

**Neighborhood Council Valley Village
Board Meeting
12-15-04**

Approved 14-0

The meeting was called to order by NCVV President Peter Sanchez at 6:38 pm.

Mr. Sanchez welcomed all in attendance, and pointed out to the Board and the stakeholders present that this is the one-year anniversary of the NCVV Board of Directors. It was a goal of the first year's Board to be one of the top 10 NC's in the City of Los Angeles, and Mr. Sanchez felt that goal was achieved. He asked that the Board set as their new goal to be "top 5" in 2005.

Agenda Item 4 – President's Comments, Introduction of Guests. Mr. Sanchez pointed out that in the evening's agenda we would be seating new Board members, and formally thanking three Board members who were rotating out of their service to NCVV. Mr. Sanchez reviewed The Brown Act, drew attention to speaker's cards at the back of the room, and reminded those in attendance that the meeting would be run under Robert's Rules of Order.

Mr. Sanchez introduced John Bwarie from Mayor Hahn's office, Chris Olsen from Councilwoman Greuel's office, Dale Thrush from Councilwoman Greuel's office, and Deanna Stevenson from DONE. Mr. Sanchez recognized Mr. Olsen for a formal presentation from the City Council.

Mr. Olsen presented signed proclamations recognizing the work of Jody Hidey, Chris Pechin and D.J. Harner for their service to NCVV. He expressed appreciate from both Councilwoman Greuel and Councilman Weiss for the effort of the retiring Board members.

Agenda Item 2 – Introduction and Swearing in of 2005 NCVV Board. Mr. Sanchez recognized the new Board members – Dr. Alan Brody (absent due to marriage anniversary), Rev. Dan Clark, Michael Drachkovitch, and Bill Santoro.

Mr. Sanchez asked Ms. Deanna Stevenson to swear in the new Board of Directors. Ms. Stevenson commended the Board of directors for the hard work and commitment to the City of Los Angeles, mentioning that NCVV is one of 72 chartered councils throughout LA. She recited a pledge and asked the Board to affirm their commitment. All present Board members so did.

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution and Welcoming Remarks. Mr. Sanchez asked the secretary to call the roll. Board members in attendance were: Mr. Tony Braswell (residential renter), Mr. Michael Drachkovitch (student representative), Rev. Dan Clark (faith based), Ms. Ginny Hatfield (community based senior), Ms. Ann Hull (business), Mr. Walter Katz (residential renter), Mr. Greg

O'Connor (education), Mr. Tom Paterson (residential renter), Mr. Nick Pool (business representative), Ms. Breice Reiner (community based organization), Mr. Peter Sanchez (residential homeowner), Mr. Bill Santoro (residential homeowner), Mr. Stuart Simen (business), Dr. Daniel Wiseman (cultural). Board members excused absent were Dr. Alan Brody (residential homeowner) and Mr. Paul Hatfield (at large).

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of November Minutes. The minutes of the November meeting were sent by email to the Board, and copies were available for the public at the meeting. *A motion was made by Mr. Simen to accept the minutes and seconded by Ms. Hull. The minutes were approved by a vote of 14-0.*

Agenda Item 5 – Public Comment on Agenda Items - Mr. Sanchez recognized John Bwarie who spoke on behalf of Mayor Hahn. He stated the mayor's office continues to pursue additional funding for officers and the effort to put to a ballot measure the move to increase officers by 1200, as well as double the senior leads in the city. Related to The Orange Line, Mr. Bwarie reported that on Monday December 13 the MTA Board passed a resolution to fully fund the Orange Line Project to be completed by August 2005. The landscaping has begun, and there have been several road closures in or around the Valley Village area. If anyone has questions they are encouraged to contact Mr. Bwarie's office directly.

Mr. Sanchez thanked Mr. Bwarie for the update, and then asked that the meeting move to speaker's comments. He noted the large number of persons who had registered to speak, and stated that public comment would be divided into two sections to accommodate all speakers within the time frame of the meeting. There would be 12 persons invited to speak at the beginning, and the remainder would be held for the meeting's end.

