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

November 18, 2009

1. The meeting was called to order by President Steve Patel at 7:11PM.
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steven Ramirez
3. Roll Call: Steve Patel, Don Dwiggins, Peter McCarty (tardy-excused), Barry Greenberg, Kelly Lord, Thomas Baker, Nestor Fantini, Pamela Butts (excused), Alice McCain (excused), Yeprem Davoodian (excused), Lucille Meehan (tardy), Caroline Moore (excused), Brittny McCarthy (absent), Conor Lansdale, Steven Ramirez. Quorum was present. Attendance for November 3rd Agenda Setting Meeting: Steve Patel, Don Dwiggins, Kelly Lord, Barry Greenberg, Pamela Butts, Peter McCarty, Nestor Fantini.
4. Nestor Fantini recognized Holmes Middle School for their incredible academic achievements; Mr. Patel presented the principal with a plaque from NENC. The Principal thanked the council.
5. Approval of Minutes: Mr. Lord moved to approve the minutes from the October 2009 NENC meeting with the change of all mentions of financial “donations” to “partnerships”; 2nd By Mr. Dwiggins. None opposed, motion passes.
6. Comments from Public Officials:
   a. Council District 12 – Mr. Bwarie announced that Councilman Smith served on two committees to approve the new police chief in addition to working to create the Office of Economic analysis. This office would analyze the economic impact for each action taken by the City Council. There will be a Health Cancer screening at Northridge Medical Center on December 5th, a toy drive November 22nd starting at 6PM at Northridge Metrolink station, and a meeting November 19th at Northridge Middle School from 6-7PM to plan for 2010’s Northridge Centennial Celebration.
   b. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment – No appearance.
   c. Police Update – Mr. Greenberg reminded everyone of the shooting at White Oak and Lassen that occurred last month and urged everyone in the community to tell their elected officials and the police that any type of violence, regardless of who the victim is, is unacceptable. Captains from the Northridge precinct were unavailable to come to the NENC meeting and Senior Lead Kathy Bennett was unavailable due to her current schedule. Mr. Patel noted that he and the community want to make sure this shooting death is not buried under a pile of other investigations. Any information regarding the incident should be reported to the police. Mr. Greenberg will follow up with the police officers he has already been in contact with.
d. CSUN – Mr. Lansdale noted that there are 3 ½ weeks left in the semester until winter break and reminded everyone that the Spring semester is closed for admissions.

7. Public Comments:
   a. Community Emergency Response Team Training (CERT Training) – Northridge Academy High School will be hosting a CERT Training from 4-6:30PM every Thursday for seven consecutive weeks starting in January; anyone 16 and over may participate but anyone under 18 must have parental consent.

8. Old Business
   a. Land Use:
      i. 18240 Superior Subdivision – No status update. Issue referred to Land Use Committee.
      ii. 18259 Halstead – No status update.
   b. Ethics Training – Members who have not completed are Mr. Davoodian and Mr. Ramirez. Mr. Ramirez will have training finished by December’s meeting.
   c. Election 2010 Update – Region A elections will be held Tuesday, March 2, 2010.
      i. Mr. Dwiggins made a motion for NENC to endorse the election procedures as submitted by the city clerk’s office, 2nd by Mr. Baker. Candidate filing begins Dec. 2nd and the deadline is January 4th to appear on the ballot. Mr. Greenberg and Mr. Patel noted their concerns over the short period of time to for candidates to file. A request will be made for the deadline to be extended as long as possible. Candidates can be written in as late as February 1st. Motion passes unanimously.
      ii. Outreach – Mr. Dwiggins showed a flier that has been made in conjunction with several other NCs to get the word out about the election to the community, a postcard with the same information will also be sent out to the community. Mr. Patel wants NENC, NWNC, NSNC and any other NC interested to join together and have a “show and tell” presentation for community and hand out information regarding the election and encourage community members to run for board positions; NENC would invite local restaurants to cater the event to be held sometime in January. There was a short discussion between the Council and the community regarding advertisement strategies. Mr. Bwarie announced that the Councilman will put any advertisement he receives in his weekly briefing.
   d. Website is Live – Mr. Dwiggins gave a presentation of the new website (www.nenc-la.org) and showed everyone where new events will be posted, where the new location will be announced, where announcements will be posted, how to login and post comments, and where agendas and minutes can be found.
   e. CSUN Tram Lindley West Update – Mr. Baker announced that Mr. Donahue has taken community concerns under consideration and will be keeping the tram
route on CSUN property. A U-Turn will be made through Parking Lot F8, will come out on Lindley and will return onto campus property immediately. This change will be made once final plans are approved for a more permanent security gate that will be constructed at the same entrance/exit from Student Housing at Lindley just south of Kinzie. The goal is to keep the tram from stopping in Student Housing as to avoid unwanted guests from gaining access into the Student Housing complex; the new security gate will help alleviate this issue. Mr. Baker will keep the Council informed of all new updates and the final tram route’s path.

