

**Neighborhood Council Valley Village  
Board Meeting  
9-19-07**

**Approved October 24, 2007 10-0-0**

**Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution and Welcoming Remarks.** The meeting was called to order by Paul Wiener at 6:41 pm. Mr. Wiener thanked those in attendance for their involvement, and reminded the audience that the meeting would be conducted under the Brown Act and within the guidelines of Roberts Rules of Order.

The roll was called. Board members present were: Ms. Dorothy Apple (residential homeowner), Mr. Tony Braswell (residential renter), Mr. Yacov Freedman (cultural representative), Mr. Fritz Friedman (business), Ms. Ginny Hatfield (senior based), Mr. Paul Hatfield (at large), Mr. Ben Lautman (business), Dr. Joshua Levy (faith based), Mr. Greg O'Connor (residential homeowner), Ms. Mona Riss (education), Mr. Paul Wiener (residential renter). Board members absent were Mr. Yoni Kahn-Rose (residential renter), Mr. Beni Warshawsky (residential homeowner). The Posting Roll was called – posting requirements were met (5).

**Agenda Item 2 – Approval of June, July and August Minutes.** The minutes for June were approved 10-0-0. The minutes for July were approved 10-0-0. The minutes for August were approved 10-0-0.

**Agenda Item 3 - President's Comments and Introduction of Guests.** Mr. Wiener noted that Mr. Evan Roosevelt from Councilwoman Greuel's office was on his way to the meeting.

Mr. Wiener also reminded the audience and Board of the October 17 election, and asked Ms. Hatfield to circulate a sign-up sheet for volunteers.

**Agenda Item 4 – Public Comment on Agenda Items.** No public comment.

**Agenda Item 5 – Presentation by DWP.** No representative from DWP attended the meeting. It was promised that they would attend. Mr. Roosevelt agreed to follow up and ensure that the DWP representatives attend the October meeting.

**Agenda Item 6 - Finance Report.** Mr. Hatfield distributed the latest financial report. The year-to-date expenses are close \$30,000, and spending is on target with the NCVV budget. Mr. Friedman asked how funding would be allocated for small neighborhood based projects. Mr. Hatfield stated that depending on the scope and cost it might need to be referred to the Projects Committee, or it could come before the Executive Committee. This would need to be handled on a case by case basis. Mr. Wiener asked that the Projects Committee start meeting again, and will talk with Mr. Friedman regarding chairing that work.

**Agenda Item 7 – Board Attendance.** Mr. Wiener reminded all Board members that election to a Board seat carries responsibilities of attendance and participation, and that he expects all Board members to fulfill their responsibilities to the Valley Village Community. He asked that if any Board members feel they cannot attend a meeting he receive a call at least the day before so that he could be aware of their need to miss the meeting. He also asked that the Board be respectful of the

meeting structure and refrain from cell phone use. Mr. Wiener reminded the Board that we are in our positions to serve our community and we need to remember that. Mr. Hatfield stated his concern that for two consecutive meetings there has not been a quorum and that such poor participation reflects badly on Valley Village and our certification as a Neighborhood Council. He further stated that just a small number of Board members are doing the bulk of the work, and that we need to strengthen Board involvement, and committee involvement of community members.

Mr. Wiener thanked Mr. Hatfield for his comments.

**Agenda Item 8 – Standing Committee Reports, Elections.** Ms. Hatfield gave an update on preparations for the 2007 elections. There are 13 certified candidates who will be on the ballot and one candidate to date who has qualified as a write-in candidate. There might be other write-in candidates; the deadline is October 16 at 5:00 pm.

Mr. Friedman expressed concern that the Election Filing information was not completely clear related to deadline, and information required from candidates to qualify on the ballot. Ms. Hatfield reviewed the information with Mr. Friedman.

The election is October 17, 4pm to 8pm in the Colfax Elementary School Auditorium.

**Agenda Item 8 – Standing Committee Reports, Projects.** No report.

**Agenda Item 8 – Standing Committee Reports, Planning and Land Use.** Mr. O'Connor reviewed the Huston 30' lot issue with the Board. There will be more to report at the next PLU meeting. Mr. Roosevelt commented as well.

There was discussion on the background of the issue. Ms. Hatfield motioned that, based on the municipal code, the NCVV Board state their opposition to this use of a 30' lot for construction of a single family home. Ms. Apple seconded the motion. Dr. Levy asked why two 45' lots could not be approved? Mr. O'Connor advised that would violate the code as well. Other Board members also expressed concern that allowing a 30' lot would set a bad precedent in Valley Village. The motion was approved 10-0-1.

A project was presented on Ben Avenue. The motion from PLU was to approve the project as presented. Mr. Lautman asked if the project would require rezoning? No. Have all of the neighbors approved the project? All but one has responded yes. What is the zoning of the property? R 1.5 and R 3. Mr. Hatfield asked how the project is financed? Private support. Mr. Wiener asked about the size of the units – they will be from 2700 to 2800 square feet, inclusive of the garage space. Ms. Riss asked if there is any information on sale price or potential presale buyers? No. The motion was approved 10-0-1.

**Agenda Item 8 – Standing Committee Reports, Communications.** The website is due any day now. There will be a special issue of the Bridge that will go out for the Election.

**Agenda Item 9 – Clean Money Campaign.** Ms. Hatfield asked to defer this until October.

**Agenda Item 10 – Community Recognition of Service Personnel.** Mr. Lautman presented a detailed proposal to recognize women and men in Valley Village who serve in the armed forces of

the United States. The text of the motion is attached. Mr. Lautman motioned to support the proposal, Mr. Friedman seconded the motion.

In discussion, Mr. Roosevelt advised the Board that Councilwoman Greuel's office participates in Operation Gratitude that allows people to recognize residents of our district for their service. We could also request commendations from our City Councilwoman's office. It was discussed that this might be a better incentive than awarding money in the form of scholarships. Mr. Hatfield advised that the City of Los Angeles might not permit NCVV's Board to give money directly to students. The Board reviewed other opportunities to use the motion to engage schools in this important opportunity to recognize our service personnel. An amendment was offered to take off the \$1000 award to students, and instead do some sort of recognition to the school and students from NCVV and the Council offices. The amended motion was approved 11-0-0.

**Agenda Item 11 – Valley Village Gateway Sign.** Mr. Roosevelt advised that the sign is still under discussion with NCVV and the Homeowners Association and that he expected progress soon. Foliage and landscaping are also being reviewed.

Mr. Jerry Fagin asked if there could be reflective material placed on the back of the sign to warn any stray traffic of the monument? Mr. Roosevelt will explore.

**Agenda Item 12 – Board Liaison Reports and Material Distribution.**

**Agenda Item 13 – Future Agenda Items.** Mr. Hatfield – LA Recycling Bin raiders. Ms. Apple – cushions for the meeting.

**Agenda Item 11 – Public Comment.** None.

**Agenda Item 12 – President's Closing Comments.** Mr. Wiener thanked all in attendance for their comments, and specifically thanked the Board members for their continued hard work and dedication. He once again reminded all in attendance of the October 17 election.

**Agenda Item 13** – the meeting was adjourned at 8:50 pm.