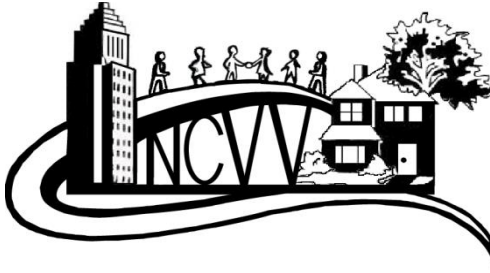


CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL VALLEY VILLAGE

P.O. Box 4703
Valley Village, CA 91617

TELEPHONE: (818) 759-8204

www.myvalleyvillage.com

Tony Braswell, President
Ginny Hatfield, Vice President
Dorothy Apple, Treasurer
Daryl Baskin
Glenn Block
Desmond Faison
Alice Hart
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Jeff Walker
Marc Woersching
Eileen Garcia, Student Member
Jake Kovinsky, Student Member

MINUTES NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL VALLEY VILLAGE JANUARY 2020 MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 22, 2020

7:00 PM – 9:00 PM

Fellowship Hall - Faith Presbyterian Church
5000 Colfax Avenue, Valley Village, CA, 91607

The meeting was called to order by Tony Braswell at 7:00 pm. Board members present were Dorothy Apple, Daryl Baskin, Glenn Block, Tony Braswell, Desmond Faison, Alice Hart, Ginny Hatfield, Suzanne Lewis-Gregory, Lisa Miller, Paulette Stokes, Erin Stover, Maribel Ulloa-Garcia, Jeff Walker and Marc Woersching. Student Representatives Eileen Garcia and Jake Kovinsky were present. The quorum for NCVV Board meetings is 8, which must include 3 members of the Executive Committee. No Board members stated a conflict of interest with any item on the meeting agenda. The agenda was approved 14-0-0, with Garcia and Kovinsky voting in the affirmative. With changes from Ms. Hatfield and Mr. Woersching, November minutes were approved 14-0-0, with both students voting in the affirmative.

Public comments were held until the arrival of LA City Councilman Paul Krekorian.

The Executive Committee report was presented by Ms. Hatfield, including an update on the January VANC meeting. Of particular concern for NCVV is proposed required training for PLU members, and added leadership training for NCVV Board members. New guidelines from BONC require that NC positions be sent to the City before they are sent to the interested parties. VANC disagrees with this position.

Ms. Lewis-Gregory advised that the City is looking for Census Ambassadors. NCVV will help publicize the census so that stakeholders participate at a high level.

Los Angeles City Councilman Paul Krekorian introduced himself to the Board and audience and thanked NCVV Board and committee members for their commitment and volunteer efforts. NCVV is one of the city's best neighborhood councils, and one of the most effective in advocating for our stakeholders. He expressed his appreciation for the hours of work that go into Board service and noted specific examples of NCVV's accomplishments, particularly leadership in the Community Plan process. The Planning Department has commended NCVV for having the highest level of engagement of all NCs to date.

LA City Council has a new President, Nury Martinez. Mr. Krekorian will soon find out if he will continue as Budget Committee Chair. It is projected that there will be a \$1 billion deficit in the next fiscal year. There is a plan underway to chip away at the deficit inclusive of funding cuts, staff changes and deferred raises. The City has the largest reserves in recent history. The city will continue to invest in transportation, housing, efforts to address homelessness, business development, and more.

Mr. Krekorian spent several minutes discussing the issue of homelessness. Court decisions had hampered the city's ability to use public safety. Strong economy has had the unfortunate side effect of exacerbating the issue. Lack of infrastructure for support services and desirability (e.g. weather) of the region are also factors. New shelters with 200 beds will open soon, including storage space and restrooms/showers. Homeless services navigation center also soon to open.

Job training, social services and clean facilities. County is also a partner in the work. LA City housed over 20,000 people last year.

Regarding Burbank airport, Mr. Krekorian serves on a Task Force attempting to address issues of noise. Any changes in issues related to the airport need to be co-approved by cities of Burbank, Glendale and Pasadena. LA has no “say” in matters related to airport operations. Effort is to shift some of the air traffic to the east to avoid communities in southeast San Fernando Valley. The Task Force is advisory, any decision will ultimately be made by the FAA. Changes to flight current flight paths are a result of the implementation of NextGen radar system.