Mr. Charles Peyton (1) stated that he owns a business at 5228 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, and that he has conducted a legitimate legal business for ten years, and the Kulak's Woodshed has operated for five years illegally and in violation of city code. For many nights every week he has to tolerate the sound of loud music through the walls, the police won't protect him, even though he is legal and Mr. Kulak is operating an illegal business. This business is Mr. Peyton's livelihood, and he has a son that he must support, and if the issue is not resolved appropriately he will be "put out" of business.

Mr. Tom Hubbard (2) stated he was in favor of Kulak's Woodshed. He added that the business does not know how to operate within the city code as there is not a clear category into which they fall. He invited the NCVV Board to come to Kulak's and see the business in operation – no bottles, needles, etc. There was never any intent to defraud the mislead the Council. We need your help.

Mr. Michael Britten was recognized but was not in the audience to speak.

Mr. Jim Britten spoke against Kulak's Woodshed, and stated that there was a variance meeting and the judge kicked the issue back to NCVV for discussion. He would like to

ask for a committee meeting with more than two minutes to provide feedback on this issue that has negatively impacted his business for five years.

Helena Ma (5) works on Laurel Canyon and volunteers at Kulak's Woodshed. This organization is just a music studio with an audience. She presented the land use variance packet to the NCVV Board, including all the paperwork submitted for approval to the variance officer, citations and responses from Kulak's to the citations, permits, and a copy of the current business license. She mentioned that aside from the two adjacent businesses who are opposed to Kulak's Woodshed, there are 10-20 businesses in the immediate area who are in favor of the Woodshed.

Paul Kulak (6) stated that he basically reiterates Ms. Ma's comments. The business has filed for the variance required to operate and they are trying to adhere to codes and laws as quickly and peacefully as possible.

Paul Nagy (7) spoke in favor of Kulak's Woodshed, stating that at the variance hearing there was a member of NCVV Board who spoke against the Woodshed and that "he was very misinformed". He further stated "I don't know if there's a policy to speak for NCVV but you need to know who is representing you. They should represent the interested of the neighborhood as well." Mr. Sanchez thanked Mr. Nagy for his comments and pointed out that many members of the NCVV Board are also members of other community based groups, including the Valley Village Homeowners Association, and that this presents varied interested parties that might have been represented. He noted that the two strongest groups within Valley Village are the NCVV and VVHA, but there is a very clear distinction between the two organizations.

Jody Hidey (8) asked to have The Hemster removed from the posting distribution list as they will be ceasing business next month. Mr. Jim Brittany from Brittany Floor Covering offered to be a posting site, and Tom Paterson will be in charge of posting there.

Mr. Sanchez asked that Ms. Hidey's comments not be considered one of the ten to speak during public comment. The full Board agreed.

Clarissa Valdez (9) spoke in favor of Kulak's Woodshed, saying that she just moved here and has an interest in music. This is a great place to see singers and songwriters working on their talent. A very "cool place."

Lawrence Garcia is an architectural designer who works in Valley Village and has been contracted by Kulak's Woodshed to help with the variance effort. He is also a volunteer at Kulak's Woodshed, and during the past year has helped one to two times per week. He takes his family to the Woodshed on a regular basis, and there is no alcohol, no drug use and no smoking. It is a true family establishment. We need to understand the zoning code and provide opportunities for diverse entertainment in the neighborhood to keep the neighborhood attractive. This is a positive, alcohol free, drug free establishment with a decibel level of noise under 65.

Gary Pielet (11) stated he attends performances at Kulak's Woodshed one to two times per week. The venue is about music, about acoustic music. There is never any alcohol, always ample parking, and the ugliness is not coming "from us." He submitted to the Board a letter that he sent to City Council stating his opinion on the issue.

