

**Neighborhood Council Valley Village  
Board Meeting  
September 25, 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 joining the 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 Tony Braswell, residential renter; Cathy Flynn, residential homeowner; Ginny Hatfield, residential homeowner; Suzanne Lewis, residential renter; Dale Liebowitz-Neglia, at-large; Djaq Morris, Student Representative, Paulette Stokes, residential renter, Steven Stokes, residential renter; Charles Sulahian, business owner; Jeff Walker, residential homeowner, and Marc Woersching, community based.

Board members excused were Dorothy Apple, homeowner, Paul Hatfield, at-large; David Bate, business, Dr. Joshua Levy, faith based; and Sandy Hubbard, homeowner.

**Agenda Item 2 – Approval of July Minutes.** In Ms. Apple's absence this item was deferred to the next meeting.

**Agenda Item 3 – Public Comment on Agenda Items (limited to two (2) minutes per speaker, and must fill out a speaker card) –**

Mr. Greg Bartz with LADWP gave an update on the Department of Water and Power. He reminded those present that water use for October – April is used to set rates for the next year. There is a rebate of \$2 per sq ft for drought tolerant landscaping. Be sure to follow the guidelines on the DWP website before you do any work. A water submeter can be installed to separate sewer use, meter is \$150. Magnolia trunk line construction will go on through February 2014, longer because a 6 inch thick "substreet" has been found below Magnolia Boulevard.

Jeanne Rankin from the North Hollywood Library gave an update on library activities. Moby Dick is the highlight reading for the month, and there will be actual readings, movies and other associated activities during the month. Reminder provided of the hours of operation, audience was encouraged to go to the website for the most up-to-date information.

Joe Santaniello asked the Board for clarification and help regarding short term rentals of a private home/homes on Westpark at Hesby. The lot has four residential units on it that are being advertised for rent by the night. The address is 5029-5031 Westpark. The Board will contact Karo Tarrosian in CD2 and also City Attorney Mike Feuer for guidance on the matter.

Alex Izbicki representing Save Coldwater Canyon asked the Board to support his organization's efforts to stop the construction of a parking deck with a football field on top on the campus of Harvard Westlake School. Mr. Izbicki stated that this expansion of the school would cause traffic problems, environmental problems and visual blight for surrounding homes and businesses. He stated that SCNC is on board as is the neighboring church. Mr. Braswell asked that the matter be taken up by Vision Committee and PLU.

Mr. Brandon Pender is the Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate for NCVV. He asked that the NCVV Board be represented on the upcoming Budget Day activities on October 8.

Kendra Walker spoke against proposed renovation to the property at 4725 Morella Avenue.

**Agenda Item 5 – NextDoor.com presentation – Sara Glaser** – Ms. Glaser presented a new concept called NextDoor.com that is being used to help link neighbors within communities to create relationships that would help with emergency planning and neighborhood watch. She encouraged the Board to visit the website and adopt the program for Valley Village.

**Agenda Item 4 – Finance Report, Mr. Hatfield** – Mr. Hatfield presented financial report to the Board and submitted a copy of the report for the records. The financial report was approved 10-0-0.

**Agenda Item 6 – Neighborhood Congress, Ms. Hatfield** – Ms. Hatfield reported that the Neighborhood Congress was well attended, about half of the NCVV Board was there. Breakout sessions were well covered and much information was received. If anyone is interested in specific sessions or handouts they can see Ms. Hatfield or Ms. Lewis.

**Agenda Item 7 – NC Plan Review Process, Ms. Hatfield** – Ms. Hatfield gave an update on the work to update the Neighborhood Council Plan, more information would be shared at the next meeting.

**Agenda Item 8 – October Board Meeting** Mr. Braswell announced that Mike Feuer, newly elected City Attorney, would be special guest speaker at the October Board meeting.

**Agenda Item 9 – Mayor’s Street Services Blitz Update** Ms. Hatfield and Mr. Braswell advised the Board of the completion of the first part of the Mayor’s Street Services Blitz. The effort was in August. After the event was posted on NCVV’s website over 100 calls for projects were received. Ms. Hatfield and Mr. Braswell participated in a ride around to survey many of the projects. 5 individual projects were completed in a one day effort. While the number of projects completed was very disappointing, the Bureau of Street Services will keep the list active and complete other requests for repair in the future. Nikki Ezhari also asked that the list be forwarded to CD2 so that they can advocate for more repairs.

**Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – Elections -** Ms. Hatfield gave an update on the elections process. There will be a meeting in October when we will be informed of our election date and associated election process deadlines. Ms. Hatfield identified the seats that are up for re-elections – 2 homeowners, 2 renters, 1 at-large, 1 community based organization, 1 faith based seat, 1 business. Mr. Braswell thanked Ms. Hatfield for chairing the election effort and encouraged the Board to help identify qualified candidates to run for the Board.

**Agenda Item 9 – Standing Committee Reports – Planning and Land Use – Mr. Bate** Mr. Braswell presented the PLU reports. The first item is a **motion** from PLU to approve the project at 5237 – 5253 Ben Avenue as presented. Mr. Woersching and Ms. Leibowitz-Neglia provided information on the discussion at PLU’s meeting. The project was approved 11-0-0.

The second project is at 4725 Morella Avenue. The property is adjacent to the home of Board member Jeff Walker. Mr. Walker moved from his Board seat to the audience for the discussion and participated as a stakeholder. PLU presented the motion for approval with 10 conditions:

1. No further subdivision of either parcel
2. No accessory dwelling units (i.e. guest houses) on Parcel A (i.e. it is limited to one dwelling unit only)
3. No construction of structures on the narrow, entryway section of Parcel A
4. The two parcels must be restricted to single story, single family residences
5. There must be submission of a landscaping plan requiring that mature trees be planted on the properties.

6. Proof must be provided that the guest house on Parcel B (also referred to on the plans as structure 3) is lawfully permitted.
7. Require construction of a wall on the west side of Parcel A and B preventing through access to 11825 Kling Street.
8. There must be a restriction that no change be made to the front yard setback on Parcel B.
9. Three (3) parking spaces must be provided on Parcel B.
10. The developer/owner must replace the street light and pole in front of the property.

The Board also requested an additional condition:

11. No structures or trailers may be included beyond the permitted structures requested on the map presented to PLU and dated 7/3/13.

Several residents from the surrounding area spoke regarding the proposed development. All speakers were in favor of the conditions. Mr. Walker was asked to leave the room for discussion of the Board. The Board voted 11-0-0 to support the motion as presented with the 11 conditions.

Mr. Walker was asked to return to the room and re-join the meeting.

**Agenda Item 9 – Standing Committee Reports – Events and Outreach – Ms. Lewis** – Ms. Lewis provided an overview of the last month's events including Movie Night and National Night Out. Both were very successful. Her presentation included attendance figures, outreach efforts and media exposure. She also mentioned the upcoming Light Up Valley Village scheduled for December 7.

**Agenda Item 9 – Standing Committee Reports – Valley Village Vision Task Force – Ms. Hubbard** – Ms. Hatfield presented for Ms. Hubbard. The committee is working hard on Light Up Valley Village, scheduled for December 7. Over 90 merchants have agreed to participate. **Motion from VV Vision Committee to approve up to \$5000 to support the 2013 Light Up Valley Village event.** The motion was approved 11-0-0.

**Agenda Item 9 - Standing Committee Reports – City Services – Mr. Walker** – Mr. Walker gave an overview of the September meeting. He is working with LAPD traffic to move the speed limit sign forward. Also working with the committee and the Bureau of Street Services to increase the number of stop signs in areas between Laurel Canyon, Westpark, Riverside and Magnolia (in response to concerns expressed by residents who spoke at a prior meeting about a dog who was hit by a car and reports of excess speeds in the area).

Mr. Walker discussed stakeholder concerns expressed to the committee about vehicle traffic inside Valley Village park. At the July NCVV Board meeting a stakeholder shared her story of a child who was almost hit by a car unloading party supplies near the play area. Mr. Walker presented the following motion from CS – motion to request that LS City Parks and Recreation Department install and maintain a removable traffic barrier (not to impede handicap access) on the driveway into Valley Village park. The motion was approved 11-0-0.

**Agenda Item 9 - Standing Committee Reports – Communications – Mr. Stokes** Mr. Stokes provided an update of the website and communication efforts related to the recent NCVV events. A new Bridge will be mailed out in November to 11000+ stakeholders.

**Agenda Item 10 – Future Agenda Items** There were none.

**Agenda Item 11 – Public Comment – Public Comment from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction** – There were no additional public comments.

**Agenda Item 12 – President’s Closing Comments and Adjournment** – Mr. Braswell thanked everyone in attendance. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10pm.