

**Neighborhood Council Valley Village
Board Meeting**

November 20, 2013

Approved

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution, Welcoming Remarks and approval of September and October 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; Cathy Flynn, education; Ginny Hatfield, residential homeowner; Suzanne Lewis, residential renter; Paulette Stokes, residential renter; Charles Sulahian, business owner; Marc Woersching, community based. Dale Liebowitz-Neglia, at-large; Paul Hatfield, at large and Steven Stokes, residential renter, arrived after the meeting started.

Board members excused were Dave Bate, business owner; Sandy Hubbard, residential homeowner; Dr. Joshua Levy, faith based; Jeff Walker, residential homeowner; Djaq Morris, Student seat.

Agenda Item 2 - Approval of Minutes –

The September minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

The October minutes were approved by a vote of 8-0-0.

Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment on Agenda Items (limited to two (2) minutes per speaker, and must fill out a speaker card) – There were no public comments for the record.

Agenda Item 14 – Discussion on LADWP Billing – Mr. Braswell proposed a motion to amend the agenda and Mr. Hatfield seconded the motion. **Motion:** *Add discussion regarding increased LADWP bills and allow Dave Bryan, from CBS/KCAL to film discussion. The motion passed by a vote of 9-0-0.*

The Board discussed recent revelations that DWP is billing using estimated service to determine payment due. DWP officials stated that this is due to a new billing system that they have implemented. Mr. Braswell shared with the Board that there have been several calls made to NCVV complaining about high bills. Some Board members also shared that they had received unusually high bills for the past month. Mr. Stuart Simen shared with the Board that his bill was well over \$900 which is unusually high for him. When he called DWP his bill was reduced significantly and a credit was promised on his next bill.

KCAL news reporter Dave Bryan was at the Board meeting to cover the discussion for the 10pm news. The Board will follow up with LADWP and respond to stakeholder questions.

Agenda Item 4 – Finance Report, Mr. Hatfield - Mr. Hatfield gave an update on the financial report and submitted a copy for the record. **The finance report was approved as presented, 8-0-0.** Mr. Hatfield informed us that he will be resigning from NCVV effective the end of December.

Agenda Item 5 – Mayor's Crisis Response Team – Ms. Stokes – Ms. Stokes attended the LAPD Crisis Response Training eight (8) week training session. Crisis Response Team (CRT) members are community volunteers who respond to traumatic incidents at the request of the Los Angeles Police & Los Angeles Fire Departments. CRT provides immediate on-scene crisis intervention, attends to survival & comfort needs, acts as a liaison between the victim & emergency personnel and gives referrals to victims & their families affected by a death, a serious injury, a violent crime or other traumatic incidents. These include homicides, suicides, serious traffic accidents, natural deaths and multi-casualty incidents. The CRT

program is managed by the Mayor's Office of Homeland Security & Public Safety in collaboration with the City's Fire & Police Departments

Agenda Item 6 – Environment LA Presentation, Street Tree Project – Amy Shulenberg, Department of Public Works – Ms. Shulenberg gave a brief presentation on the Street Tree Project available in the City of Los Angeles. The Department of Public Works, Bureau of Sanitation is implementing a free street tree program to help Los Angeles City become more green and to beautify our streets. The department of Sanitation will perform any necessary concrete cuts, pull permits and plant the tree, providing the business owner agrees to water the tree until it is fully established. For more information visit their website at www.environmentLA.org or call 213-485-0527.

Million Trees Los Angeles is also providing free trees for your residence. If you are a resident of the City of Los Angeles, you are eligible to adopt a tree and plant it on private property! You must bring proof of residence (photo ID with an LA City address or a DWP bill) to the adoption event. Supplies are limited and will be distributed on a first come, first served basis. Limit one tree per person, per property address. They will be giving away trees on February 8th from 8:00a.m. to noon at LA Valley College, Parking Lot B, on the corner of Oxnard Street & Fulton Avenue. Visit www.milliontreesLA.org for more information.

Mr. Braswell will send Ms. Shulenberg a letter indicating the street locations we would like to have trees planted in the Valley Village business district.

