

CITY OF LOS ANGELES California

ELECTED EXECUTIVE BOARD

Steve S. Patel – President
Don Dwiggin— 1st Vice President, Membership
Peter J. McCarty – 2nd Vice President, Outreach
Barry M. Greenberg – Secretary
Kelly M. Lord – Treasurer



ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Thomas J. Baker
Pamela Butts
Yeprem Davoodian

Nestor Fantini
Alice N. McCain
Lucille Meehan

Caroline Moore

APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

Brittany McCarthy – CSUN Faculty/Staff
Conor P. Lansdale – CSUN Student
Steven Ramirez – Youth



Northridge East Neighborhood Council

Making Northridge a Better Place to Live, Work, Play and Learn

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

October 21, 2009

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02PM by President Steve Patel.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Peter McCarty.
3. Roll Call: Steve Patel, Thomas Baker (tardy), Peter McCarty, Barry Greenberg, Kelly Lord (tardy – excused), Pamela Butts (excused), Yeprem Davoodian (excused), Don Dwiggin, Nestor Fantini, Alice McCain, Lucille Meehan, Caroline Moore (absent), Brittany McCarthy (excused), Connor Lansdale, Steven Ramirez. Quorum was present. Roll Call for Agenda Setting/Board Meeting held October 6, 2009: Steve Patel, Peter McCarty, Barry Greenberg, Kelly Lord, and Don Dwiggin.
4. Approval of Minutes: Motion to approve minutes from September 16, 2009 made by Mr. Dwiggin subject to the addition of the Education Committee's reports included as an appendix, 2nd by Ms. McCain.
5. Public Officials:
 - a. Council District 12 – John Bwarie presented a certificate of appreciation to the Council for its participation in disaster preparedness. Councilman Smith is working on getting a rate-payers advocate for DWP customers and is fighting the water rates and limited watering schedule. He has also been pushing City Council to decide what they are doing regarding medical marijuana facilities that are not working within the law. The process has started to find a new police chief; one should be in place by the end of the year.
 - b. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment – No appearance.
 - c. Senior Lead Kathy Bennett – Officer Bennett sent an email to Mr. Patel regarding the recent shooting and fatality at White Oak and Lassen. Mr. Patel would like to do some outreach and/or a vigil for the community and talk to shops and residents in the area. Mr. McCarty and Mr. Baker will head project.
 - d. CSUN – No appearance.
6. Public Comments:
 - a. Ms. McCain noted that it has been decided the Sepulveda VA facilities will remain for veterans only; Mr. Patel noted that while this is true the language in the lease has the potential to change.
7. Old Business:
 - a. 18240 Superior Subdivision – No update.

- b. 18259 Halstead St. – Mr. Dwiggin reported that a hearing regarding the status of the property was held earlier this month, however since the applicant was unprepared a new hearing will need to take place. The Zoning Administrator needs a completed application and proper documents for the hearing; it could be 6 months before a permanent decision is made. Ms. LoPresti thanked the NENC for the use of their Land Use Consultant; Mr. Patel thanked Ms. LoPresti for her and her coalition's effort on the subject.
- c. Ethics Training – Some members still have not completed their ethics training which can be done online. Some members have completed but DONE still needs copies of the certificates of completion. See Mr. Lord for help.
- d. Election 2010 Update:
 - i. Polling Place Location – The election will be held in the Craft Room in the Northridge Recreation Center at 18300 Lemarsh St.
 - ii. Boundary Maps – Region A will vote March 2nd, 2010.
 - iii. Outreach – Due to the city's budget crunch, NCs are on their own to develop outreach programs/materials. NENC and neighboring NCs are working together to pool money for outreach. **Mr. Dwiggin made a motion for the NENC to designate up to \$4000 from its budget for election outreach, 2nd by Mr. Lord.** A short discussion regarding the basis for the monetary figure and how the money should be spent ensued. **6 in favor, 1 opposed, 2 abstentions, motion passes.** Mr. Baker and Mr. Greenberg will confer with the Election Committee regarding the spending of the money.
- e. Website Update – New NENC website still a work in progress; Mr. Dwiggin will update the working "old" website with current events until the new website is up.
- f. CSUN Tram Lindley West Update – Mr. Baker has not heard back from Mr. Donahue from CSUN regarding the new tram routes but the subject is still under discussion. Defer to November meeting.
- g. Reseda Blvd. Cleanup – Mr. Lord announced that Reseda Blvd. will be cleaned up by West Valley Alliance. The company is working with DONE on a new payment schedule so issues can be expedited. There was a discussion regarding the watering of planters and picking up trash. Kathy Arnos and Scott Sterling are working on plans to clean up the medians and Professor Helen Cox at CSUN as offered her students' help as part of her course. Mr. Baker will work with Ms. Arnos and Mr. Sterling.
- h. Valley Interfaith Council Food Bank – As the Council does not have a way to invoice the NENC, Mr. Lord is working on a way to use part of their proposal as an invoice. Keep on November agenda.
- i. Support for City of Los Angeles Bicycle Plan – Mr. Baker informed the Council that bike lanes were put in on Reseda from Devonshire to the 118 freeway. Plans are still in motion. Mr. Bwarie announced that full crosswalks and stoplights will be put in on Reseda at pedestrian heavy intersections within the next 6-9 months. Mr. Patel wants the current crosswalks repainted to avoid further accidents; Mr. Greenberg will draft such a request and send to Ken Firoozman at the DOT. Contact Mr. Greenberg with any intersections you are concerned about.