f. Reseda Blvd. Cleanup Update – Mr. Lord made a motion to continue an additional 6 months of funding for Reseda Blvd. cleanup, 2nd by Mr. McCarty. 6 in favor, 2 opposed, motion passes.

g. Mr. Lord made a motion for NENC to partner with PALS in the amount of $5,700. Issue deferred to December meeting.

9. New Business

a. Food Drive – Mr. Greenberg announced that the Council requests that each person attending the December meeting bring a canned good item(s) for a food drive. It has been suggested that the food go to the Valley Interfaith Council but it is so far undecided where the food will be distributed within the community.

b. Toy Drive With Devonshire PALS – Along with a canned good item, please bring an unwrapped toy to the December meeting for the Devonshire PALS Toy Drive.

c. Boy Scouts Funding – Boy Scout Troop 92 requested funding to replace old camping equipment and purchase new equipment to support their expanding troop. Total approximate cost is $3,010 to be purchased from Sports Authority in Northridge. Mr. Lord made a motion to partner with Troop 92 up to $3,010 for new equipment; 2nd by Mr. McCarty. A short discussion ensued regarding price-comparison shopping. Motion passes unanimously.

d. Hiring Bookkeeper per Approved Budget – Mr. Lord made a motion to hire Mr. Wesley Kramer in the amount of $1,000; 2nd by Mr. McCarty. Motion passes unanimously.

e. Safe Passage Update – Safe Passage gave a list of equipment needed and an accompanying price list. Mr. McCarty made a motion to approve up to $1710.77 for the list of items needed; 2nd by Ms. Meehan. 7 in favor, 1 abstention, motion passes.

f. Preferential Parking 9200 Block of Shoshone – Amy Durmmen would like a letter of support from the NENC to Mr. Lord made a motion to write a letter of
support to the City Council for permitted/preferential parking in the residential area in and around the 9200 Block of Shoshone; 2nd by Mr. McCarty. There was a short discussion regarding the desire of other stakeholders in the neighborhood. Mr. Patel made a friendly amendment that the letter of support be specific for Ms. Durmmen’s residence at 9246 Shoshone Ave. 7 in favor, 1 abstention, motion passes.

g. Northridge Academy High School

i. Emergency Preparedness Kits – Mr. Fantini made a motion to approve up to $1000 for 50 Emergency Preparedness Kits for Northridge Academy High School; 2nd by Mr. Lord. Motion passes unanimously.

ii. Education Summit – The Education Summit will be held early next year at Northridge Academy High School, possibly scheduled for February 11, 2010. Local politicians and members of the Chamber of Commerce will be invited.

h. Permanent Meeting Location – Northridge Academy High School will serve as the NENC’s permanent meeting location from September to June with alternate locations for July and August. Mr. Lord made a motion to make Northridge Academy the permanent location, 2nd by Mr. Fantini. Motion passes unanimously.

10. Office Space Update – Defer to December meeting.

11. Committee Reports – There were no committee reports.

12. Adjournment – Mr. McCarty made a motion to adjourn at 9:01PM, 2nd by Mr. Lord. Motion passes unanimously, meeting adjourned.