

**Neighborhood Council Valley Village  
Board Meeting  
7-27-05**

**Approved August 24, 2005, 13-0**

**Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution and Welcoming Remarks.** The meeting was called to order by NCVV President Peter Sanchez at 6:41 pm.

Mr. Sanchez welcomed those in attendance, and explained the history and purpose of Neighborhood Councils. He reminded the audience and the Board that NCVV is approaching elections, to be held October 19. He advised that the meeting would be conducted under Roberts Rules of Order and within the guidelines of The Brown Act. Anyone wishing to speak to any issue was invited to complete a public comment card.

The roll was called. Board members present were: Mr. Tony Braswell (residential renter), Ms. Ginny Hatfield (community based senior), Mr. Paul Hatfield (at large), Ms. Ann Hull (business), Mr. Walter Katz (residential renter), Ms. Harriet Newton (faith based), Mr. Greg O'Connor (education), Ms. Breice Reiner (community based organization), Mr. Peter Sanchez (residential homeowner), Mr. Bill Santoro (residential homeowner), Mr. Stuart Simen (business), Dr. Dan Wiseman (cultural). Excused absent was Dr. Alan Brody (business), and Mr. Tom Paterson (residential renter). Absent was Mr. Nick Pool (business owner).

The Posting Roll was called – posting requirements for the meeting were met (7).

**Agenda Item 2 – Approval of Minutes.** *Mr. Simen motioned to approve the June minutes, Ms. Hull seconded the motion. Approved 11-0-0.*

**Agenda Item 4 – Public Comment on Agenda Items.**

Debbie Hild spoke about the conduct of students from neighboring high schools. She is a resident at 11639 Weddington St. She and neighbors have repeatedly contacted the principal and are present to ask for support from NCVV to help end graffiti, gang fights, broken street lights, slashed tires, and general trashing of the neighborhood. Firecrackers were recently thrown into her back yard and started a fire. The police and the school officials will not help. A copy of the letter presented to the principal was given to the Board. She has received support from Councilmember Greuel's office. She is asking NCVV to help open a dialogue with the school.

Ms. Hatfield asked if John Lauritzen was on the distribution list for the letter. Yes. Mr. Santoro asked what support came from Wendy Greuel's office. Maricela Gomez was very helpful to her requests. Mr. Katz asked to represent the NCVV Board on the issue. Mr. Sanchez said yes. Dr. Wiseman stated that he has substantial experience with kids. Mr. Stephen Rose spoke in support of the same issue, stating that members of his neighborhood were coming to the NCVV Board for support and helpful contacts.

Mr. Hatfield asked if these are organized gangs or just assembled groups of kids? Mr. Rose does not know. Mr. Sanchez noted that the automotive dealership at the intersection of Magnolia and Colfax has also expressed their concern to him and the school about trash from students in the area. He advised that they meet with Mr. Katz. Ms. Delores Compton asked what was happening with the Valley Village sign and the Torah School? Ms. Reiner informed her that the Valley Village sign should be completed sometime in the fall. Mr. Sanchez stated that the landscaping for the school is in compliance with the Valley Village Specific Plan. Ms. Dinkin confirmed that was her understanding as well.

Mr. Blayne Pacelli asked if there was feedback to his request to increase the boundaries of Valley Village. Mr. Sanchez thanked him for the question but explained that was not possible. Mr. Pacelli also stated that the Orange Line stop was directly in front of his home and asked if permit parking were possible for residents? Mr. Sanchez noted that NCVV could steer him in the right direction with the city, and Dr. Wiseman asked him to bring the issue to the Long Term Projects committee.

**Agenda Item 5 – Finance Report.** Mr. Hatfield presented the business plan for FY2006. He also presented a final financial summary for fiscal year 2005 (both reports are attached). Dr. Wiseman motioned to accept the final financial summary report, and Mr. Simen seconded the motion. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Mr. Hatfield stated that the Executive Board had already reviewed the FY2006 business plan for the current annual allocation and carryover budget for Neighborhood Council Valley Village for 2006.

