

Neighborhood Council Valley Village Board Meeting

January 23, 2013

Approved

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution, Welcoming Remarks and approval of June and July Minutes - Mr. Tony Braswell called the meeting to order at 6:30 and thanked everyone for coming out to attend our meeting. He asked speakers to fill out a speaker card and please limit their comments to two minutes. He reminded the audience that the meeting will be conducted under the Brown Act and within the guidelines of Robert's Rules of Order.

The roll was called. Board members present were Dorothy Apple, residential homeowner; Dave Bate, business owner; Tony Braswell, residential renter; Cathy Flynn, Education; Ginny Hatfield, residential homeowner; Sandy Hubbard, residential homeowner; Suzanne Lewis, residential renter; Dale Liebowitz-Neglia, at-large; Steven Stokes, residential renter; Charles Sulahian, business owner; Jeff Walker, Residential Homeowner; Marc Woerschling, community based.

Board members excused were Paul Hatfield, at large; Dr. Joshua Levy, faith based; Paulette Stokes, residential renter.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of October Minutes - The October minutes were approved by a vote of 11-0-0.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment on Agenda Items (limited to two (2) minutes per speaker, and must fill out a speaker card) – Field Representatives Gabriela Marquez and Brian Gavidia from the office of the newly elected Congressman Tony Cardenas office introduced themselves and provided us with contact information for the congressman. The congressman is on the Natural Resources Committee, on the sub-committee for Native American and Alaskan Affairs, Water, Power and Energy and Natural Resources. They provided us with information on how to apply for a United States Passport and how to renew your passport; gave us information on Security Works LA, a program open to veterans of the United States Armed Forces. This program is dedicated to providing veterans with the opportunity to launch their careers into the professional security industry. They also informed us of a workshop for the Cash For College program being held on Saturday, January 26 at various locations throughout the city. For more information you can visit their website at www.calgrants.org or call them at 888-CAGRANT.

Kevin Hopps, member of the Los Angeles Bicycle Coalition, provided us with an update on the proposed bike lane in North Hollywood along Lankershim Boulevard; more details on this can be found at www.la-bike.org or 213-629-2142. You can also attend the Valley Area Public Hearing, February 21st from 6:00-8:30pm being held at the North Hollywood Public Library. Mr. Hopps was instrumental in having bicycle racks installed at local business Marie et Cie.

Nikki Ezhari from Councilmember Paul Krekorian's office informed us that construction has started for the project being built on Albers Street east of Laurel Canyon. It is a one hundred twenty-one (121) unit, SB 1818 project. No Parking signs have been installed along Laurel Canyon in front of Four N Twenty, per Brian Gallagher of the LADOT. There are three (3) to four (4) spaces in front of 4741 Laurel Canyon with restricted parking during peak hours.

There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for Valley Glen Park on January 24th.

Talene Dermenjian, Field Representative from newly elected Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian's office, introduced herself and provided us with contact information for his office.

Lisa Samson, Neighborhood Council Advocate for the Southeast Valley, asked that participate in the Mayor's budget survey. The survey will be online in February. Bruce Thomas is the new president for Valley Glen Neighborhood Council. The Neighborhood Budget Council Advocates took a position asking that the public be given sixty (60) day notice of proposed ½cent sales tax increase.

Agenda Item 4 – Finance Report, Mr. Hatfield - Mr. Braswell gave an update on the financial report and submitted a copy for the record.

Agenda Item 4 – 2012 NCVV Election – Ms. Hatfield – Ms. Hatfield submitted a copy of the financial report for the record. She reminded us that no encumbrances will carry over to the new fiscal year. We have \$24,938 left in our budget for fiscal year 2013 that ends June 30th.

Agenda Item 5 – Executive **Committee Report – Mr. Braswell, Ms. Hatfield** –

Motion: Amend NCVV Bylaws to establish Valley Village Vision Committee as a committee of the board. The motion was approved by a vote of 11-0-0.