Charle Kelsey (female) spoke in favor of Kulak's Woodshed, mentioning that she was utterly grateful to have found the venue and for the opportunity to share in the music process. This is a great community outreach. It is truly sad that we are in opposition with our neighbors. There was just one incident of a person who had consumed alcohol but they were promptly removed. I have an 11 year old child I regularly bring with me to Kulak's and it is only music and beautiful humanity that is shared.

Mr. Sanchez thanked the speakers for their attendance and interest in the issue. He noted that there were still many others who had registered to speak and that they would be given the opportunity at the second public comment portion of the meeting. He also stated that the issue of the variance requested by Kulak's Woodshed could not be discussed at the current NCVV Board meeting as it is not on the agenda. It will be assigned to a committee and be taken up for any appropriate action. The committee will study the variance that has been filed and make a recommendation to the full Board. He asked Mr. Paterson if it was correctly noted that the variance hearing had been postponed. Mr. Patterson stated that the Variance Officer had kept the issue open to allow a negotiation between the neighbors and Kulak's Woodshed. She hoped to balance the objectives of the varied interests and support for this community based effort. Mr. Sanchez noted again that there could not be a full discuss of the issue at the December Board meeting as it is not on the agenda. He asked if Mr. Paterson felt a committee could study the issue and make a recommendation before the January meeting? Yes. Mr. Paterson questioned whether a special meeting needed to be held to address the issue. A broader discussion resulted in the opinion that the issue could be handled by an ad hoc committee.

Mr. Dale Thrush clarified that there is no second meeting on this issue with the Variance Officer. She agree to hold open the discussion until the end of January. He felt certain that the deadline could be altered to help accommodate the time frame of NCVV Board.

Mr. Sanchez stated this will be part of the committee assignments that will be done later in the meeting. Ms. Hull added that the issue might span committees, incorporating cultural affairs as well. The public must be heard on the issue. Mr. Sanchez noted that this would be done, but must be done through the committee as it is not on the posted agenda for the December meeting.

Agenda Item 6 – 2005 Officer Election. Mr. Simen stated that as a newly incorporated Board, the issue of continuity of leadership was very important and made the following motion, *"If all people agree, I motion that we maintain the current officers in the position of President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary."* The motion was seconded by Dr. Wiseman. An audience member questioned if such a move was "legal." Mr. Katz stated that it was legal but he did not personally believe it was as democratic as we need

to be. Mr. Simen asked if the officers agreed to be renominated to their positions. All three of the officers present agreed (Mr. Sanchez, Mr. Braswell, Ms. Reiner). Ms. Reiner read aloud a statement from Mr. Hatfield expressing his desire to be re-elected to the position of Treasurer.

Mr. Sanchez read aloud from the bylaws, Article VII, addressing the question of the “legality” of a slate election. It is allowed under current NCVV bylaws. Reverend Clark raised a point of order that there must be allowance for other nominations from the floor. Mr. Sanchez noted that and asked if there were any? There were not. *Mr. Simen motioned that the floor be closed to nominations.* Rev. Clark seconded. The motion was approved 14-0. Mr. Simen asked if there was discussion on the first motion. Ms. Hull stated that the current officers have done a fine job, but this might set a dangerous precedent for future Board elections. Mr. Braswell agreed, and respectfully asked if Mr. Simen might consider individual elections for each officer position. *Mr. Simen withdrew his original motion and immediately nominated Mr. Peter Sanchez for the office of President.* Mr. Katz seconded the motion. *Mr. Simen moved to close the floor to nominations.* Ms. Hull seconded the motion. The floor was closed to nominations by acclamation. Mr. Sanchez was voted as President of NCVV 14-0.

Ms. Hull nominated Breice Reiner to the office of Vice President. Mr. Simen seconded the motion. Mr. Sanchez asked if there were any other nominations, and hearing none *Mr. Simen motioned to close the floor to nominations.* Rev. Clark seconded the motion. The motion was approved by acclamation. Ms. Reiner was then elected to the office of Vice President 13-0.

