Northridge East Neighborhood Council

5-21-14 General Board Meeting Minutes

Elected Executive Board
Steve S. Patel – President ✓
Glenn Bailey – 1st VP, Membership ✓
Kelly Lord, Jr. – 2nd VP, Outreach ✓
Joe Seoane – Treasurer ✓
Don Dwiggins – Secretary ✓

Elected Board Members
Nestor Fantini ✓
Lori Fass ✓
Roland Faucher – (exc)
John Hardy ✓
Alice N. McCain ✓
Nadine McNulty ✓
Michelle Smith ✓
Francesca M. Vega – Appointed CSUN Faculty / Staff ✓
Sarah Garcia – Appointed CSUN Student ✓
Shawn Silleman – Appointed Youth ✓

1. Meeting called to order by Steve Patel at 7:02 pm
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call – Determination of Quorum (Secretary, D Dwiggins: 9 of 15 present / 8 eligible to vote)
4. Agenda setting meeting participants: Patel, Bailey, Lord, Seoane, Dwiggins, Fantini, McNulty, McCain
5. Approval of past meeting minutes: April 2014 – deferred to June General Board Meeting (Don Dwiggins)
6. Comments from Public Officials (CD12 DONE, LAPD, LAFD, etc…)
   a. CD12 - Jessie Levine reported on behalf of City Councilmember Mitch Englander. The City Council’s proposed budget passed with $1 million being allocated for Grafitti Removal and $20 million for infrastructure repair. Investment in transparency, 911 system, median maintenance, including Reseda Blvd (details TBA.) 3-year Impact Study, Adrin Nazarian – Renovation Tax Incentive. Their office is collecting donations for North Hollywood Rescue Mission.
      i. Neighborhood Council Member, Alice McCain, asked about the Business License Tax
      ii. Neighborhood Council Member, Glenn Bailey, asked about funds for the Congress of Neighborhood and ‘Budget Day’.
   b. DONE – Lydia Grant, BONC Commissioner (North Valley) Updated the assembly on the new posting requirements for public notification (empowerla.org), additional training opportunities (including Funding and Ethics – TBA), next Town Hall on June 3rd, and asked to speak later.
7. Public Comments
   a. NESFV Sustainability & Prosperity Strategy Project - Peter McCarty presented a report
      i. This is a $175,000 funding initiative to reduce GHG emissions by 8%. Federal, State, and County funds. The project has a carrot and stick approach with accountability being a key component.

1 Role Call taken on DONE Finance Voting Form. See attached sheet. 9 Present (indicated with a “✓”, above) 2 excused absences, 1 resignation as noted on the form.

2 Southern California Association of Governments – Sustainability Planning Grant Award Letter and 10 page winning grant proposal “NESFV Sustainability and Prosperity Strategy” (See attached)
1. We need to inventory what can be done on a [stakeholder] for profit and non-profit basis. Neighborhood Councils play an important role in public education. The SCAG calls for an interdisciplinary, public-private partnership approach. We need to wisely manage our resources.

   a. Suggestion was made that this project is worthy of study and could involve past Board Treasurer, Ankur Patel, who wrote his Master’s Thesis on sustainable transportation.

   b. Call to add this to a future agenda (September GBM?)

b. Stakeholder Don Martinez reported on a drainage and sanitation problem between Reseda and Etiwanda. Trash is strewn all around a Goodwill donation drop-off point. Goodwill has been approached but refuses to address the issue. A trash receptacle and pick-up is very badly needed there. Bureau of Street Maintenance makes the situation worse by emptying and hosing-down their sweeper trucks nearby, as a result, the Water pools and becomes [fetid posing a health hazard.]

c. The River Project - Jessica Sanchez, “Water LA” reported that both Studio City and Panorama City are working with LADWP/Bureau of Sanitation [Funding?] Asked: Which NC’s are interested? See the handout provided on back table. February Ribbon-Cutting for the Woodman Median and 25 homes.

d. Patty Lopez – District 9 Candidate and Community Advocate (difficult to hear/understand.)

e. William Kuzman, member of the Regional Board of Realtors (along w/ Alice McCain) the Board is seeking Realtors to serve as Liaisons in Neighborhood Councils, share information with Boards, especially regarding community [concerns]. As a stakeholder, Mr. Kuzman feels the new posting requirements are a step backward. He stated that he prefers that the agendas and minutes go out to the email list at the same time (& date) as notification to Board and Community members.

f. Candidate Statements: Bob Hertzberg (ME Early), Ricardo Benitez, and Jack Ludblatt

   i. Q&A: Top two vote-winners will go on the November Ballot.

8. Announcement of Resignation from the NC Board made on behalf of Michelle Smith by Steve Patel.

   a. Discussion: Call for Nominations or any ‘Expression of Interest’ to fill Michelle’s spot.

      i. Bob Weaver and Jay Draiman

      ii. Glenn Bailey read the requirements from the NENC Bylaws

9. POSTPONED: Public Works President Kevin James was to present the Save Our Streets - LA campaign

   a. Call to add this presentation to the June agenda

10. Paul Darrigo, Reserve Animal Control Officer (worked for LAPD, with LA Animal Services since 2009) Asked the Board for $1500 allowing his organization to train (& equip?) 1 additional Reserve AC officer.

    a. Requires a 3 days/week commitment and the ability to carry 70 pounds minimum.
b. Involves a rigorous Boot Camp
   
i. Stakeholder suggested they encourage Iraqi/Afghan War Veterans to apply.

c. Q&A: Would funds come from a Neighborhood Purpose Grant or a **Demand Warrant**?

d. Question: If NENC sponsors, can they post an officer [in Northridge]? **No** (They travel all over LA)

11. Northridge Sparkle (northridgesparkle.com) Andrea Alvarado – Presentation on clean-up efforts. Blue folders given out to all new businesses which come on board. Reseda Blvd. will be part of Great Streets/Green Streets campaign. Breaking up concrete and mulching median strip tree wells, planting [trees?] This will begin on Reseda south of Nordhoff. It started with seven stakeholders, with the Kiwanis Club, 100 people participated in the last clean-up event.
   
a. Note: They are currently seeking donated golf bags to use for volunteer tool bags.

b. Northridge South - corner of Reseda and Rayen commissioned a mural of the old Zelzah Train station. Calling for artist’s renderings of all potential murals. Volunteers will also mulch and plant in this part of town.

c. Steve Patel asked Andrea if she’s in touch with Tom Baker and Linda Dunam.