Motion: Amend NCVV Bylaws to update Committees – Rename Elections & Outreach committee to Elections Committee. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0-1.

Motion: Amend NCVV Bylaws to update Committees – Rename Projects committee to Events & Outreach Committee. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0-1.

Motion to update posting sites to include Colfax Elementary School, Sego Nursery, Marie et Cie, North Hollywood Library, Faith Presbyterian Church, Daily News, NCVV Website. The motion was approved by a vote of 11-0-0

Motion: Support VANC 10th Anniversary Celebration with donation of \$150.00. The motion was approved by a vote of 11-0-0.

The LA City Council unanimously confirmed the Mayor's appointment of Grayce Liu as the next permanent general manager of the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

Responding to an uproar by Neighborhood Councils and community activists, the Los Angeles City Council Tuesday dropped plans to put a \$3 billion road repair bond on the May 21 ballot. The bond is on hold in order to give the proposal more time for consideration by all Los Angeles stakeholders and to engage the in a public outreach effort.

There is a Neighborhood Emergency Preparedness Workshop February 12 at Balboa Park. Mr. Walker and Ms. Apple are planning on attending the workshop. You can sign up online to attend.

Ms. Hatfield has generously donated her time to be NCVV's representative at the Neighborhood Council Review Plan.

Bob Peppermuller, a resident of North Hollywood, voiced his concerns over the BONC revisions.

Gary a resident owner expressed his concern as to why DONE feels the need to re-evaluate their rules only after the lengthy process of our neighborhood councils to re-arrange bylaws citywide.

Agenda Item 6 – Report from Valley Village Homeowners Association - Alan Brody, newly elected president of the Valley Village Homeowners Association, expressed his wishes to continue to work together with NCVV for the betterment of Valley Village. One of the main goals of VVHA will be to increase membership this year.

Agenda Item – 7 – Update – Fund to Assist Magnolia Avenue Traffic Accident Victims – Funds have been disbursed to pay the ambulance bills for the victims of the accident. There is just over \$10,000 left; the committee is meeting to determine how to best disburse the remaining funds for the victims of this tragedy.

Agenda Item 8 – Presentation – 5555 Laurel Canyon /12106 W Burbank Boulevard (Starbucks's Proposal) – Mr. Bate – Possible Motion regarding Starbucks's proposal – Mr. Bate gave a brief presentation on the proposed Starbucks at the southwest corner of Laurel Canyon and Burbank Blvd.

Daryl Baskin, a homeowner in Valley Village, voiced his support of this project as presented.

Suzanne Schmidtke, a resident of Valley Village, is against this project as long as there is such an apparent emphasis on accommodating cars. She does not feel that the fumes generated from the cars are eco-friendly.

Jay Werner, a homeowner in Valley Village, voiced his support of this project as presented.

Abbott Alexander, a resident in Valley Village, voiced his support of this project as presented.

Linda Pace Alexander, a resident in Valley Village, voiced her support of this project as presented.

Dana Landis, a resident in Valley Village, voiced her support of this project as presented.

Barbara Gauthier, a resident in Valley Village, stated that she is in favor with accommodations for controlling traffic.

Mitch Rosen, a resident in Valley Village, voiced his support of this project as presented.

Richard Gauthier, a resident in Valley Village, voiced his opposition of this project as presented.

Fred Poston, a resident in Valley Village, voiced his support of this project as presented.

Ned Schmidkte, a resident of Valley Village, voiced his opposition to this project as presented. He has concerns about a continuous line of cars idling next to a convalescent home.

Stuart Simen, a resident in Valley Village, asked if there has been a study to determine the number of car accidents caused by left turns from Laurel Canyon into Tommy's.

After a lengthy discussion between the board members, Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia proposed a motion and Mr. Woersching seconded the motion. *Motion: disapprove the project as presented.* The motion was not approved by a vote of 5-6-0.

