Minutes of the Northridge East Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

Wednesday, August 15, 2012

1. Meeting called to order by President Steve Patel at 7:18 PM
2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Patel
3. Roll Call/Determination of Quorum – Present: Steve Patel, Alice McCain, Don Dwiggins, YJ Draiman, Ahmer Qureshi, Kelly Lord, and Ankur Patel; Absent: Brittny McCarthy, Danielle Parga, Nestor Fantini, Steve Ramirez, Lucille Meehan, Peter McCarty
4. Agenda Setting Meeting Participation – Don Dwiggins, YJ Draiman, Kelly Lord, Steve Patel, Peter McCarty, Ankur Patel
5. Approval of Minutes – July 15, 2012 Minutes Approved (by unanimous vote).
6. Comments from officials: LAPD/LAFD; CD12; DONE; Others: A. Rosama Gonzalez – Combat to College – Prop AB2133: Return Veterans enroll in College (UC, Community, Cal State) and receive assistance. Prop AB2659: Provides jobs to Veterans with commercial license. Events: Canoga Park Art walk on September 20th from 6 – 8 p.m.
B. Jose Sandoval – Representing Region 2. The deadline to file candidacy has passed. Election date is September 8, 2012 from 10a – 2p at Northridge Park & Recreation. Sandoval will request extension of vote by mail due to Religious conflicts. Events: Candidates training August 18, 2012 at Northridge Library at 2:30 p.m.
7. General Public Comment – A. Maria Fist – Board Facility.
B. Brian Reff – Agrees with the bike lane proposal on Zelzah. Will provide easier access to CSUN and Northridge High school.
C. Mike Khalid, Stakeholder San Fernando – Believes most neighborhood council’s are leaving out the Mayor’s initiative to reach the community. Would like to make a presentation focusing on the postal service and discuss how to reach the non-English speaking community.
D. Lisa (Last Name) – Would like to thank the board for its support in the zip code change. Unanimous vote changed the zip code to 91343. Would like the council to support for the CCFO by providing community letter.
8. Treasurer’s Report – Don Dwiggins –
   a. Prior Month Exp $0
   b. Current Balance $37,000
   c. Committed Funds $0
   d. Un-committed Funds $37,000
9. Standing Expenditures Approval – Don Dwiggins –
   a) Rent: $150/Mo Northridge Woman’s Club
   b) Webmaster: $100/Mo Aaron DeVandry
   c) Minute Taker, 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 (9a-9d), seconded by Alice McCain. MOTION PASSES (6-0-1) Ankur Patel Opposes.
10. DONE Update & Funding (YJ Draiman) – Item still pending. Item tabled until the next meeting.
11. PALS Funding Update – Funding is tight. There is no extra money and would like to focus on spending within the community.
12. Update: NENC Elections – Interested in purchasing impressions, :30 radio clips, newsletters, banners and business cards. Would also like to focus on utilizing facebook to get the message out quickly. Northridge West council will provide a mailer template for Northridge East for revision and distribution. Will print approximately 5,000 flyers. Suggestion to distribute at schools with principle permission.
13. NENC Candidates - Introductions & Statements: A. Kelly Lord – No Comment
B. Don Dwiggins – No Comment
C. YJ Draiman - Things aren’t being done the way they should be and would like to see change.
D. Alice McCain – No Comment
E. Steve Patel – Have been around for a long time and feel there’s a lot of potential to reach the community.
F. Amher Qureshi – Has become a liaison between school and faculty at high school and would like to continue to address youth concerns in the community.
G. Ankur Patel – No Comment
14. Proposition 37 – Genetically Engineered Food Labeling (Lisa Kassner, Stakeholder Northridge East) – Food labels should include genetically engineered items on the label. 80% of processed food contains genetically engineered items and it has been in our food supply for nearly 20 years. Voting for Prop 37 begins in November. 90% of Americans want food labeled. Kassner requests to send a community message in Favor of Prop 37. Item tabled until next month’s meeting.
15. Measure R-Tax for Public Transportation – ½ cent sales tax would be implemented until 2066 to fulfill funding extending prop R. Not enough information about subject. Item tabled until next month’s meeting.
16. Disaster Preparedness funding up to $500 and up to $250 for food (Steve Patel) – 5th year of event and all Northridge Neighborhood Councils involved, Would like to provide 400 bags that include disaster items including glow sticks, whistles, lights, water, etc. 700 attendees last year, this is 900 are expected to attend. Event is October 6th from 11a – 3p at the LAFD Station 87. Alice McCain made a motion to approve $500 and up to $250 for food, seconded by YJ Draiman. MOTION PASSES (7-0-0)
17. Zelzah Bike lane proposal from Devonshire to Lassen (Glenn Bailey, Bicycle Advisory Committee) Status report on existing bike lanes usage and impact in the past 4 years - ½ mile on Devonshire between Zelzah and Lassen will have 5 ft. expansion of bicycle lanes. Plans to go to Topanga Canyon Boulevard or even further. Will run alongside student housing of CSUN. Recommendation to DOT to extend parking on Lassen between Lindley and Zelzah. Alice McCain made a motion to approve Bike Lane proposal from Devonshire to Lassen, seconded by Don Dwiggins. MOTION PASSES (7-0-0)
18. NENC Outreach Promotional Giveaway update (Amher Qureshi) – Would like to produce water bottles with Northridge East logo. Vote and receive water bottle promotion. Price of water bottles cannot exceed $1000 including tax. Amher made a motion to approve $1000 for NENC outreach promotional giveaway, Don Dwiggins seconded. MOTION PASSES (7-0-0)
19. Adjournment – MEETING ADJOURNED (by unanimous vote) at 8:52 pm.
20. Workshop: Transportation Planning for NENC (Planning Dept.) – Kelly Lord advises all board members to review materials. Item tabled until next meeting.