12. SoCal Gas – Missing (Don Dwiggins to confirm a date for this presentation)

13. Standing Committee Reports

   a. **Education**, Nestor Fantini – Northridge Academy, Darby & Holmes $ approved? **No**, 3rd party approval needed. (DONE rejected the Northridge Academy NPG for missing documentation stating there was no evidence of [prior NENC Board] approval but Ankur turned-in proof of prior auth.

      i. Clarification: On Teacher’s Request for Funds. Motion approved in Education Committee (date?).

      ii. Brought to Board first time on October 16, 2013 then again on January 15. Board agendized this in October but postponed until January. Form completed in October but submitted 3/11/14.

         1. Nestor to confirm timeline and report back

      iii. This expenditure was approved in January, was returned for a missing signature, and resubmitted to DONE. Was this [effectively] an after-the-fact reimbursement request?

      iv. NENC Board wasn’t aware of the disparity. Receipt submitted shows purchase date: 8/27 & shipment 8/28 [1-1/2 months prior to approval – this is NOT allowed.]

      v. Glenn Bailey suggests that the Principal work with PTA and school Boosters to obtain funds.

         1. Printer (NENC/NW Sign Printer) volunteered to donate $300 to the cause.

b. **Executive** Committee – Nothing to report

   c. **Outreach** – Board Retreat coming up. Updates re: Social Media [DONE/TUX Training?]
d. **Planning & Land Use** – May 15th meeting with Woodley Hills & Heritage Christian H.S.

   i. Heritage Christian HS, formerly known as L.A. Baptist HS, is located adjacent to VA.

   ii. Stadium lighting rumors were wrong as were rumors that the school was in violation of CUP (Conditional Use Permit)

       1. Glenn Bailey asked if a copy of their CUP had been provided.

           a. Kelly Lord responded: No, not politic to ask during the open meeting.

   iii. School met with 30-40 stakeholders regarding concerns over bus parking, overflow parking, and [student] trash issues.

   iv. PLU Committee passed a motion to be given to Secretary Don Dwiggins

       1. [Be] Proactive, get it done with school through community partnerships.

e. **Membership** Committee met 5/20. It was a fabulous meeting at park with a great turnout.

   i. Ad Hoc Committee – two alternatives: 1st - Orange Grove Bistro, Saturday, June 7th (Free with Faculty Advisor 10am – 2 pm) and 2nd – Northridge United Methodist, Saturday June 28th (must pay and bring own cables)

       1. These are the only two dates available at this time

       2. Highland Hall will only quote after an application is submitted. If using P-card must pay by June 15th. (P-card is “in the mail” according to DONE.

   ii. Motion made to approve one of these two times (funding previously approved.)

   iii. Don made an announcement about a new e-mailing system for posting NC Agendas, etc…

   iv. Discussion about board member availability (6 board members out tonight)

   v. Action: send out e-mails

   vi. Steve P moved to approve 6/7 if acceptable to all but two [absent] members. Kelly L 2nd

       1. If so, go ahead and schedule Orange Grove Bistro

       2. Poll members for their availability

       3. Vote: 9 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions (5 absent)

f. **Public Safety** – Nothing to Report - Signs and Business Cards – Printer: High Tech Signs

   i. Name Badges (title below) with City Seal on the top right

   ii. Table Cards for board meetings
14. See Item 13, section e, sub-sections i – vi, above

15. Approve change of wording in agendas to conform with DONE standards (D. Dwiggins)

16. NENC nomination of outstanding senior citizen for Aloha Festival Senior Dance
   a. Donald DiSimone (1 vote)
   b. Estelle Goldman (7 votes)

17. Authorization for meeting refreshments for June [General Board] meeting not to exceed $100 (per month.
   a. **Motion to amend from $100 to $150** to correct typo. (J. Seoane 2nd) Vote taken:
      i. 8 – Yes, 1 – No (J. Hardy)


19. Possible Amendment to the FY 13-14 Budget to reallocate budget categories (J. Seoane.)
   a. Need FY 14-15 Budget by June 30th deadline
   b. Question Can [Board] discuss Budget as part of the Board Retreat? (K. Lord)
   c. J. Seoane – March & April Monthly Expense Reports
      i. March – April expenses – Any questions? If none, move [on] to b & c (below)
      ii. No P-Card statement. May have to amend [report.]
      iii. Go to Betty Liu to obtain bank statements
         1. Google – auto debit
         2. Check Tracker
   d. G. Bailey - **Motion to approve March Expense Report.** (J. Seoane 2nd) Vote: a unanimous “Yes” (9)
      i. Subject to approval of P-Card expenditures (currently unknown.)
      ii. Three out of nine ineligible to vote (Kelly L., Steve P., Roland F.)

20. Treasurer’s Report (J. Seoane)
   a. Prior Month Expenses  $__________
   b. Current Balance  $__________
   c. Committed Funds Budgeted  $__________
d. Uncommitted Funds $___________

e. Approval of April 2014 Monthly Expense Report

21. Motion to Adjourn @ 9:25 pm