Northridge East Neighborhood Council

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

Minutes of the
NORTH RIDGE EAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (NENC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, September 15, 2010
at Northridge Academy High School, 9601 Zelzah Ave., Northridge, CA 91342

1. Call to Order
President Steve Patel called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance
The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Steven Ramirez.

3. Roll Call – Determination of Quorum
Roll Call was taken by Barry Greenberg. Board Members present: Steve Patel, Kelly Lord, Barry Greenberg, Jay Draiman, Nestor Fantini, Alice McCain, Lucille Meehan and Steven Ramirez.

     Eight of the 15 Board Members were present and no Board seats were vacant at this time. A quorum is eight, so the Board could make Motions and take binding votes. Also attending: 24 Stakeholders and Guests.

     Board Members absent: Yeprem Davoodian (unexcused), Don Dwiggins (excused), Peter McCarty (excused), Stephen Hubbard (excused), Conor Lansdale (unexcused), Michael McNulty (unexcused) and Brittny McCarthy (excused).

4. Agenda Setting Meeting Participation
MOTION (by Mr. Greenberg): The NENC approves the Minutes of the NENC August 18, 2010 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

5. Comments from Public Officials
a. City Council District 12: no official was present and there was no comment.

b. L.A. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE): no official was present and there was no comment.
c. CSUN (California State University at Northridge): no official was present and there was no comment.

[The following comments were made after New Business Item #8) a.)] Carolina Krawiec, Director of Constituent Services for U.S. 27th District of California Congressman Brad Sherman (818-501-9200; Carolina.Krawiec@mail.house.gov; www.house.gov/sherman), introduced herself. Their Office can help with immigration, IRS and other issues. A “Constituent Services Guide” is available.

[The following comments were made after New Business Item #8) d.)] Juan Diaz-Carreras, Lead Supervising Environmental Scientist for MWH Americas, Inc., on behalf of the LADWP, distributed a “Sylmar Ground Return System Replacement Project Fact Sheet” and described the Project. It’s to increase the reliability of the existing electric grid by replacing overhead lines and underground electric cables that run from the Sylmar Converter Station in Sylmar to the Pacific Ocean. The current System was installed in the 60’s and “it’s time to replace it.” It’ll be replaced by “another overhead line on the same towers . . . There’ll be some . . . temporary road closures . . . The [DWP] is doing a complete traffic study . . . An environmental study will [soon] be released . . . In the Spring there’ll be an Environmental Impact Report . . . The traffic study will be completed . . . Construction isn’t expected to begin until 2012 . . . The design isn’t finalized yet.” Installing the lines “on this project would not move the lines underground” because other uses are being made of the towers. He added that “it won’t affect any of the land uses under the” towers.

6. Public Comments
[The following comments were made after Item #9.)] Glenn Bailey, Chair, City of Los Angeles Bicycle Advisory Committee (818-453-3407; GlennBaileySFV@yahoo.com), reported that bicycle lanes were installed from Parthenia St. to Devonshire St. on Reseda Blvd. He suggested working with other local organizations regarding recognizing bike lanes opening; it could tie in with the Northridge100 celebration. Also, there’ll be another Bicycle Master Plan Community Meeting October 2nd at the Braude Government Center; the comment deadline ends October 8th. Mr. Bailey described local bike lanes and signage installations, and proposed installations. He also reported that LADOT General Manager Rita Robinson put the DOT MOU [Memorandum of Understanding] effort “on indefinite hold” due to City budget cuts.

Glen Wilson, Northridge West NC Board Member, announced that a Motion by L.A. City Councilman Greig Smith for the DOT to consult with NCs before constructing bike lanes is being considered by the City Council.

7. New Vision Committee Update
Mr. Patel distributed a “Northridge Vision – Community/Business Survey” and reviewed the Committee’s progress. Two other NCs, CSUN and other groups are working together on issues such as “What is Northridge going to look like” years from now. There’ll be a September 22nd Northridge Vision Summit at Fire Station 87 at 6:00 p.m. for Stakeholder
feedback. Volunteers are needed as Ambassadors to the Northridge West and Northridge South NCs. Mr. Patel introduced NWNC Board Members Tom Johnson and Glen Wilson.

8. **Old Business**
   a. Board Member Duties/Responsibilities [Mr. Patel]: no report.

   b. Re-approval of NENC Budget - DONE new mandated form.
      Mr. Lord reported “no change in the Budget; it’s simply a format change” from DONE. He’ll e-mail Board Members and have it posted on the www.NENC-LA.org website.

   c. Status LADOT Neighborhood Council MOU.
      Mr. Greenberg said that no LADOT representatives were present. There was discussion regarding receiving MOU information.

8. **New Business** [a second Agenda Item #8; really Item #9]

      **MOTION** (by Mr. Lord, seconded by Ms. McCain): The NENC will allocate funds in support of the North Valley Senior Service Business Council Fair on October 2, 2010 at Lighthouse Church in an amount up to $500.

      **MOTION PASSED** without any objections.

   b. Candidate Presentations – Mark Reed, Brad Sherman.
      Mark Reed, 27th Congressional District Candidate (ofc. 818.353.8777; cell 818.378.4370; www.MarkReedForCongress.com), introduced himself and described his views regarding the Sepulveda VA Hospital and other issues.

Mr. Greenberg left at this time. Seven of the 15 Board Members remained. A quorum is eight, so the Board could not take binding votes.

   Diana Shaw, 38th State Assembly District Candidate (661-367-2434; Info@ElectDianaShaw.com; www.ElectDianaShaw.com), introduced herself and described some of her views.

   c. Plan Approved re: DWP Ratepayer Advocate [Mr. Dwiggins, Mr. Draiman].
      Mr. Lord suggested and it was agreed to TABLE this until the next Meeting.

   d. Mailbox renewal or discontinue [Mr. Patel].
      Mr. Lord described that the NENC has an opportunity to have an office in the Chamber of Commerce building. The NENC could change its address and not renew the Post Office Box.

      **MOTION** (by Mr. Lord, seconded by Ms. McCain): The NENC will discontinue its Post Office Box.
DISCUSSION: Ms. McCain noted that, even though a quorum of Board Members was not present at this time, the Board could vote now and ratify the vote at its next General Board Meeting.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

9. Committee Reports
   Education
   Mr. Fantini reported that the Committee will meet on the last Thursdays of each month at 4:00 at Darby Elementary School. They’re still working on a questionnaire. Some Committee Members were concerned regarding the Board last year allocating $10,000 for an NPG (Neighborhood Purpose Grant). A Community Meeting today regarding Valley Region High School #4 got feedback; the School will open by September 2011. The next Committee Meeting will be October 28th at 4:00 at Darby Elementary School, which received a $500,000 grant.

   Land Use
   Mr. Patel reported for Mr. Dwiggins, who was unable to attend this Meeting. The developer of the 9750, 9800 and 9810 White Oak Ave. properties proposed building 27 homes where four are now; a zone change is moving forward despite NENC opposition.

   Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness
   There was no report.

   Other
   There were no other reports.

10. Adjournment
    Mr. Patel ADJOURNED the Meeting without objection at 8:25 p.m.

    Certified as true and correct:
    October 20, 2010
    Barry M. Greenberg, Secretary