

CITY OF LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Tony Braswell, President
Ginny Hatfield, Vice-President
Steven Stokes, Treasurer
Dale Liebowitz-Neglia, Secretary
Daryl Baskin
Daniel Brady
Richard Davies
Alice Hart
Sandy Hubbard
Suzanne Lewis
Richard Poole
Paulette Stokes
Charles Sulahian
Jeff Walker
Marc Woersching
Alex Rostad, Student Representative



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
VALLEY VILLAGE
P.O. Box 4703
Valley Village, CA 91617
Phone: (818) 759-8204
Info@MyValleyVillage.com
www.myvalleyvillage.com

Minutes of the
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL VALLEY VILLAGE (NCVV)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 27, 2016

Faith Presbyterian Church – 5000 Colfax Ave., Valley Village, CA 91601

NCVV (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary; Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript or comprehensive record of what was said at a Meeting. Exceptions: Motion(s) (included as stated at the Meeting, or, if not stated, as written on the Agenda); quotes (words that have quotation marks (“”)) at the beginning and ending of a word or words); and Agenda wording copied into the Minutes.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution – Mr. Braswell

President Tony Braswell introduced himself and called the Meeting to order at 6:36 p.m. Ten of the 15 Board Members were present, including all four Executive Committee Members: Tony Braswell (President), Ginny Hatfield (Vice-President), Dale Liebowitz-Neglia (Secretary), Steven Stokes (Treasurer), Daryl Baskin, Richard Davies, Alice Hart, Suzanne Lewis, Richard Poole and Jeff Walker. Two Board Members arrived later: Paulette Stokes and Marc Woersching, and the Student Representative (Alex Rostad). Three Board Members were absent: Daniel Brady (excused), Sandy Hubbard (excused) and Charles Sulahian (excused). The NCVV quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is eight including at least three Executive Committee Members (see <http://69.89.31.152/~myvalle7/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/NCVV-Bylaws.pdf>), so the Board could take such votes. All 15 of the 15 Board Seats were filled (by election). No Board Seats were vacant. Also attending: approximately 49 Stakeholders and Guests.

2. Approval of November 2015 Minutes

Mr. Braswell asked if there was any objection to approving the Minutes as presented and amended; there was unanimous consent to APPROVE the Minutes of the November 18, 2015 General Board Meeting as written.

Student Representative Alex Rostad arrived at this time (6:41).

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

Ann Bowman, Acting Senior Librarian, North Hollywood Library, announced that every day there are programs for children and teenagers, and science and finance workshops for anyone. Stakeholder Bob Rosenbloom reported that the 5300 Radford block was bought by Empire USA; 30 families will be displaced.

Board Member Marc Woerschling arrived at this time (6:43), making 11 Board (including at least three Executive Committee) Members present (the NCVV quorum is eight including at least three Executive Committee Members).

Jaspal Singh, owner of Fast Stop Market, 5406 Whitsett, on the northeast corner with Chandler Blvd., introduced himself. Mr. Braswell said Mr. Singh is requesting a Conditional Use Permit to sell a full line of alcohol. The NCVV Planning and Land Use Committee will discuss it February 10th.

Board Member Paulette Stokes arrived at this time (6:45), making 12 Board (including at least three Executive Committee) Members present (the NCVV quorum is eight including at least three Executive Committee Members).

[This Agenda Item was continued after the Item #8 Motion regarding 5022 Whitsett Ave.]
Brian Gavidia, Northeast Valley Representative for Mayor Eric Garcetti (cell 213.713.0960; ofc. 818.778.4990; Brian.Gavidia@LACity.org; <http://LAMayor.org>), reported that help is available and encouraged contacting him.

4. 2016 Election – Ms. Hatfield, Tom Meredith – Region 4 IEA
Mr. Meredith was unable to attend. Ms. Hatfield gave an overview of the Election timeline and identified the available Seats. [See below Item #8.]

5. Executive Committee Report – Ms. Hatfield
Ms. Hatfield reported on the VANC [Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils] meeting.

