

Neighborhood Council Valley Village Board Meeting

January 22, 2014

Approved

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution, Welcoming Remarks and approval of November and December 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; Tony Braswell, residential renter; Ginny Hatfield, residential homeowner; Suzanne Lewis, residential renter; Djaq Morris, student seat; Dale Liebowitz-Neglia, at-large; Steven Stokes, residential renter; Paulette Stokes, residential renter; Charles Sulahian, business owner; Jeff Walker, education; Marc Woersching, community based.

Board members excused were Dave Bate, business owner; Cathy Flynn, residential homeowner; Paul Hatfield, at-large; Sandy Hubbard, residential homeowner; Dr. Joshua Levy, faith based.

Ms. Apple made a motion and Mr. Braswell seconded the motion. **Motion – add Tree Program follow-up and Valley Village Park tunnel discussion to the agenda. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of minutes – The November and December minutes were approved by a vote of 10-0-0.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment on Agenda Items (limited to two (2) minutes per speaker, and must fill out a speaker card) – Mr. Kevin Hopps, a resident of Valley Village, informed us of the Los Angeles County Bicycle Coalition will be sponsoring a Community Bike Ride in Reseda January 25. Co-sponsors for this event are Councilmember Bob Blumenfeld, LAPD, Radical Outreach People Inspired and the Rotary Club of Woodland Hills. The Bicycle Coalition is also sponsoring a fundraiser and movie screening at the Laemmle NoHo7 theatre on February 12. They will be screening Breaking Away and will have raffle items, including replica jersey kits from the movie. More information about both events can be found on their website www.LA-BIKE.org.

Mr. Hopps asked that candidates discuss why they should be selected over current board members.

Mr. Damien Carroll, Director of Special Projects for Councilmember Paul Krekorian, informed us of the Neighborhood Council Community Beautification Program Councilmember Krekorian has launched. Their office is working in collaboration with the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment on this project. There is \$80,000 set aside for grant funding available for Neighborhood Council projects within the Second Council District, on a 50/50 matching basis, with a cap of \$10,000 per Neighborhood Council. Eligible projects must be visible to the public and provide a public benefit. In addition, they must be located in places such as medians, parkways, walls visible to the public and municipal property. Applicants are encouraged to apply before April 1, 2014. More details are available at www.cd2.lacity.org/ncgrants.

Councilmember Krekorian has not made a decision on the proposed Lankershim Boulevard bike lanes.

Ms. Stokes expressed that she knows of artists in Valley Village she feels would like to participate in the Neighborhood Council Beautification Grant Program.

Ms. Nikki Ezhari, Field Deputy for Councilmember Krekorian, informed us that NCVV is the most productive NC in CD2. The Los Angeles Student Media Festival, hosted by Councilmember Krekorian, is now accepting applications. The fourth annual LASMF will be held May 3rd at the El Portal Theatre in North Hollywood. The deadline to submit applications is February 28th. More information on this event can be found at www.lasmf.lacity.org.

The owner of the property at 4725 Morella Avenue has been given notice by the Department of Building and Safety and the Los Angeles City Attorney to correct violations. There will be a hearing on January 29th. The City Attorney will be asking for the highest punishment possible.

Mr. Hatfield informed us that the tunnel under the 170 Freeway in Valley Village Park has been opened. Ms. Apple will follow up with LAPD SLO Manny Arreygue in to morning to have this problem remedied ASAP.

Steven Butcher, Field Representative for Adrin Nazarian, informed us that the minimum wage has been raised to \$9 per hour. The California Highway Patrol will be holding free child seat inspections on January 25th at The Help Group parking lot, 13130 Burbank Boulevard, from 9:00a.m.to 1:00 p.m. KIDS ARE 1ST will be providing free Child ID kits to the first two hundred (200) children. This event is sponsored by Sherman Oaks Chamber of Commerce, California Highway Patrol, State Farm Insurance, The Help Group, KIDS ARE 1ST, and Assemblymember Adrin Nazarian.

There will be a free tree adoption event in partnership with Million Trees Los Angeles on February 8th, at Los Angeles Valley College parking lot, from 9:00a.m. to noon.

Mr. Hatfield asked Mr. Butcher if he knows Assemblymember Nazarian's position on the proposed bullet train. Mr. Butcher informed us that Assemblymember Nazarian feels that local transportation is more important than the bullet train.

More information can be found at <http://asmdc.org/members/a46/news-room/ealerts>

Agenda Item 4 – Special Presentation to Jim Britten and Michael Perrin – Ms. Lewis – Mr. Braswell informed us of the great success of the Light Up Valley Village event held in December. Over ninety (90) Valley Village businesses participated in this event. This event was a success due to the immense help and organization by Mr. Britten and Mr. Perrin. Ms. Lewis presented Mr. Britten with an award honoring today Jim Britten Day in Valley Village. Mr. Perrin was not present to accept his award. January 23rd has been declared Michael Perrin Day.

