

**Neighborhood Council Valley Village
Board Meeting
10-25-06**

Approved November 29, 2006 8-0-0

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution and Welcoming Remarks. The meeting was called to order by Vice President Breice Reiner at 6:50 pm.

Ms. Reiner offered an explanation of the role of Neighborhood Council as well as the history of Neighborhood Council Valley Village. Anyone who wished to speak to any issue on the agenda was encouraged to complete a speaker card. It was noted that the meeting would be conducted under Roberts Rules of Order and within the guidelines of The Brown Act.

The roll was called. Board members present were: Mr. Tony Braswell (residential renter), Ms. Ginny Hatfield (senior based), Mr. Paul Hatfield (at large), Mr. Yoni Kahn-Rose (renter), Ms. Harriet Newton (faith based), Mr. Greg O'Connor (education), Mr. Peter Sanchez (residential homeowner), Mr. Bill Santoro (residential homeowner), Mr. Stuart Simen (business), Mr. Paul Wiener (residential renter). Absent were Dr. Alan Brody (residential homeowner), Mr. Fritz Friedman (business), Mr. Ben Lautman (business), Mr. Peter Sanchez (residential homeowner). The Posting Roll was called – posting requirements were met (8).

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of September Minutes. *Mr. Stuart Simen motioned to approve the minutes with corrections. Mr. Santoro seconded the motion. The September minutes were approved 8-0-0.*

Agenda Item 3 - President's Comments, Introduction of Guests. Ms. Reiner recognized members of the audience and asked that they introduce themselves.

Mr. Josue Barbosa came by the meeting to drop off the final election report.

Agenda Item 4 – Public Comment on Agenda Items. No comment cards from the public were submitted.

Agenda Item 5 – Election Report. Mr. Braswell distributed the final report of the 2006 NCVV election. The election was declared final after no challenges were filed. The results have been posted on the web site. Mr. Braswell thanked all of the Board members who helped, including Mr. Lautman, Ms. Reiner, Mr. Sanchez, Mr. Santoro, Mr. Wiener, Ms. Newton, Mr. Kahn-Rose and Mr. Simen. There were also many volunteers who Mr. Braswell thanked. Mr. Santoro stated that he felt there should be an information table from NCVV with a questionnaire about city services and encourage stakeholders to get involved. Mr. Braswell will put that into the election notebook. Ms. Hatfield mentioned that she would like to see better signage, but that the flow was better this year.

Agenda Item 6 – Finance Report. Ms. Reiner pre-empted the Finance Report by reminding the Board that we need at least one additional Board member to go through Finance training to be eligible to sign for the Board. Peter Sanchez and Paul Hatfield are the only two valid signatures at this time. Tony Braswell stated he will go through training. Ms. Reiner recommended that additional person be trained from the new Board members.

Mr. Hatfield gave the finance report. He began the report by stating the details of the Bank of America problem with our NCVV account. The account has been given a duplicate balance producing more funds in the account that our records indicate should be there. Mr. Hatfield has made numerous calls to BofA and they do not seem to be able to fix the situation. He is now demanding the city take action to resolve this discrepancy. He asked the city controller's office if there can be a different bank? That question is being investigated. There is also a concern for several NCVV transactions that have not hit the BofA account. He will stay on top of this situation, but explained to the Board that it is very frustrating.

There are no other significant changes in the financial reports for this month. The Board should be thinking of projects they would like to undertake before the end of the fiscal year.

Agenda Item 7 – Planning and Land Use. Mr. O' Connor reported that the committee did not meet due to the election.

Ms. Reiner reported that the EZ Lube project is back in the hearing process. They are still agreeable to construction of the gateway sign in the median, but the City will require the EZ Lube company to pay for the entire project. Ms. Reiner said she received a call from Nancy Patterson stating that the planning hearing officer was denying the project, she did not get a strong answer why. The next meeting for the project is a hearing Thursday October 26, 4:30 pm at the East Valley Planning Meeting, in the Brawde Building, 1st floor.

Agenda Item 7 – Short Term Projects. There was a combined short and long term projects meeting this month. Several discussions were held about issues for the Committee. The banner project was reviewed (the banners come down in 2007), The Valley Village Birthday party was discussed (NCVV wants to be involved again), and crosswalks were discussed.

