments from Public Officials:
  - a. Council District 12 – Michael Tou from Congressman Brad Sherman’s office introduced himself and encouraged everyone to call his office at 818-501-9200 for help on any federal issues.
  - b. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment – Melvin Caños thanked the NENC for turning in their inventory list and reminded the Council and Public of the following upcoming events: Saturday October 10<sup>th</sup> at City Hall, each NC will send 2 representatives (board members and/or stakeholders) to participate, learn, and train; the Regional Roundtable and Training at Marvin Braude Building in Van Nuys September 12, 2009; the Election Outreach meeting September 10<sup>th</sup> at the Young Oak Kim Academy in Los Angeles (NENC board seats are up for reelection in 2010); and the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners meeting at Lawrence Middle School on September 1<sup>st</sup> to discuss neighborhoods that do not have NCs. Contact Mr. Caños at 323-972-7782 with any questions.
  - c. Senior Lead Kathy Bennett – No appearance.
  - d. Colin Donahue, CSUN Assoc. VP of Facilities Development and Operations – Mr. Donahue gave a presentation of the CSUN North Campus Photovoltaic Research Project. A short discussion ensued regarding the panels and if the neighborhood would be inconvenienced when they are implemented. Ms. McCarthy said her office would be happy to give tours of the CSUN rainforest and the photovoltaic test sites. Mr. Donahue also discussed the new stops and route upgrades to the CSUN tram system. New route will increase efficiency and maintain safety of students. Concerns arose from neighbors regarding the noise of the tram running on Lindley Ave.; a discussion ensued. Residents, local NCs and representatives from CSUN are planning a meeting to discuss other options; Mr. Baker and Ms. McCarthy are going to put together a sub group. A sign up sheet for the group was made available.
6. Public Comments:
  - a. Alan Weis asked the Councils opinion on the projected bike lane on Reseda Blvd. and asked the representatives present from the DOT what their plans were regarding a bike lane or a third peak hour lane on Reseda. A presentation was given later by DOT.
  - b. Joe Linton, Chet Kostrzewa, Karen Schroder, Bill Hopkins, David Bolog, Don Ward, Kathleen and Michael Brebes, Ayla and CSUN mathematics professor Al

Sethuraman all expressed their desire for a bike lane and opposed the idea of a third peak hour lane on Reseda Blvd. Most voiced concern with safety of increased traffic and speed limits, limiting street parking, noise, and pollution if a peak hour lane was put in. All supported the bike lane to encourage students to commute via bicycle to CSUN and create a better university town as well as reduce pollution.

- c. Pat McOsker, President of the United Firefighters of Los Angeles City discussed the closure of fire companies and ambulances within the city. 28 companies are closed around the city every day; three are in the Northridge area. Mr. McOsker discussed the impact this has on public safety, including increased response times and wants the community to express their concern to Councilman Smith regarding public and firefighter safety. The union website at [www.uflac.org](http://www.uflac.org) has a list of engines that are closed each day.
  - d. Mike McCrea, a Northridge resident and firefighter reiterated Mr. McOsker's sentiments and asked the community also contact Mayor Villagarosa and voice their concerns. A short discussion ensued; community members can visit [www.uflac.org](http://www.uflac.org) for more information on the issue.
  - e. Jay Bolton from Senior Services Business Council thanked the NENC for their support of the Senior Dance in May and asked for \$500 to support their Senior Health Fair in October. The issue will be put on the September agenda for a vote.
7. Old Business:
- a. Land Use:
    - i. 18240 Superior Subdivision Update – Pat LoPresti announced that the subdivision has been approved but is subject to conditions.
    - ii. 18259 Halstead St. – A hearing regarding the issue will take place at the end of September and Ms. LoPresti encourages everyone to attend and express their opinions.
  - b. Website Update – Due to time constraints, Micah Kritzman will demo the website at the next board meeting. Mr. Greenberg suggested a teleconference; Mr. Patel would like Mr. Kritzman and Mr. Greenberg to plan this.
  - c. Land Use Consultant – Ms. LoPresti announced that the Land Use Committee is using the services of their new consultant, Attorney Corin Kahn, for help with the Halstead CUP issue. She thanked the NENC for supporting the Lindley West Neighborhood Coalition. Mr. Dwiggins is to put together a formal motion against the CUP at the September meeting.
  - d. Proposed Peak Hour Lane on Reseda Blvd. – Alan Willis, Principal Transportation Engineer for DOT, announced that DOT does not have any current plans to put in a peak hour lane on Reseda Blvd. DOT is currently trying to implement cost effective lanes; Reseda Blvd. will be resurfaced from Devonshire to San Fernando Mission in September which presents an opportunity to put in a bike lane there. DOT has to evaluate situations to see if bike lanes are appropriate for areas before they are put in; a discussion ensued. Mr. Patel wants crosswalks repainted on Reseda Blvd. to limit the many accidents that occur between Devonshire and Parthenia. Mr. Willis said DOT wants to put in full traffic signals at crosswalks to ensure the safety of the community. Mr. Greenberg expressed his