There were 18 questions submitted by the audience. Four speaker cards had no question, three were duplicate questions.

What can be done about helicopter noise? Most of the loudest helicopter noise is from police helicopter traffic related to crime. It is an important part of the crime fighting ability of LAPD. Stationary helicopters from local television are also a problem that should be addressed.

SB50 – what is Mr. Krekorian’s position? I have opposed it as it takes away local control of planning. We are using the planning process and ReCode LA to identify areas that are appropriate for higher density.

What is the city doing about a rent control cap? This is a new state law that takes effect soon. A new concern is landlords who are quickly raising rents before the law takes effect. We support the state law.

What can you do about the five story building planned for corner of Chandler and Carpenter (north side of Chandler)? Unfortunately state law (e.g. SB1818) overrides local planning and this is putting burden on single family neighborhoods near transit corridors. Tall building should not be next to single family homes, and to the extent possible this is being addressed in the updated community plans.

What can be done about Colfax School boundaries. Seem to shift every year and not fair to families who buy a home and then find that they are not in the School “footprint.” Agree this is a concern, LAUSD sets the boundaries based on capacity and population near each school. Colfax School is one of the city’s finest schools and highly desirable, it is currently overcrowded and the new additions to the school will not keep up with population change.

Can something be done to improve pedestrian safety on Riverside Drive. I will ask my staff to look at any specific intersection suggested. The crosswalk light at Chandler and Agnes does not function properly and should be a flashing light not a red light. I will look into that.

Please address the flight path changes that are sending more planes over Valley Village. Earlier comments addressed this.

We need to do something about homelessness – too many of the homeless are drug users or criminals and we don’t feel safe walking on our sidewalks. I think the homeless have more rights than our homeowners. Answer – we have to be careful not to combine homelessness and criminality – separate matters. In addition to previous comments, we need to have a comprehensive response that helps transition homeless back to life “back on their feet”.

Can we have a task force on homelessness. Mr. Krekorian thanked Valley Village for sponsoring a Town Hall two years ago and encouraged

Why is there so much bureaucracy that hurts organizations trying to help homeless? Working to try to change that, a good example is Crysalis (sp?) program. ongoing focus of the Board.

Mr. Krekorian thanked the audience for their attendance, and remained outside to answer additional questions.

The Finance report was tabled and will be presented in February.

The office of US Representative Tony Cardenas informed the audience that there is a new program to help veterans avoid eviction.

Beth Fulton, President of the Valley Village Homeowners Association, and Paul Hatfield gave an update on the Burbank Airport Noise Task Force.

Barbara Javitz, CEO of North Hollywood Interfaith Food Pantry, gave a presentation about the work of her organization. Includes 14 Faith Based institutions. Will be a 501(c)(3) this year. Motion from Alice Hart to fund an NPG to support NHIFP. The motion will be sent to City Services Committee for consideration.

The Board was informed that the current iteration of SB50 has been defeated. But it will continue to be an issue that we should monitor.

Committee Reports. The Events and Outreach Committee gave an overview of Light Up Valley Village, one of the best attended to date. The event also came in under budget at about \$6600. April 25 will be the NCVV Earth Day event and we will host our annual shredding day in the park.

There was no report from City Services Committee.

The Vision Committee reported that the effort to recognize the historic trees on Magnolia continues.

There was no Planning and Land Use report.

Community Plan Committee distributed the Guiding Principles of the Community Plan process and reviewed with the Board.

The Board was asked to support and effort to appeal a decision in favor of a 56 foot cell phone tower on Tujunga at Sarah (4632 Tujunga) in North Hollywood. After discussion there was a motion to support Studio City NC's position on the matter. The motion was approved 13-1-0 with both students voting in the affirmative.

Gateway sign will be replaced after insurance papers were filed.

There will be a special election on February 26 to fill the remaining term of Dale Liebowitz-Neglia's seat. Filing deadline is February 19. This is an at-large seat open to all stakeholders who live, work, own property, or declare an ongoing interest in Valley Village.

Public Comment was made.

Rudy Melendez introduced himself as a candidate for City Council District 2.

The Board meeting was adjourned at 9:30 pm.