The Board held a discussion about crosswalks. Harriet Newton stated she has investigated how to draw attention to areas that need sidewalks or sidewalk improvement. It is managed by the SFV Department of Transportation. They must be asked to do a study of a crosswalk situation and make recommendations for changes.

A motion was made by Ms. Newton to ask NCVV to send a letter to Bill Shales at the DOT to request a study of intersections that include Colfax and McCormick, Riverside

and Laurelgrove, for possible signage or changes in the lighting or striping on the crosswalks. The motion was seconded by Mr. Simen.

Mr. Santoro expressed surprise that a study must be conducted for such a safety issue. Mr. Hatfield stated that she felt Wendy Greuel's office has some statistics that might help us move the process forward. Mr. Simen spoke about Laurelgrove, stating that lighting is a problem and it is very difficult to pull out at that intersection. Ms. Reiner asked Ms. Newton to request Temple Beth Hillel to join in this effort. She stated that Lillian Berkenheim Silver is the President of the Temple Board. She will work with her.

Ms. Hatfield asked if the letter would be sent soon? Mr. Santoro wanted to get the appropriate name to whom the letter should be sent. The motion was approved 8-0-0.

Mr. Braswell mentioned that the budget survey still needs to be completed by a few Board members. Also Ethics Training must be done before December 31.

Agenda Item 7 – Outreach. Ms. Reiner reported that a website meeting was held at her house last Sunday. 19 people were invited, 13 people promised to come, and 3 showed up. Also Mr. Sanchez and Ms. Reiner would like to continue working with NCVV to create a history of Valley Village and NCVV, and will remain active with the Board as committee members.

Agenda Item 8 – Student Seat. We have been notified by our student that she has resigned. There has been interest expressed by a teacher at North Hollywood High. Ms. Hatfield advised that the Board wait to fill the seat until the new Board is seated and allow our Education representative to help.

Agenda Item 9 – Gateway Sign. There has been no progress. Breice Reiner will call and ask Wendy Greuel's office to make a presentation to the NCVV Board at the November meeting. She reminded the Board that we were promised the sign would be completed and installed by the end of November.

Agenda Item 10 – Pilot Project Funding For Valley Village. Mr. Braswell proposed establishing project grants for Valley Village stakeholders to apply for funding to conduct projects that benefit Valley Village. It was agreed that Mr. Braswell would put together a plan and present to the Board for motion at a future meeting.

Agenda Item 11 – November and December Meetings. Ms. Reiner stated that the November meeting would be held November 29. The December meeting will remain December 27.

Agenda Item 12 – Current Board Liaison Reports and Materials. None.

Agenda Item 13 – Other Items for Discussion Per President. Ms. Reiner showed the Board the ad for NCVV in the Police Activity League program from their recent event.

Agenda Item 14 – Future Agenda Items. Board should be reminded of Ethics training and the upcoming budget process. Mr. Hatfield asked for “Red Line Priorities.” Ms. Newton asked for further discussion on crosswalks. Ms. Hatfield asked for a discussion on involving the business community in beautification projects. Mr. Santoro will follow up with Ken Bernstein to see if he can present at the November meeting.

Agenda Item 15 – Public Comment. Mr. Scott Sorrentino, NCVV representative to Animal Services, spoke briefly about his recent work. He asked the Board to take a position against the cruel use of animals in the Studio City Market. Ms. Reiner informed him that is out of the jurisdiction of NCVV. Mr. Sorrentino stated that there is a motion going to the full City Council to ask that live animals not be used at public events.

Ms. Reiner expressed her continued desire to use myvalleyvillage.com to post lost and found pets. Mr. Sorrentino reminded the Board of his email – rescuealliance@earthlink.net.

Mr. Braswell asked about barking dogs at night. Mr. Sorrentino said to have the stakeholder contact him. His phone number is 818-766-4257.

Agenda Item 16 – President’s Closing Comments. Ms. Reiner mentioned that although she is rotating off the Board, she will still remain involved. She thanked the Board for their support over the years, and expressed her appreciation for the many years of hard work to help make Valley Village a better place.

Agenda Item 17 – the meeting was adjourned at 8:20 pm.