Agenda Item 7 – Light Up Valley Village – Ms. Lewis – Mr. Jim Britten, owner of Brittany Floor Covering, gave an update on the Light Up Valley Village event on December 7th. The ninety (90) businesses that are involved will be providing coupons to use in their stores. Coupons will be available on Facebook and at the event.

Agenda Item 8 – Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) Holiday Mixer (12/12/2013), VANC Annual Meeting (4/10/2014) – Ms. Hatfield – Ms. Hatfield reminded us that you will need to RSVP in order to attend the VANC Holiday mixer on December 12th at Carla's Café on the CBS Radford lot. The VANC annual anniversary meeting will take place on April 10th at Carla's Café on the CBS Radford lot. **Motion** : to support both events for \$100 each, total of \$200 to VANC. **The Motion was approved by a vote of 10-0-0.**

Agenda Item 9 – Recreation and Parks Meeting – Ms. Lewis – Ms. Lewis attended the community meeting to discuss the Recreation and Parks budget. Their department is seeking input from the community. There is an online community survey you can participate in by going online to www.laprks.org. They are focusing on funding ideas, partnerships, signage, capital funding/bonds and staffing issues.

Agenda Item 10 – NC Review Committee – Ms. Hatfield – Ms. Hatfield gave a brief presentation on the eight (8) motions proposed by Neighborhood Council Plan Review Committee.

Agenda Item 11 – Standing Committee Reports – Planning and Land Use – Mr. Bate –
Motion: To approve as presented the project at **12640 Addison Street** to divide an existing parcel to two (2) single family residences based on the resulting lot size compliance with other Valley Village lots and the proposed side yards. **The Motion was denied by a vote of 3-7-1.**

Mr. Woerschling proposed a motion and Ms. Apple seconded the motion. **Motion:** to send this project back to the Planning and Land Use Committee and ask the developer to consider an alternative division for this property. **The motion was approved by a vote of 9-1-1.**

Motion: To approve a CUP for wireless equipment for Verizon at **5221 Bellingham** provided (1) that the antennas and the screen are no taller than the existing height of the penthouse, (2) any replacement building must conform to the 36 foot height limit of the Specific Plan and (2) this approval in no way establishes precedent for similar requests. **The motion was denied by a vote of 3-7-1.**

Motion: To approve the project at **5432 Hermitage Avenue**, with the conditions of ipe or menagris exterior wood finish and stainless appliances to hold the wood onto the building, and the railing details should remain as presented. **The motion was approved by a vote of 8-1-2.**

Agenda Item 11 – Standing Committee Reports – Events & Outreach – Ms. Lewis – Ms. Lewis informed us that NCVV will be holding their 6th annual food drive. Drop off location will be at Marie et Cie located at 11704 Riverside Drive or you can bring your donation to the December NCVV board meeting.

On November 7th a seminar for Active Seniors was held at the Oakwood School. Approximately one hundred (100) people were in attendance. State Assemblyman Adrin Nazarian and City Council Member Paul Krekorian were Keynote speakers. Additionally, several City agencies were on hand to answer questions from the audience. This event was co-sponsored by the NCVV and VVHA.

Agenda Item 11 – Valley Village Task Force – Ms. Hubbard – This item was covered in Agenda items six (6) and seven (7).

Agenda Item 11 - Standing Committee Reports – City Services – Mr. Walker – Mr. Walker submitted a list of intersections that are in need of stop signs in Valley Village to the LADOT and is waiting for their response.

Agenda Item 11 - Standing Committee Reports – Communications – Mr. Stokes – The next issue of The Bridge will be mailed before Thanksgiving. NCVV parliamentarian, Stuart Simen will proof the issue before it is printed. Mr. Stokes will be working on improvements to the NCVV website to make it more interactive and user friendly.

Agenda Item 11- Standing Committee Reports – Elections – Ms. Hatfield – Ms. Hatfield informed us that the upcoming neighborhood council elections will be run by an independent administrator. The candidate filing period is from January 4, 2014 to February 3, 2014. The election will be held on March 20, 2014 from 4:00-8:00 at Faith Presbyterian Church.

Agenda Item 12 – Public Comment – Public Comment from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction – There were no public comments for the record.

Agenda Item 13 – Future Agenda Item, President’s Closing Comments and Adjournment – Mr. Braswell thanked everyone in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00pm.