Mr. Hatfield was nominated to the office of Treasurer by Ms. Reiner. The motion was seconded by Mr. Katz. Mr. Sanchez asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none Dr. Wiseman motioned to close the floor to nominations. Mr. Simen seconded the motion. The motion was approved by acclamation. Mr. Hatfield was then elected to the office of Treasurer 14-0.

Ginny Hatfield nominated Tony Braswell to the office of Secretary. Mr. Simen seconded the nomination. Mr. Sanchez asked if there were any other nominations. Hearing none Dr. Wiseman moved to close the floor to nominations, and Mr. Simen seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation. Mr. Braswell was then elected to the office of Secretary by a vote of 13-0.

Mr. Sanchez thanked the Board for their effort and congratulated the new officers, and expressed his appreciation for their commitment of work.

Ms. Reiner asked to address the Board, and presented to the President a special gavel that belonged to her husband, to help him preside over the meetings. Mr. Sanchez thanked Ms. Reiner.

Agenda Item 7 – Treasurer’s Report. Mr. Hatfield reported that he prepared the Prepaid Card reconciliation as required by DONE. It is through the 1st Fiscal Quarter,

9/30/04. It shows that there are no reconciling items between the Council's and the bank's records. This report is filed after each quarter; the next one will be due after 12/31/04.

Mr. Hatfield recommended that the Board approve a budget of \$12,500 for the current quarter (the 2nd fiscal quarter), the allocation of which will be determined by the Board at a later date, subject to the development of spending plans. To date the Board has approved two quarters' budgets totaling \$25,000. Of that amount \$12,500 has been funded and \$4,076 has been spent.

Mr. Sanchez explained the budget process to the stakeholders present, and how the allocation of funding occurs from the City to Neighborhood Councils. Dr. Wiseman reminded the Board of the difficulty in rolling funds into a new fiscal year. Mr. Sanchez stated that the budgetary fiscal year for NCVV is only 6 months old. *Mr. Braswell made a motion to approve the Treasurer's report.* Ms. Reiner seconded the motion. The motion was approved 14-0. *Dr. Wiseman motioned to approve the second quarter budget of \$12,500, the allocation of which will be determined by the Board at a later date, subject to spending plans.* Mr. Braswell seconded the motion. The motion was approved 14-0.

Agenda Item 8 – Board Committee Structure, Assignments, Community Volunteers.

Mr. Sanchez explained the current Board committee effort, stating that in the first year the Board has worked largely through liaison relationships to specific city departments, and with targeted committee work that dealt primarily with specific projects. At the November Board meeting the Board approved a structure that established five committees – Outreach, Planning and Land Use, Limited Projects, Long Term Projects, and Elections. Mr. Sanchez asked that the first priority be establishing Planning & Use effort to address the request for an opinion on the Kulak's Woodshed variance application. He added that he would like for the group to be an ad hoc committee, with representation from the Board and the community.

Mr. Santoro, Mr. O'Connor, Dr. Wiseman and Mr. Pool agreed to serve on Planning and Land Use. A discussion was held about the importance of the Kulak issue and how it would fit into a committee. Mr. Katz stated that it would be important to have an expectation that this group work with the neighbors, realizing that the real issue here is that we have stakeholders pitted against each other, and agreed this would be best addressed in an ad hoc committee. *Mr. Katz motioned that a special ad hoc committee be formed to study the issues related to the variance requested by Kulak's Woodshed, whether or not the committee (and NCVV) should make any recommendation and if so what that recommendation would be. The committee should be composed of 7 – 9 people.* Ms. Hull seconded the motion. In discussion Mr. Pool asked to be on this committee. Dr. Wiseman advised that the committee reach out to members of the stakeholder community as well. Mr. Katz added that it would be important to have full disclosure of any possible conflicts of interest. Tom Paterson, Walter Katz, Dan Wiseman and Nick Pool asked to be appointed to this committee. Mr. Katz asked for clarification of the construct of the committee – 5 Board members and 4 Stakeholders.