Mr. Hatfield introduced the following resolution: *NCVV accepts the proposed Fiscal year 2006 business plan for \$99,000 as presented by the Treasurer. The Board recognizes that at this stage the Plan, as outlined, represents the initial detailed budget for Fiscal Year 2006. It also recognizes that the Business Plan is a strategic planning tool which requires regular re-evaluation; therefore, all projects and amounts are subject to change with the approval of the Board. The motion was seconded by Mr. Braswell. Ms. Hull asked if an effort could be made to ensure that all election materials are mailed to all residents in Valley Village. Mr. Sanchez noted that the request was not relevant to the motion and should be addressed in the Election Committee report. The motion was approved 11-0.*

**Agenda Item 7 – Neighborhood Participation Project from USC and DPW.** Mr. Thomas Bryer from USC presented the results of an ongoing study begun in a partnership with USC and The city of Los Angeles, surveying Board members, stakeholders, city representatives and others to improve the NC process. One of the outcomes was the Memorandum of Understanding between NCVV, TLNC, SCNC and MNHNC, and city departments to collaborate on services as well as the relationship with DPW. Mr. Bryer distributed information on the study, as well as individual packets to Board members for follow up survey. He asked that the packets be returned at the end of the meeting or by mail.

Mary Lou Preston (public comment on the agenda item) stated that the studies are not worthwhile and just take up time. There is too much to do to participate in academics.

Ms. Reiner stated that the study is very important to the NC process. Mr. Sanchez commented on the important contacts that have been solidified through this process.

**Agenda Item 9 – CIS, Non CIS and Sunshine Canyon.** Dr. Wiseman reported on three issues. First, Community Impact Statements. *A motion was made to set up the mechanism to produce CIS's on behalf of NCVV, and appoint the appropriate persons to do this. The motion was seconded by Ann Hull. (materials on this presentation by Dr. Wiseman are attached). The motion was approved 10-0-0.* Mr. Sanchez stated that the Secretary should be the official liaison for CIS's. Mr. Braswell was noted as the liaison to DONE for CIS, Mr. Sanchez will serve as the backup representative.

Dr. Wiseman then made a presentation on Non-Community Impact Statements. The difference between CIS and Non-CIS are that Non-CIS do not have a file number with the City Council, and as such cannot be introduced into an official hearing at the City Council level. Mr. Sanchez added that CIS's are issues before the City Council, Non CIS are not before the City Council for consideration. *Dr. Wiseman motioned that NCVV support the concept of Non-Community Impact Statements for Neighborhood Councils and adapt language supporting such as presented in the attached documents (Dr. Wiseman's presentation on this topic is attached to the minutes). Ms. Hull seconded the motion.*

Ms. Hatfield asked if there would be a distinction between CIS and non-CIS issues before the Board? Yes. Mr. Sanchez stated that the Board could reserve the right of refusal on language of any issue before the Board. Mr. Braswell asked if this could be reviewed further before a vote is taken. Ms. Hull commented that this would improve communication between the Board and the City. Mr. Sanchez noted his support for the concept, but asked to be able to review the language of the motion further. Ms. Newton asked who signs these statements? The secretary would sign them. Mr. O'Connor asked for clarification on the intent of this motion? The motion is to support NCVV's ability to adopt Non-CIS action.

Ms. Deanna Stevenson of DONE mentioned that any CIS has a 100 word component, and there is a process in place to establish between 1 – 5 liaisons on this topic. There is no current mechanism for conveying a non-CIS to the City Council. This motion would advocate for such a measure.

*The question was called. The motion was approved 10-0-1.*

Finally Dr. Wiseman presented a report on Sunshine Canyon. *He asked the NCVV Board to support a CIS in a motion related to the Sunshine Canyon Landfill, specifically referencing item #051179.*

There was discussion on the issue. Mr. Katz stated he would prefer more information on alternatives to the action and the landfill. Mr. O'Connor agreed. Ms. Hull expressed concern voting in the absence of further information on the issue. Ms. Hatfield asked for data on who has identified on each side of the issue – Dr. Wiseman reviewed the position of each City Council member. Mr. Sanchez pointed out that the motion did not have a second. *Mr. O'Connor seconded the motion, but expressed his concern that he did not believe there was support from the Board or his own position for this motion. Dr. Wiseman withdrew the motion based on the discussion.*