concern over the expedition of full signals and noted that NENC has money in its budget to help support such projects and encouraged DOT to talk to all local NCs.

- e. Proposed 800 New Parking Meters in Northridge – Mr. Willis announced that DOT does not decide where parking meters are implemented but was asked by City Council to survey the city and report where parking meters could be put in. Though their report showed that 800 meters could be implemented in Northridge it does not necessarily mean that the Council will choose to do so.
8. New Business:
- a. Valley Interfaith Council Requesting a \$1000 Grant to restock San Fernando Valley food pantries – Mr. McCarty made a motion for the NENC to support the Valley Interfaith Council in the amount of a \$1000 grant to aid them in their efforts to restock San Fernando Valley food pantries; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lord. None opposed, motion passes.
  - b. Disaster Preparedness Event at Granada Hills Street Fair – Mr. McCarty made a motion for the NENC to support the Disaster Preparedness Event at the Granada Hills Street Fair on October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2009 in the amount of \$1000; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lord. None opposed, 1 abstention, motion passes.
  - c. Support Chatsworth Train Disaster Memorial – Defer to September meeting.
  - d. NENC support for NWNC Resolutions – Mr. Lord made a motion to adopt the following NWNC Resolutions: 1. the annexation of Northridge Park, 2. the annexation of CSUN 3. the opposition of 800 new parking meters in Northridge, and 4. the opposition of a peak hour lane on Reseda Blvd; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. McCarty. A discussion ensued regarding sharing resources and overlapping areas with other NCs. Mr. Greenberg’s request to table the issue until a legal statement made by DONE to approve this action was denied. Mr. Greenberg made a motion to adjourn the meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lansdale. Motion failed. Vote called for Mr. Lord’s motion, 4 in favor, 4 opposed, motion fails.
  - e. Stakeholder Survey Form – Defer to September meeting.
  - f. 2010 NENC Election Polling Place Locations – Defer to September meeting.
  - g. Greg Tailor
    - i. Highland Hall School Expansion – Greg Tailor, a consultant representing Highland Hall gave a presentation regarding Highland Hall’s master plan for school expansion, including a 200 seat theater, a new science building, the replacement of temporary classrooms and a new gym. Mr. Lord made a motion to support Highland Hall’s Master Plan for school expansion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. McCarty. None opposed, motion passes.
    - ii. Lot Split at 9933 White Oak Ave. – Mr. Tailor gave a presentation regarding a lot split into three lots at 9933 White Oak Ave and asked for the Council’s support. Mr. Greenberg made a motion for the NENC to approve the three small lot subdivision at 9933 White Oak Ave.; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Davoodian. None opposed, motion passes.
  - h. Education Committee Proposal – Defer to September meeting.
9. Committee Reports:
- a. Mr. Baker made a motion that the Northridge East Neighborhood Council oppose any peak hour auto traffic lanes or permanent auto third lanes to be added on Reseda Blvd. from Nordhoff south to the 118 freeway north and support the

installation of the remainder of the 1996 Adopted Bicycle Plan for Reseda Blvd. to connect from Vanowen on the south to Sesnon on the north; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. McCarty. None opposed, motion passes.

- b. A representative from Darby Elementary asked if the Education Committee meeting scheduled for August 26<sup>th</sup> at the Northridge Rec Center at 7PM was still on. Mr. Patel noted that the meeting should be posted by Saturday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- c. Mr. McCarty announced that the community garden is in action

10. Adjournment:

- a. Mr. Lord made a motion to adjourn the meeting; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Mr. Lansdale. Meeting adjourned at 9:28PM.