Minutes of the Northridge East Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Wednesday, July 18, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by President Steve Patel at 7:15 PM

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

3. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum – Present: Steve Patel, Alice McCain, Peter McCarty, Don Dwiggins, YJay Draiman, Nestor Fantini, Lucille Meehan, Steven Ramirez, Ahmer Qureshi, Kelly Lord, and Ankur Patel (joined the Board during meeting); Absent: Brittny McCarthy, Daniella Parga

4. Agenda Setting Meeting Participation – Don Dwiggins, YJay Draiman, Kelly Lord, Steve Patel, Peter McCarty, Ankur Patel (as Committee Member)

5. Approval of Minutes – April 18, 2012 & May 1, 2012 Minutes Approved (by unanimous vote).

6. New Board Member Appointment-Ankur Patel – Steve Patel makes a motion to appoint Ankur Patel as the newest Board Member, seconded by Nestor Fantini. MOTION PASSES (by unanimous vote).

7. General Public Comment – A. Fred Flores – Community Meeting with Congressman Howard L. Berman on Mon. 7/30 at 6:30-8:30p at North Hollywood H.S. Auditorium; Public Hearing to discuss helicopter noise in LA on Mon. 8/6 at 6:30-8:30p at Millikan Middle School Burrill Hall in Sherman Oaks; Flyer distributed, for info call (818) 994-7200; Also a reminder of the Annual Veteran’s Day Parade held on 11/11

B. Kongit Farrell – Representing Congressman Howard Berman, working with campaign, learning about NCS

C. Karen Green, Education Committee – Summer Musical Theatre Workshop for kids & teens presents “Alice’s Adventures in Broadwayland” at the Devonshire House (Tickets $6) on 8/16-8/19; CSUN offering FREE Public Speaking Workshops for youth in grades 5-12 from 10/13-11/17 at 9-11:30a; CSUN Psychology Dept. is conducting a research study paying $100 for children ages 5-12 years with their mother or female guardian, for info call (818) 677-4624; All LAUSD public schools are having an early school start on Tues. 8/14 instead of September start; New age requirement for Kindergarten: children must turn 5 on or before 11/1/12 for this year; Kindergarten transitional program offered for children 5 years old between 9/1-12/2; LAUSD to provide free meal services for lunch for kids ages 1-18 years, contact Food Services Division at (213) 241-3366 (visit www.LAUSD.net for more info on any LAUSD items); Next Education Committee meeting will be held on 8/22 at 4pm at Darby Elementary in Northridge

8. Budget Approval for 2012-2013 Mr. Lord made a motion to approve $37,000 allocated of projected expenses in Budget 2012-2013 as presented, seconded by Peter McCarty. MOTION PASSES (10-0-1).

9. Treasurer’s Report – Don Dwiggins –
   a. Prior Month Exp $0
   b. Current Balance $29,034.32
   c. Committed Funds $3,000.00
   d. Un-committed Funds $3,768.90

10. Standing Expenditures Approval – Don Dwiggins –
    a. Rent: $150/Mo Northridge Woman’s Club
    b. Webmaster: $100/Mo Aaron DeVandry
    c. Minute Taker, Gabriella/AppleOne Services up to $200/Mo, plus May 1, 2012 minutes
    d. Ad: $250/Mo Decisions publications ¼ page

Mr. Dwiggins made a motion to approve (4) Items (10a-10d), seconded by Alice McCain. MOTION PASSES (10-0-1).

11. DONE Update & Funding Re-in stalled – Amelia Herrera-Robles of DONE presents a letter officially releasing the NENC from “Exhaustive Efforts” Status and will reinstate the Board back to the $37,000 to be used for Neighborhood...
Improvement, Operating Expenses, and Outreach; P-card paperwork to be completed by Don Dwiggins and whomever the Board designates to be the second signatory; Amelia will then submit this to the US Bank Website and they will issue a Purchase Card under the name of Don with $37,000 deposited to the P-Card; Neighborhood Purpose Grants (NPG) are for Non-Profit Organizations and Public Schools only; Final letter with signature to be emailed tomorrow; Board has the option to go through City Council to have them introduce a motion to recover funds from the last year.

12. Reseda Blvd. Street Furniture: Maintenance funding ($3000 + $500) status and update – Andrea Alvarado (NSNC) has received donation; DONE met with Bureau of Street Services & Northridge Councils; Memo of Understanding to come; NSNC has voted on a 5-year maintenance plan, as well as NENC (which will also include outreach plaques); Ms. Herrera-Robles will speak with Semee Park to arrange a meeting with Bureau of Street Services; Mr. Lord made a motion to approve $3,000 for Street Benches with plaques + $500 yearly (after 2nd year) for maintenance, seconded by Mr. McCarty. MOTION PASSES (11-0-0).

13. Appointment of Ankur Patel as VP Outreach Committee – Mr. McCarty made a motion to appoint Ankur Patel as Vice President of Outreach Committee, seconded by Mr. Qureshi. MOTION PASSES (11-0-0).

14. NENC Outreach: Promotional giveaway up to $1000 – Mr. Lord made a motion to approve up to $1000 for key chains to be used for promotional giveaways as outreach before elections, seconded by Mr. Draiman. MOTION PASSES (11-0-0). Amelia Herrera-Robles (DONE) to advise Board on how to access the $10,000 in election funds.

15. NENC Outreach Innovation Utilizing 22nd Century Technology – Mr. Draiman is looking into presenting the community with access to NC Meetings via streaming media; Mr. Qureshi to look into adding webpage barcode to ad.

16. Eco Renovation – Ankur Patel will update at next meeting on encouraging incentives for community participation.

17. 10101 Balboa at Mayal (Texaco Gas Station under the landlord of Arco): CUP for sale of beer & wine (Bruce Evans) – Mr. Lord made a motion for the NENC to support the approval of CUP for sale of beer and wine at 10101 Balboa at Mayal Gas Station, seconded by Mr. Draiman. MOTION PASSES (7-2-2)

18. Update NENC Elections/Vote by mail $500 fee – Candidate Forms – Advertising – Community urges NENC to approve $500 Vote by Mail option to include the large religious community that does not vote on Saturday; also that PSA should be free and to find out what time the ads are played and how often; Use USPS to send mailing advertising elections to include those without internet access; Suggestions to maybe use KFI 640 & KTLA 1150 instead of Daily News; Mr. McCarty made a motion to approve up to $10,000 from past encumbered DONE funds from FY 2011-2012 for Election Budget and Outreach Expenses including the $500 fee for Vote by Mail, seconded by Mr. Lord. MOTION PASSES (10-1-0)

19. LADOT offering NC’s free Lawn Signs – Anyone interested can contact Board for more info on discounted signs

20. Today’s economic condition and its impact on our community. Community Comments – Improvement ideas to draw shoppers and business to bring more jobs and commerce to the community; Ms. McCain updates on the City of LA’s consideration to raise the Transfer Tax from $4.50 per $1000 to $10 per $1000. The Realtor’s Association is trying to fight this and is looking for anyone who has a home on the market or is thinking about it to get letters of opposition; Mr. Fantini would like to have representatives from each side to bring info. on Props. 30 & 38 and add to next month’s Agenda; An idea for NENC to urge Metro to increase frequency of 236 bus on Balboa which connects to the busy Busway and Subway to bring more business; Greater Streets Greater Neighborhoods Survey to Northridge Vision; Measure R.

21. Adjournment – MEETING ADJOURNED (by unanimous vote) at 9:02 pm.