**Agenda Item 11 – Standing Committee Reports – Planning and Land Use.** Mr. Paterson was not present due to a conflict with a zoning meeting at city hall. He asked Mr. Braswell to read a motion. Several Board members, and specifically two members of the PLU committee, could not recall a conversation at the committee level that adhered to language of the motion. Based on extensive conversation, a substitute motion was made by Mr. Braswell. *NCVV is opposed to any fence built at 12252 Otsego that does not conform to city building codes. Mr. Simen seconded the motion. The motion was approved 10-0-1.*

**Agenda Item 11 – Elections.** Mrs. Hatfield stated that procedures are close to approval, inclusive of the new timeline for the election. The election issue of The Bridge is being prepared. It is the goal of NCVV to utilize the one free mailing associated with the annual election to get the election calendar out. Mr. Sanchez stated that the Executive Committee and The Elections Committee had determined that it would be appropriate to extend the election poll time to 9:00 pm to allow Orthodox Jewish members of our community to participate in the election. The poll times are now 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

A discussion was held about the possibility of combining the election committee and bylaws committee. It was noted that this could be done by the President.

Mr. Sanchez reminded Committee chairs that they must submit their structure to the Secretary.

Mr. Braswell will resend the format to all chairs.

**Agenda Item 11 – Limited Projects.** Mr. Santoro reminded the Board of Neighborhood Night Out August 2 and asked for volunteers. He recognized his committee for their hard work.

**Agenda Item 11 – Long Term Projects.** Dr. Wiseman reviewed the work of his committee, and invited persons in the audience who might have interest to join with his committee (the report is attached).

**Agenda Item 11 – Outreach.** Ms. Reiner thanked the Board who assisted with the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade and stated that the Outreach committee is working well.

**Agenda Item 15 – Public Comment.** Mr. Steve Rose stated that he did not know there was a committee that was working on the busway. The people who produced the brochure on the Orange Line obviously did not know the area, and real life does not match the content of the brochure.

**Agenda Item 12 – Board Liaison and Material Distribution.** Mr. Sanchez distributed the mail and other materials to appropriate Board members.

**Agenda Item 13 – Other Items for Discussion per Mr. Sanchez.** The Police Activity League will host a benefit October 6, and the Board should consider purchasing an ad supporting the Police Department. Ms. Reiner will present this at the August meeting.

Mr. Sanchez distributed business cards to all Board members.

**Agenda Item 16 – President’s Closing Comments.** Mr. Sanchez asked the Board to please remember that in every situation, they are recognized as a member of the NCVV Board, and that it is very important when speaking to any issue to distinguish between personal opinion and representation of the NCVV Board. He used Ms. Ann Hull as an example, referring to her comments at the Greuel Town Hall meeting on Mansionization. She rose to speak and clearly identified that she was a member of NCVV’s Board, but was speaking on the issue as a citizen of the area and not on behalf of the Board. He implored the board to always identify themselves as a member of the Board, and clearly state the nature of the comments. The only time any Board member is permitted to speak on behalf of the NCVV Board is with formal action and support of the Board. If Board members wish to state their personal opinion on any issue they may do so but must be careful to clarify their purpose. Mr. Sanchez also asked the Board to review the conflict of interest statements distributed and be prepared to review them in the August meeting.

**Agenda Item 6 – The Rescue and Human Alliance of Los Angeles, Mr. Scott Sorrentino.** Mr. Sanchez introduced Mr. Sorrentino and identified him as the liaison to the City on issue related to animal welfare. Mr. Sorrentino thanked the Board for their support, reviewed his background and committed his support to assisting with these issues.

**Agenda Item 14 – Future Agenda Items.** Dr. Wiseman asked that Sunshine Canyon be reviewed. Mr. Simen stated that the agenda is still not arriving in time to appropriately post at synagogues. Mr. Katz asked for a follow up report on area high schools.

**Agenda Item 15 - Public Comment.** Ms. Lori Dinkin thanked the Board for their support of the July 4<sup>th</sup> parade. It was one of the best ever. At the next Homeowners Association city controller Laura Chick will speak.

**Agenda Item 17 – Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned, motion by Mr. Simen and seconded by Ms. Hull, at 9:34 pm.