- j. Disaster Preparedness Event – 2,000 visitors came to the Disaster Preparedness tent at the Granada Hills Street Fair.; disaster preparedness bags were handed out. Mr. Bwarie discussed the city's plans regarding disasters and applauded the NENC for their outreach to the community about personal disaster preparedness. Signup sheets for CERT classes provided by the City circulated the meeting; organization will be headed by Mr. Ramirez.
 - k. Valley Village Support Proposal on SB1818 – NENC's motion to support Valley Village alongside many other NCs has been sent to the City Planning Commission; a hearing is scheduled for October 22, 2009. Mr. Dwiggins will give an update at the November meeting.
8. New Business:
- a. Whole Children Whole Planet – Kathy Arnos discussed the details of the Whole Children Whole Planet Expo taking place April 24, 2010 at Highland Hall Waldorf School. Mr. Patel, Mr. McCarty, and Mr. Ramirez will be part of closing ceremonies; the event will offer workshops on gray water, conservation, zero waste, non-toxic products, and other health and environmental issues. **Mr. Lord made a motion for the NENC to partner with the Whole Children Whole Planet Expo 2010 on 04-24-10 in the amount of \$1500 for a stage partnership and \$500 for a booth partnership; 2nd by Mr. McCarty. None opposed, motion passes unanimously.**
 - b. Mr. Halloween Festival – **Mr. McCarty made a motion to donate \$500 to Northridge Park for their Mr. Halloween Festival; 2nd by Mr. Lord. None opposed, motion passes unanimously.** Mr. McCarty would like to discuss passing out healthy treats rather than candy and will coordinate with Caroline Lammers on the subject.
 - c. Safe Passage Charity – Trish Steele and Linda Dolson addressed the Council and gave them a sample of the fliers they created that they would like passed out to schools in the San Fernando Valley. Ms. Steele will email a PDF of the flier to Mr. Lord so he can shop a local printer for the best price. Mr. Patel asked that Safe Passage make a list of things they need, e.g. printers, computers, clothing, etc. so the NENC can help in other ways. Safe Passage will also meet with the Education Committee to partner with schools.
 - d. Press Releases – No update.
 - e. Permanent Meeting Location – The Council is in talks with Northridge Academy High School to make that their permanent meeting location.
 - f. Northridge East/Northridge West Sherwood Forest Meeting – Sherwood Forest is going to include Northridge South NC rather than NENC.
 - g. Equipment Purchase – **Mr. Greenberg made a motion for the NENC to allocate up to \$1000 for the purchase of NENC equipment, specifically a netbook/notebook and/or printer/scanner and/or projector; 2nd by Mr. Lord.** Mr. Baker made a friendly amendment requesting that the responsibility of the equipment be assigned by the President to a specific board member; 2nd by Mr. McCarty. **None opposed, motion passes unanimously.** Mr. Dwiggins and Mr. Greenberg will be in charge of finding the equipment.

- h. Neighborhood council Identity – **Mr. Greenberg made a motion for the Council to allocate up to \$1000 for NENC wearable items including but not limited to shirts, hats, and logos; 2nd by Mr. Lord.** There was a short discussion between Mr. Bwarie and the Council regarding the use and conservation of money for such a project. **A friendly amendment was made by Mr. Baker that someone is in charge of finding the items; Mr. Patel assigned Mr. Greenberg and Mr. Ramirez to the task. None opposed, motion passes unanimously.**
 - i. NENC Office Space – NENC and Northridge West NC will share an office space in the Chamber of Commerce. This will eliminate money spent on a PO Box and storage and has conference rooms, a white board, phone lines, faxes, etc. Northridge South will join once they are a certified NC. **Ms. McCain made a motion for the NENC to fund \$200 per month for rent and a \$300 signage fee; 2nd by Mr. McCarty. None opposed, motion passes unanimously.**
9. Committee Reports:
- a. Treasury – Treasury will be hiring a bookkeeper to help with the quarterly budget reports.
 - b. Education – Mr. Fantini announced the upcoming Education Committee meeting Wednesday, October 28th at 6PM at Northridge Recreation Center. They will be discussing the Education Forum as well as establishing goals, rules of order, and a website.
 - c. Environment – Mr. Ramirez is working on getting recycling bins at Northridge Academy; he will partner with Mr. McCarty to look into options with the Department of Sanitation.
 - d. Alice McCain announced that the cost of broken sidewalks can be transferred to homeowners which brings up insurance issues as well as buyer/seller problems.
 - e. Public Safety – Mr. Greenberg has been in contact with the City regarding Valley traffic, specifically the speed limit increase on Zelzah Ave. and jaywalkers around the CSUN campus. New and stricter enforcement of these areas will begin in the next 10 days to 2 weeks.
 - f. Mr. McCarty introduced guests who presented on Green Street Scene, and organization that tries to get NCs to get money from the City needed to get information on energy conservation and efficiency and consumption reduction to the community. See environmental.org for information. Mr. McCarty would like to provide the board with a proposal; defer to November meeting.
 - g. Bill Larsen updated the Council on a medical marijuana facility in the area that was reported to him by a stakeholder last month; the facility is on the law enforcement's radar. A local bar on Reseda that has been causing problems for the City is currently out of business. A short discussion ensued regarding the possibility of putting up cameras around the neighborhood.

10. Meeting adjourned by Mr. Patel at 9:10PM.

Certified True and Correct:

October 24, 2009

Barry M. Greenberg, Secretary