6. Finance Report – Mr. Stokes
Motion to approve November, December 2015 financial report.
Mr. Stokes reviewed November expenses of \$8,007.86, including tree watering, banners and the Light Up Valley Village shuttle. The balance is \$19,118. He noted that there was no December NCVV Board Meeting, which is why the November report was now being approved.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Finance Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village approves its November 2015 Treasurer's Report.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Baskin, Braswell, Davies, Hart, Hatfield, Lewis, Liebowitz-Neglia, Poole, Paulette Stokes, Steven Stokes, Walker and Woerschling); zero opposed; zero abstained.

Mr. Stokes reviewed December expenses of \$2,500.00. The balance was \$17,876.

FUNDING MOTION (by the Finance Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village approves its December 2015 Treasurer's Report.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a roll call vote of the 12 eligible voters present with all 12 in favor ("Yes" or "Aye") (Baskin, Braswell, Davies, Hart, Hatfield, Lewis, Liebowitz-Neglia, Poole, Paulette Stokes, Steven Stokes, Walker and Woersching); zero opposed; zero abstained.

7. Light Up Valley Village 2015 – Suzanne Lewis

Ms. Lewis reported that "it was a great success . . . the merchants really supported" the event, though the trolley broke down half-way through the route, which basically concluded that portion of the event. The trolley operator gave the NCVV a \$1,300 refund. She relayed that "the merchants were extremely excited about the possibilities for next year."

8. Committee Reports

Elections and Bylaws – Ms. Hatfield

Ms. Hatfield displayed a paper copy of an electronic postcard recently emailed to Stakeholders for the April 7, 2016 Election here from 4:00-8:00 p.m. Half the Board is up for re-election: one (1) Education Based Seat; one (1) At Large Seat "B"; one (1) Business Seat "B"; two (2) Homeowner Seats "B"; and two (2) Residential Renter Seats "B." She described qualification documents needed; candidates can register online. Volunteers are needed to help.

Planning and Land Use – Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia

Motion to deny the proposed redevelopment as presented at 12444 Chandler Boulevard.

Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia provided an overview of the PLU discussion regarding the project at 12444 Chandler Boulevard. The Committee believes the proposal takes advantage of bonuses provided by SB1818 and by mixed use zoning yet only a small amount of commercial use is being proposed there. Mr. Braswell said "it's a five-story building" but many nearby buildings are three stories tall, and indicated that while there are multiple concerns the main issue is the building's proposed height. Ellia Thompson, land use Attorney, and Jim Wilson, Architect, presented for the developer. One said "this is a density bonus case . . . we could by right build . . . 80 to 90 units . . . we are providing 35% of our base number for affordable housing." The project would be "roughly 27,000 square feet"; they are requesting a 35% increase. One said "the ground floor is commercial," according to Specific Plan requirements. "We're not going after a parking Variance . . . we are providing the parking the Code requires." There would be one level of subterranean parking; "the water table is very high." Developer Avi Itshaki showed a rendering and explained the project's design. Residents believed the project would be too high and not provide enough affordable housing; one suggested having a park there instead. Stakeholder Paul Hatfield indicated that the Valley Village Homeowners Association opposes the project.

MOTION (by the Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village denies the proposed redevelopment as presented at 12444 Chandler Boulevard.

DISCUSSION: Board Members noted that the project is 11 feet higher than what the NCVV Specific Plan allows (height up to 36 feet). Two bonuses allow a 56-foot

height. It was said that “Infrastructure is lagging behind.” Mr. Braswell noted that “the landscape plan is an improvement over what was there.” Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia reminded that the NCVV previously has opposed SB 1818 density bonus projects.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Braswell); zero opposed.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote with 11 in favor; zero opposed; zero abstained. [President Braswell chose to not vote.]

MOTION (by the Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village requests that, if the proposed redevelopment as presented at 12444 Chandler Boulevard is approved for a 56-foot height as a mixed use residential development, that the entire first floor facing Chandler Boulevard be commercial and that no residential use be permitted on the first floor.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 12 in favor; one opposed; zero abstained.

MOTION (by the Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village requests that the Floor Area Ratio of the proposed redevelopment as presented at 12444 Chandler Boulevard be reduced from 2.0 to 1.5.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 10 in favor; zero opposed; two abstained.

Motion to approve the project as presented at 5022 Whitsett Avenue.

Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia noted that this is another SB1818 project. It would have six by right and three density bonus condos with a 36-foot height. An elevation and photos were passed around.

MOTION (by the Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village approves the project as presented at 5022 Whitsett Avenue.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia indicated that one unit would be very low-income. Parking was reduced from 2 ½ to two spaces per unit. It’s between Addison and Hesby.

