

**Neighborhood Council Valley Village
Board Meeting
1-23-2008**

Approved

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution and Welcoming Remarks.

Mr. Tony Braswell called the meeting to order at 7:40. Mr. Braswell thanked everyone for coming out to vote and noted that NCVV had as many people vote in this special election as we did for the first NCVV election. Due to the shortened meeting time and the ambitious agenda, speakers need to limit their comments to one minute. He 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: Dorothy Apple, residential homeowner; Tony Braswell, residential renter; Annalisa Engelbach, business owner; David Engelbach, community organization; Ginny Hatfield, senior based; Paul Hatfield, at large; Joshua Levy, faith based; Greg O'Connor, residential homeowner; Mona Riss, education; Richard Gauthier, business owner; Suzanne Lewis, residential renter; Andrew Sacher, business owner; Philip Schaeffer, student representative; Steven Stokes, residential renter.

Board members excused were: Yacov Freedman, cultural representative.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of December Minutes – The December minutes were approved by a vote of 13-0-0.

Member –Agenda Item 4 – President's Comments, Introduction of Guests –

Mr. Braswell stated that we would come back to Agenda Item 3 once the election count was completed, and thanked the following people for running for the vacant seat: Michele Hirsch, John Kent and Lory Oberg. Introduction of guests was made - Evan Roosevelt from Councilwoman Wendy Greuel's office, Councilwoman Wendy Greuel, and Taneda Larios from DONE.

Ms. Greuel made a presentation to the board on Los Angeles City Strategic Traffic Planning. Ms. Greuel is the Chair of the City Council's Transportation Committee. Mr. Jerry Fagin asked Ms. Greuel if developers had to pay for traffic studies. Ms. Greuel stated that they do pay for the traffic studies using City Approved Companies. Mr. Fagin also asked Ms. Greuel when all of the newly installed traffic arrows at the intersection of Laurel Canyon and Riverside Drive would be working. She stated that she did not know and Mr. Roosevelt would look into it. Mr. Hatfield made a comment on the lack of parking for the Redline Station. Ms. Lory Oberg asked about carpool lanes being turned into toll lanes. Ms. Greuel stated that we do not have any carpool toll lanes, but if we did, the monies generated would be used to improve transportation. Dr. Dan Wiseman made a comment about increasing transportation along the freeways and making some of the major boulevards one-way streets.

Agenda Item 5 - Public Comment on Agenda Items –

Ms. Lori Dinkin asked if we had done anything about hiring someone to help with graffiti removal. Mr. Braswell said that we are looking into hiring someone to help with this problem.

Dr. Wiseman made a comment about the City Clerk taking over the elections for all Neighborhood Councils, and Proposition S, and asked to have NCVV's input on these items.

Agenda Item 3 – Seating of New NCVV Board Member – Ms. Hatfield thanked everyone that came out to vote and read the election results. Ms. Oberg 59 votes, Ms. Hirsch 9 votes and Mr. Kent 16 votes. Ms. Greuel swore in Ms. Oberg as a Board Member of NCVV.

Agenda Item 6 – Proposition S – Mr. Hatfield – *Motion: NCVV is opposed to Measure S on the February Primary Ballot.* Mr. Hatfield presented his motion. Ms. Hatfield seconded the motion and a vote was taken. 12 ayes, 2 abstentions, no opposition.

Agenda Item 15 – Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction - Ms. Liz Bolwell a resident at 11819 Kling Street spoke on behalf of the neighbors that will be impacted by the proposed rezoning of the property at 4635 Morella Ave. It is currently zoned LA1R1 and the developer/owner is seeking a lot split so he can build three homes on this lot. The residents are vehemently opposed to this change in the current zoning. Approximately 30 residents attended the Board meeting. Residents voiced their concerns that the developer, Hamid Reisi, has purchased five lots in the neighborhood and is seeking rezoning on all of his properties to subdivide them and build three homes on each lot. Since he has arrived, he has shown a complete lack of regard for the aesthetics, property values, privacy laws and safety of the neighborhood. Ms. Bolwell stated that the developer has clear-cut all vegetation and trees from his first two properties that once created privacy from the apartments, shade and a noise buffer from the 101 Freeway. He has left all of the properties vacant and in disrepair, creating an eyesore and a fire hazard. He has removed fences leaving all of our homes vulnerable to vagrants and graffiti. The residents reiterated that they are vehemently opposed to this project.

Another resident spoke about being opposed to this mansionization project, stating the negative impact that it will have on the community, increased traffic, loss of privacy, etc.

Mr. Braswell asked the residents to come to the Planning and Land Use meeting in February, and keep the Board aware of the project developments and that we support them in their mission to stop this development.