Mr. Mark Warshing was mentioned as a possible Stakeholder on the committee. *Mr. Katz was nominated by Mr. Braswell to chair the ad hoc committee.* Mr. Pool seconded the nomination. Dr. Wiseman moved to close the floor to nominations. Mr. Pool seconded. The nominations were closed by acclamation. Mr. Reiner stated there may be some in the audience who have come to the evening's meeting "with an agenda" on this topic. There can't be a constructive effort with people who are already for or against the zoning request, and we indeed need input from all areas of the affected community and varied points of view.

Mr. Peyton (audience) stated that there already is a list of "people not to pick" who have spoken on the issue. Mr. Katz was elected to chair the ad hoc committee 14-0.

Ms. Hull stated that she echo's Ms. Reiner's thought of a goal to bring in neutral parties to assist with the issue, and see the operation of the venue and how it impacts neighboring businesses. Mr. Sanchez asked that the Chair of the committee maintain that responsibility. Dr. Wiseman suggested that of the four Stakeholder position on the committee, Mr. Peyton and Mr. Brittany be allowed to suggest one, Mr. Paterson be allowed to suggest one, Mr. Kulak be allowed to suggest one and the Chairman be allowed to suggest one. Mr. Paterson cautioned that additional information should be gathered from the city and the community.

Mr. Katz noted that the ad hoc committee had not yet been officially approved. *Mr. Sanchez asked Mr. Braswell to read the motion to establish the committee with 7 – 9 people.* Mr. Pool seconded the motion. The motion to establish the ad hoc committee to investigate and make possible recommendation on the Kulak's Woodshed issue was approved 14-0.

Mr. Sanchez clarified that the committee chair named (Mr. Katz) was willing to serve in the capacity. Yes.

Mr. Sanchez asked if there was a time line for the committee's work? Mr. Paterson stated no. Mr. Sanchez asked Mr. Katz to form the committee and meet in mid January, with the goal of having advice to present to the NCVV Board by the January Board meeting. Mr. Katz stated that he hoped to have the committee meet within the next 14 days. Dr. Wiseman stated his confidence in the fact that there is an attorney chairing this committee. He presented material related to the issue for Mr. Katz to review from the City. Mr. Brittany (audience) recommended that Dave Dutton from Dutton's Books be asked to serve on the committee. Mr. Katz circulated a sign-up sheet through the audience asking for names and contact information of any other persons who might want to serve. An audience member stated that he felt uncomfortable that one of the Board members present had already expressed an opposition opinion to the variance request. Mr. Sanchez noted that any such input must be shared at the committee meeting. *Mr. Katz motioned that the discussion be closed,* Mr. Braswell seconded the motion. The motion carried 14-0.

Mr. Sanchez asked that the Board turn their attention to other committees that needed to be assigned chairs and membership. At the November meeting it was agreed that five committees would be established this year to carry out the work of NCVV. These five committees were Outreach, Planning and Land Use, Limited Projects, Long Term Projects, and Elections. Ms. Hatfield asked for an explanation of the difference between limited and long term projects. Mr. Sanchez explained using the example of one-purchase project (trash cans) or one event (Neighborhood Night Out) verses a ten year tree planting project that spanned Board years. Mr. Simen added that bylaw changes would require short-term effort and would be a good example of limited project.

The first committee discussed was Outreach. This would include but not be limited to the Newsletter, community projects, communications, public relations, etc. *Dr. Wiseman nominated Ms. Reiner to serve as chair.* Mr. Simen seconded. There were no other nominations. *Dr. Wiseman motioned to close the floor to nominations,* Mr. Braswell seconded. The nominations were closed 14-0. *Ms. Reiner was elected Chair of the Outreach Committee 14-0.* Board members who agreed to serve on this committee are Mr. Simen, Mr. Santoro, Rev. Clark, and Mr. Drackovitch.