Mr. Bate proposed a motion and Ms. Apple seconded the motion. *Approve the project as presented with the following changes. 1) Install a permanent barrier to prevent left turns from northbound Laurel Canyon; 2) Include and install an appropriate gateway sign at the southwest corner of Burbank Boulevard and Laurel Canyon; 3) Provide provisions for adequate after hours security; 4) Provide architectural modifications that are preferred by the Valley Village Architectural Design Standards; 5) Hours of operation are limited to 6:00 a.m. – 9:00 p.m.; 6) Approval of this project does not constitute a precedent for additional drive-thru businesses in Valley Village.* The motion was approved by a vote of 8-3-0.

Mr. Braswell presented a motion and Ms. Lewis seconded the motion. *Motion: The NCVV Board is officially sending the Starbucks project to Planning and Land Use.* The motion was approved by a vote of 11-0-0.

Agenda Item 9 - Standing Committee Reports – City Services – Mr. Walker – *Motion: purchase set of two (2) way radios to be used in Emergency Preparedness, cost not to exceed \$125.* The motion was approved by a 10-0-0.

Mr. Walker gave an update on the purchase of a mobile digital sign to donate to the North Hollywood LAPD station. City Services will be presenting this proposal to our neighboring NC's for their financial support.

Agenda Item 9 - Standing Committee Reports – Communications – Mr. Stokes – Mr. Stokes had no update to report.

Agenda Item 9- Standing Committee Reports – Elections – Ms. Hatfield – Ms. Hatfield had no update to report.

Agenda Item 9 – Standing Committee Reports – Projects – Ms. Lewis – Ms. Lewis informed us that we collected over one hundred seventy (170) pounds of food that was donated to the East Valley Shelter. Projects committee is working on a blood drive, Earthday event and Family Movie Night.

Agenda Item 9 – Standing Committee Reports – Planning and Land Use – Mr. Bate – Motion: NCVV opposes proposed Oakwood School improvements that are inconsistent with the Valley Village Specific Plan. The Motion was approved by a vote of 10-0-0.

Motion: NCVV opposes the continued maintenance and further proliferation of digital billboards in Los Angeles, and moves that the City not approve the legalization of approximately one hundred (100) existing digital billboards in exchange for public benefits which do not offset the negative impacts on adjoining residential neighborhoods. The motion was approved by a vote of 9-0-1.

Agenda Item 9 – Standing Committee Reports – Valley Village Task Force – Ms. Hubbard presented the board with a copy of the Valley Village Architectural Design Standards and will email a PDF copy for board members to review.

Agenda Item 10 – Valley Alliance/Los Angeles Alliance NC’s Report – Ms. Hatfield – Ms. Hatfield gave a brief presentation on the proposed Proposition A Sales Tax, County Wastewater Tax and City Property Tax Street Bond. Ms. Hatfield proposed a motion and Ms. Liebowitz-Neglia seconded the motion.

Motion: NCVV goes on record to oppose Measure A, the proposed half (1/2) cent sales tax increase on the March ballot. The motion was approved by a vote of 6-3-1.

Agenda Item 11 – FY 2014 Mayor’s Budget Survey – Mr. Braswell informed us that the Mayor’s Budget Survey will be available online in February and encouraged all to participate in the survey.

Agenda Item 12 – Neighborhood Council Plan Review and Reform Initiative - The Neighborhood Council Plan Review and Reform Initiative process begins Saturday, January 16th. This will be the initial meeting of the working groups that will be examining the ordinance and rules that govern the Neighborhood Council system. Everyone with an interest in Neighborhood Councils is invited to attend. The meeting is being held at the Ron Deaton Auditorium at the Los Angeles Police Department Administration Building and is scheduled to run from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Ms. Hatfield is planning on attending this meeting as our representative from NCVV.

Agenda Item 13 – Public Comment – Public Comment from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction – There were no public comments.

Agenda Item 14 – Future Agenda Items, President’s Closing Comments and Adjournment – Reconsider restricted parking at 4723 Laurel Canyon, Four N Twenty. Mr. Braswell thanked everyone in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.