Mr. O'Connor said that he has met with the residents to offer advice and support. He then asked Ms. Greuel if she knows if the city has a position or feeling on what, if anything, can be done to stop a development like this or if this is in fact by right and there is nothing that can be done. Her response was that she is not familiar with this project, and promised that her staff would look into it and report back to NCVV. Mr. Braswell asked the residents to stay in touch with him and Mr. O'Connor on this project. Mr. Braswell let the residents know that they are approaching this problem in the correct way, to let Ms. Greuel and NCVV help in ensuring them the appropriate development of property.

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports- Mansionization Survey Results – Courtney Malloy, Vital Research – Ms. Malloy presented the findings of the NCVV Survey on The Baseline Mansionization Ordinance. The survey results will be posted on the myvalleyvillage.com website.

Dan Caplan stated that if any of this information was inconclusive, we would have to do another survey. He stated that if we need another survey it should include questions

about what homeowners do to their homes and what developers do to their investment properties.

Mr. Braswell explained how the Planning and Land Use Committee came up with the questions on the survey. He asked people to go to our website to see the survey results. Further discussion will occur with Mr. O'Connor and Planning and Land Use.

Agenda Item 7 – Board Retreat Report, New Committee Assignments – Mr. Braswell and Ms. Hatfield – Mr. Braswell said that all of the Standing Committee assignments are done. A motion was introduced to establish a City Services Committee under the NCVV Board. The vote was 14-0-0 in favor of establishing a City Services Committee. Mr. Gauthier agreed to chair this committee and Mr. Engelbach is also on this committee.

Agenda Item 8 – Finance Report – Mr. Hatfield – Mr. Hatfield distributed the Finance Report. NCVV is still on target to reach at least \$50,000 for the fiscal year 2008. We have about \$83,000 remaining in the budget and still have some outstanding expenditures, banner expansion and things like that. The Finance Report is attached.

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – Projects – Mr. Braswell for Yacov Freedman – Committee Motion - from committee member, Ms. Hatfield: to allocate up to \$10,000 for 120 banners to be placed along Riverside Drive/Laurel Canyon. The banners will be up from 2008 to 2010.
The motion was seconded and a vote was taken. The motion was approved by a vote of 14-0-0.

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – Elections – Motion: NCVV adopts city guidelines established by the City Clerk regarding the third quarter 2008 Neighborhood Council elections and postpones the next NCVV election until 2010. The motion was seconded, the vote was 12-0-2. Greg O'Connor, Dorothy Apple, Annalisa Engelbach, David Engelbach, Paul Hatfield, Ginny Hatfield, Richard Gauthier, Dr. Joshua Levy, Phillip Schaffer, Suzanne Lewis, Lory Oberg and Steven Stokes voted in favor. Andrew Sacher and Mona Riss abstained from voting.

Mr. Braswell said that he would get the bylaw changes to all board members and that changes would be on the agenda for approval at our March meeting.
Taneda Larios said our bylaw changes need to be in to the city by March 2008.

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – Communications – Steven Stokes is going to be running the website and Suzanne Lewis will be the new chair of the Communications Committee.

Agenda Item 11 – Update on 30' Huston Lot – Public Hearing Monday February 11, 2008 at 2:30PM Case No. DIR2007-5376 (BSA) – Ms. Oberg asked that everyone opposed to this should come to the hearing.

Member – Agenda Item 4 – Presidents Comments, Introduction of Guests – Mr. Braswell – Taneda Larios from DONE welcomed all of the new members on the board. The NC review commission changes were reviewed. There is a training day on February 23 on the Brown Act and city funding training. Her handouts on The Brown Act and Neighborhood Councils are attached.

Mr. Matthew Schupbach from Councilman Jack Weiss's office gave an update on the Neighborhood Characterization Ordinance.

Agenda Item 12 – SB1818 and Valley Village Specific Plan – Mr. Engelbach –
Postponed.

Agenda Item 13 – Board Liaison Reports and Material Distribution, Other Items for Discussion – Mr. Braswell

Agenda Item 14 – Future Agenda Items – Street Furniture map will be provided by Jack Weiss's office for the board to approve the locations. Mr. Sacher would like the Board's position on the Town Hall Meeting on Development to be on the agenda. Dr. Levy would to add to the agenda discussion of implications of the Mansionization survey and possibilities of actions.

Agenda Item 9 – Follow-up Motion Regarding DWP Oversight Committee – Mr. Gauthier –
Motion: NCVV will become a signatory to the MOU (MOU2 03/20/07) between LA DWP and Certified NC's; Appoint NCVV member to the MOU2 Oversight Committee with delegated authority to represent NCVV and be bound by a majority vote of the Oversight Committee on certain issues. This item is postponed and will be taken up at next month's meeting.

Agenda Item 16 – President's Closing Comments and Adjournment – Mr. Braswell
thanked everyone in attendance and especially those in attendance on Morella Avenue; we are here to help you. Meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm.