

Northridge East Neighborhood Council

5-21-14 General Board Meeting Minutes

DRAFT

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)¹
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 Graffiti 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 report²
 - 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 agenda'd 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)
18. POSTPONED: Proposed motion for NENC Community Impact Statement in Support of Council file 13-1603 Drought-Tolerant Landscaping / Cost Effective Landscaping of city property. (D. Dwiggins)
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