For Limited Projects, *Mr. Simen nominated Ms. Hatfield to Chair.* Mr. Braswell respectfully pointed out that Ms. Hatfield was the only Board member qualified to run the 2005 election and therefore her Chairmanship should be with Elections. Ms. Hatfield and Mr. Simen agreed. *Mr. Simen withdrew the nomination.*

Mr. Sanchez then asked for nominations to Chair the Elections Committee. *Mr. Simen nominated Ms. Hatfield to Chair Elections.* Dr. Wiseman seconded the nomination. Hearing no further nominations *Mr. Braswell motioned to close the floor to nominations.* Mr. Simen seconded. *Ms. Hatfield was elected Chair of the Elections Committee 14-0.* Board members who agreed to serve on this committee are Mr. Simen and Mr. Braswell.

Returning to Limited Projects, *Mr. Santoro was nominated by Mr. Braswell to chair the committee.* Mr. Pool seconded the nomination. *Hearing no further nominations Mr. Pool motioned to close the floor to nominations,* Mr. Simen seconded the motion. *Mr. Santoro was elected Chair of the Limited Projects Committee 14-0.* Board members who agreed to serve on this committee are Mr. Pool, Ms. Hatfield, and audience member Mr. Hubbard. Mr. Santoro distributed a sign-up list to the audience as well.

Mr. Sanchez then asked for nominations to Chair the Long Term Projects Committee. *Dr. Wiseman was nominated by Mr. Braswell.* Mr. Pool seconded the nomination. Hearing no further nominations from the floor, *Mr. Pool motioned to close the nominations* and Mr. Katz seconded. *Dr. Wiseman was elected Chair of the Long Term Projects Committee 14-0.* Dr. Wiseman distributed a sign-up sheet for his committee as well.

Mr. Sanchez asked for nominations for chair of Planning & Land Use Committee. *Ms. Reiner nominated Mr. Paterson to serve as Chair.* Mr. O'Connor seconded the nomination. Hearing no other nominations, *Mr. Simen motioned to close the floor to*

nominations, and Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion. *Mr. Paterson was elected to Chair the Planning & Land Use Committee 14-0.* Board members who agreed to serve on the committee are Mr. Katz, Mr. Santoro, Mr. O'Connor and Dr. Wiseman.

Ms. Hatfield asked how the President of the Board fit into the Committees. It was explained to the full Board that the President of the Board is and ex-officio member of all committees.

Mr. Braswell stated that he would distribute the posting format to all Committee Chairs to help facilitate the posting of their agenda for future meetings. Ms. Reiner reminded the chairs that their official meetings must be posted in at least five of the noted posting locations. Dr. Wiseman reminded the audience of the importance of the public's involvement in serving on committees. Mr. Santoro asked for clarification on the posting requirement – did this mean that every time the group meets the agenda must be posted? No, only official committee meetings, and only decision making meetings. Mr. O'Connor asked if minutes have to be kept of meetings? Yes.

A summary of the Committee Chairs and Board member assignments is attached.

Agenda Item 9 – Heritage Zone Presentation. Dr. Wiseman reviewed Heritage Zones. A heritage zone is a protected “overlay” zoned to identify neighborhoods that have been recognized for their historic value. A Heritage Zone has been formed in Van Nuys, and might be an example of a way of preserving the character of Valley Village. The Heritage Zone process is a long-term process, a quicker method would be to take an inventory of our neighborhoods and move to protect our identity. Issues like city growth will impact us soon – this is an issue that can be assigned to the Long Term Projects Committee.

Agenda Item 10.a. – Planning and Land Use Committee, Inclusionary Zoning. Mr. Paterson sent via email his report to the Board. He briefly reviewed the highlights of the report, and then asked the Board to act on the specific motions set forth in the report. The motions are:

I will make the following motion and request that Dale Thrush forward it to Councilmember Greuel if passed.