MOTION FAILED by a hand vote with six in favor; six opposed; one abstained.

Mr. Braswell asked for clarification of what happens in a tie vote. NCVV Parliamentarian Stuart Simen explained that the tie vote meant the Motion failed. Mr. Braswell asked for a re-vote to be sure the vote was tied.

MOTION AGAIN FAILED on a re-vote by a hand vote with six in favor; six opposed; one abstained.

Motion to deny the project as presented at 4725 Radford Avenue.

Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia noted that this is another SB1818 project. It would have 15 by right and six density bonus units, including two very low-income, and be up to

47 feet high. She indicated that the developer did not appear or present to the Committee.

MOTION (by the Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village denies the project as presented at 4725 Radford Avenue.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote with 12 in favor; zero opposed; zero abstained. [President Braswell chose to not vote.]

Board Member Suzanne Lewis left at this time (8:29), making 11 Board (including at least three Executive Committee) Members present (the NCVV quorum is eight including at least three Executive Committee Members).

Motion to approve the proposed midpoint reduction as presented for 5304-5306 Irvine Ave. It was noted that the Motion should say “midpoint lot line reduction,” not “midpoint reduction.” Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia described the project. Now two houses are on the site. Some thought it “would set a bad precedent” to split the lot and that “we don’t know what the owners . . . [or] future owners have in mind.” One thought it “doesn’t necessarily become a precedent.”

MOTION (by the Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village approves the proposed midpoint lot line reduction as presented for 5304-5306 Irvine Ave.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Braswell); zero opposed.

MOTION FAILED by a hand vote with zero in favor; 12 opposed; one abstained.

Motion to approve CIS to support Council file 14-0628-S5.

Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia clarified that the Council File number is 14-0268-S5. Mr. Braswell worked with her to clarify NCVV’s position on a Community Impact Statement for this Council File.

MOTION (by the Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village approves submitting a Community Impact Statement to support Council File 14-0268-S5.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with seven in favor; five opposed; zero abstained. [President Braswell chose to not vote.]

Communications – Mr. Brady

Motion to approve Website and Social Media Security and Maintenance Policy.

Mr. Braswell noted increased numbers regarding website visits and more.

MOTION (by the Committee): Neighborhood Council Valley Village approves its Website and Social Media Security and Maintenance Policy.

DISCUSSION: There was very extensive discussion regarding the need for procedures and security measures to govern NCVV electronic communications and web presence.

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Walker); zero opposed.

MOTION FAILED by a hand vote with three in favor; five opposed; three abstained.

Mr. Braswell stated his desire for the Committee Chairs to attend the next Communications Committee meeting to help amend the policy to re-present at the February Board meeting.

Events & Outreach – Ms. Lewis

Ms. Lewis reported that the 2016 calendar is “on hold” due to funding concerns. Also, the Neighborhood Councils Disaster Preparedness Alliance met and urged preparing for El Nino storms. The total amount of food collected for the 8th Annual Food Drive is not in yet; there were seven locations including Starbucks and Gelson’s. She is checking into the shredding cost for the Earth Day event and, for Movie Night, the dates and cost for three movies for the cost of two; titles may include “Inside Out,” “Transylvania 2” and “Zootopia.”

Valley Village Vision Task Force – Ms. Hubbard

Mr. Braswell reported that the Committee will meet tomorrow. Copies were distributed of “Proposed Community Plan Amendments – [NCVV]” and Valley Village parcel maps. Mr. Woerschling displayed a large version of the map and reviewed parcels vulnerable to higher-density development.

City Services – Mr. Walker

Mr. Walker described a January 30th three-hour one-time disaster awareness course.

9. Public Comment

Stakeholder Paul Hatfield noted that City enforcement of housing laws is slow and the need to preserve existing affordable housing.

10. Future Agenda Items, Closing Comments - Mr. Braswell

There was discussion that more Election material will be distributed.

Adjournment

Mr. Braswell declared the Meeting **ADJOURNED** at 9:04 p.m.

Minutes written by DL, edited by NCVV. *The first paragraph of some Items, Motions/Resolutions and other wording may have been directly copied from the Agenda.* The NCVV Minutes page is <http://www.myvalleyvillage.com/agendas-minutes>.