Agenda Item 5 – Raise LA LAANE – Doug Carter – Mr. Carter and Ms. Rachel Torres, from Raise LA LAANE, gave a presentation on how good hotel jobs will boost local businesses, strengthen neighborhoods and renew the local economy. Raise LA LAANE is asking for support to implement the following policy elements, which will affect the Los Angeles City hotels with over one hundred (100) rooms. 1, Minimum starting wage for hotel workers equal to that of the Living Wage policy currently in place at LAX airport, as of 2013, this is approximately \$2,200 per month. 2, Annual cost of living adjustments of either 2% or the Consumer Price Index, whichever is greater. 3, Protection of tips by ensuring that any service charges are paid to workers performing those services. 4, Ensuring a healthy workforce by guaranteeing five (5) paid sick days per year.

Mr. Jack Lindblad expressed his opinion that raising the minimum wage is necessary to stop corporate welfare and increase disposable income.

Mr. Paul Hatfield expressed his concern that the minimum was an issue for hotels should be challenged and asked for an estimate of the benefit to local government.

Agenda Item 6 – Finance Report, Mr. Stokes - Mr. Stokes informed us that he received the financial report from Mr. Hatfield and will be meeting with him to go over the NCVV finances. He gave an update on the financial report and submitted a copy for the record. There are no updates on the checking account. Mr. Braswell informed us that DONE have identified a bank and they are working on the details. Mr. Braswell and Mr. Stokes will be taking the Los Angeles City checking account training and will inform us when this new system is ready to use.

Agenda Item 7 – 2014 Election Update – Ms. Hatfield – Ms. Hatfield gave an update on the Neighborhood Council elections. She informed us that NCVV board member for the at large, faith based and business seats are not running for reelection in 2014. Ms. Hatfield is looking for volunteers to help on the day of the election.

Ms. Alisa Smith, Independent Election Administrator for the 2014 Neighborhood Council Elections, is present and will be taking applications during the meeting.

Agenda Item 8 – Standing Committee Reports – Events and Outreach – Ms. Lewis – Ms. Lewis had no update to report,

Agenda Item 8 – Standing Committee Reports – Valley Village Vision Task Force – Mr. Braswell informed us that the VVTF will be taking on new projects. Their next meeting is January 23rd at Oakwood School.

Agenda Item 8 - Standing Committee Reports – City Services – Mr. Walker – Mr. Walker informed us that the City is working on the stop sign installation in the neighborhood behind Colfax Charter Elementary School. There have been complaints of panhandlers and trash in the area on Laurel Canyon between Magnolia Boulevard and Chandler Boulevard. Councilmember Krekorian's office and LAPD will be looking in the panhandler situation and advised us to not give panhandlers money. City Services is trying to get Wanco approved as a City approved vendor in order to purchase the Mobile Digital sign from Wanco. Mr. Walker and Mr. Braswell have a meeting scheduled with Councilmember Krekorian on February 14th to discuss the status of the sign.

Ms. Donna Gooley, a resident in Valley Village, stated that the trash situation at the 7/11 on Laurel Canyon and Chandler is out of control.

Agenda Item 8 - Standing Committee Reports – Communications – Mr. Stokes – Mr. Stokes informed us that he is posting events as often as possible and the calendar is up to date. He will be posting all of the approved minutes for 2013 on the website.

Agenda Item 8 - Standing Committee Reports – Elections – Ms. Hatfield – See agenda item 7

Agenda Item 8 – Standing Committee Reports – Planning and Land Use – Mr. Woerschling – Motion: *NCVV recommends approval of the application by Oakwood School to add modular offices and landscaping at the eastern end of the school and that NCVV requests that Oakwood School consider additional lighting on the eastern walkway. The motion was approved by a vote of 10-0-0.*

Agenda Item 9 – Follow Up – Street Tree Project, Stop Sign Request, Traffic Control Sign Purchase, 2013 Crime Report from NOHOPD, Bike Lanes, other – Mr. Braswell asked that we all have a list of projects we would like to see completed in 2014 at the February board meeting.

Agenda Item 10 – Public Comment – Public Comment from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction – Mr. Jack Lindblad informed us that he is running for the Senate in 2014, He is running as an Independent and has a strong green platform

Agenda Item 11 – Future Agenda Items, President's Closing Comments and Adjournment – Mr. Woerschling would like to discuss having the stretch of Magnolia Boulevard between Laurel Canyon Boulevard and Whitsett Avenue repaved.

Mr. Braswell thanked everyone in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.