Given the growing problems with the City handling of land use issues in Valley Village, the Neighborhood Council Valley Village hereby requests that 2nd Council District Planning Deputy Dale Thrush schedule an early January meeting with Councilmember Greuel and representation from both the Valley Village Homeowners Association and the Neighborhood Council to discuss those problems, including the need:

- Create a NC Project Design Review requirement for Valley Village,*
- Establish an interim control ordinance to freeze further mansionization projects in Valley Village pending amendments to the Specific Plan to address that problem.*
- Amend the Valley Village Specific Plan to make changes in "use" subject to the Plan,*

- *Improve communication from City Planning and Building and Safety regarding proposed projects and City approval decisions,*
- *Introduce a City Charter amendment to require that Los Angeles Area Planning Commission members, currently appointed by the mayor, must be appointed from their respective Neighborhood Councils upon the recommendation of the respective NC Board.*

Dr. Wiseman stated that he agreed with the spirit of the motions and the intent of the action but felt the motion may not be in order. VVHA isn't able to join us in this action as the motion is stated. It was noted that the motion mentions the specific plan in numerous places and this is important because this plan already sets forth the method to preserve the character of Valley Village. Dr. Wiseman pointed out that the "charter amendment" requested in the motion is very difficult to achieve at the Neighborhood Council level. The Board should remember that the Neighborhood Council is part of the Mayor's branch of government and through the Mayor key appointments can be made to the Neighborhood Council Planning Commission. Mr. Villaraigosa (mayoral candidate) has already stated he will seek a neighborhood council role in all projects greater than \$250,000. Mr. Simen added his comments about the complexity of the motion, advising that in his opinion it was not an appropriate motion. After further discussion with Mr. Paterson it was determined that the motion should be sent to the Planning & Land Use Committee for further review. It was questioned whether NCVV should request a meeting with City government to establish an internal control ordinance related to the mansionization of Valley Village. *Mr. Katz motioned that a meeting be scheduled with Dale Thrush in early January and with Wendy Greuel to establish an internal control ordinance that addresses pending exceptions to the specific plan.* The motion was seconded. Mr. Simen noted that the motion may not be able to stand on the specific plan as it was a Homeowners Association document. Ms. Reiner pointed out that the document does not belong to any one group, but to the community. Mr. Paterson stated that the specific plan is a city ordinance and stands by itself. Ms. Hatfield asked to amend the motion to remove the names from the motion (Dale Thrush and Wendy Greuel). Mr. Paterson accepted the amendment. Mr. Katz noted that the language of the motion assumes that "mansionization" is a bad thing – and without community input we should hesitate to approve this as stated; and recommended that it be postponed to get input from the community. Mr. Pool asked for clarification on the term "mansionization". Mr. Paterson used the example of lots zoned in the 1920's being combined currently to allow larger homes than the existing structures. Members of the audience echoed the concern and shared stories of large homes near their's that had been built.

Mr. O'Connor stated that there is a "big house" law that enforces set-backs, which was part of a city-wide effort to stop building inappropriately large houses on existing lots. Mr. Paterson stated that the purpose of his motion was to place an internal control process on the current specific plan. Mr. Sanchez asked that the discussion be stopped and a vote on the motion be taken. The motion failed to pass with 5 yes, 6 no and 1 abstention. *Rev. Clark immediately motioned that the issue be sent to the Planning & Land Use Committee to revisit the motion, as he felt no one on the Board disagreed with the spirit of the motion and only wanted the language reviewed.* Mr. Katz seconded the motion.

The motion was approved 12-0. Mr. O'Connor stated that the Board should move quickly to meet with Wendy Greuel's office and determine why information on permits and zoning decisions and requests are not be passed along appropriately. Mr. Katz and Ms. Hatfield agreed.

Dr. Wiseman gave a brief update on the Orange Line.

Mr. Sanchez noted the time remaining for the meeting, and asked the Board to postpone all agenda items to the January meeting so that there would be appropriate time for the public comment portion.

Agenda Item 15 – Public Comment. Mr. Sanchez recognized persons who completed public comments cards in the order submitted.

Carol Haverty (13) was not present.

Robert Kane (14) was not present.

Beatrice Rose Casini identified herself in favor of Kulak's Woodshed. As a 32 year old she enjoys music but isn't financially able to go to many concerts, and said it is a joy to go to Kulak's Woodshed and see first hand the singers and songwriters speaking from the heart. Not a lot of places allow that and it would be a loss to the community if this goes away.

Steven Fine (16) was not present.

Gary Morris stated that in this economy we value art and we spend much money on it. We (artists) don't get much pay and need places to develop our craft. There was an institution called The Coffee Machine in Reseda that closed because of rent issues. If Paul Kulak can secure affordable space then artists will lose and this will be a great loss to the community.

Sivert Glarum (18) expressed comments for Dale Thrush, and noted that he had left the meeting. He stated he has called Councilwoman Greuel's office numerous times and has not received a response to his calls. Mansionization in Valley Village is a real problem and it is out of control. He stated that if Board members have questions about the validity of the issue they should spend a few seconds in front of a newly constructed house on Agnes. He stated that his own home has two neighboring houses that now have second floor windows that glare down on his back yard. He can't believe that Mr. Paterson's motion was not passed, and felt that Wendy Greuel's office needs to hear from the community on this issue.

David Bell (19) spoke in favor of Kulak's Woodshed. He said he was at the first performance ever held at the venue and had been to many since. He doesn't feel it will be possible to find a neutral party on the issue. He offered to get involved in the solution

with the ad hoc committee. He felt the Board should know that the dispute is not between the businesses, and that the Board should know that one of the businesses is adult entertainment and is not a legitimate business.

Scott Nimerfro (20) stated that Wendy Greuel's office is not responding to repeated requests to ask why 3 houses are being built on 2 lots on Hesby. No one will respond to his questions and calls. You (the Board) need to think about the future and about not allowing these great structures to be built in Valley Village.

Mike Gormley (21) stated he is trying to be neutral on the Kulak issue. One NCVV Board member stated this goes beyond zoning issues. The NCVV Board needs to listen carefully to the facts and look at the issue of a vendetta on someone trying to get their own way – which would set a dangerous precedent in the community. If NCVV Board goes out to look at the situation it needs to look at the other businesses as well.

Marlena Martin-Zeavy (22) was not present.

John Carney (23) was not present.

Elise Sherman (24) has been going to Kulak's Woodshed since it opened. Mr. Kulak's vision has always been to play and create music as if it was in his living room. She asked that a professional mediator be involved to serve on the committee.

David Bell (25) had already spoken.

Andrew Ettinger (26) stated he has been involved in community affairs for 25 years and is a member of the Hollywood Neighborhood Council. Kulak's Woodshed is about music, neighborliness, fun, and a wholesome environment to be a part of. We know what Kulak's is, but we haven't heard anything about the neighbors. Mr. Peyton's work is pornography and a menace to any neighborhood.

Andrew Rigrod (27) informed the Board he is a 62 year old attorney and stated he is too old to hang out with "rowdy" people. That's why he loves Kulak's Woodshed. He has actually played there and it was very empowering that he could get up enough nerve to play. But he is not "giving up his day job." At capacity there are never more than 25 – 30 people in the space, and parking is never an issue. He has never seen a bottle there, and actually wishes that Kulak's Woodshed could be bottled and sent to other cities.

Joseph Peyton (28) spoke against Kulak's Woodshed. He said for the past 10 years he has been in the neighboring property, and for the past five years he has had to endure loud music, drinking, people knocking on their door to find Kulak's Woodshed. The existence of Kulak's Woodshed is illegal, and to have an illegal activity put his father's business out on the street is not right.

Julie Chadwick (29) spoke on behalf of Kulak's Woodshed and HELP (Home for Every Living Pet) and stated that Kulak's Woodshed does significant fundraising for the

philanthropic community, and her organization benefits each month from the work they do raising money for non-profits.

There were no further public comments.

Mr. Sanchez thanked all who came forward to speak, and noted that the time was 9:10. He asked if the Board could postpone further business until the January meeting.

Agenda Item 17 – Adjournment. Mr. Pool made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Rev. Clark seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm.