

Minutes - Neighborhood Council, Valley Village

9-23-20

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm. All 15 Board members and five student members were in attendance.

2. Agenda

Ginny Hatfield moved and Suzanne Lewis seconded to amend the agenda to add an allocation of \$750 to the Valley Village Homeowners Association for an October food drive and two items from the City Services Committee, to approve to \$1,000 for outreach for the NCVV RYLAN Town Hall and to support two additional bus shelters at Riverside/Radford and Riverside/Colfax. The motion was approved 13-0-2.

3. Public Comment

Chris Yosefi asked when is the next NCVV Board election? Ginny Hatfield responded that it will be on May 21, 2021.

4. Tree Inventory Presentation

Ron Tull and Melinda Gejer gave a presentation on the City's Tree Inventory Program. They are contracted to do a citywide tree inventory over many years. www.streetsla.org has information on the tree inventory and the schedule for completing it. The blue color means an inventory for a section of the city has been completed. Black means an inventory will be done soon. The inventory reports are available on the link. The reports list the predominant trees, have information on each type of tree and describe the benefits of each tree listed. The last tree inventory was done in the 1990s. Trees that are cut down are designated as vacant sites, for replanting by nonprofits. A mature tree can raise a property's value by 2-7%. There are overhead satellite views of the trees. There is also information on the monetary value of the benefits of a tree, per species.

Tony Braswell asked whether the inventory is for street trees only? Ron Tull confirmed that it is for street trees only

Suzanne Lewis will be using the link. Does it show dead trees? Ron Tull replied that they are indicated. Money for tree trimming was removed due to the economic downturn caused by the coronavirus.

Joan White stated that there is a tree in her front yard that was declared dead. The tree was quite large and could cause damage if it were to fall down. Ron Tull replied that she should send him her address and the Urban Forestry Division will have it removed in three weeks.

Paula Humerick was part of a tree planting project on Addison Street 12 years ago. The trees that were planted appear to be suffering from split bark. She contacted the City. The guy that was sent out looked at the wrong tree and closed the case. Tony Braswell will forward the locations of the trees with split bark to Ron Tull.

Vince Neglia noted that there are no sidewalks on either side of the Colfax school. Could the City add a temporary K rail barrier for pedestrians until the sidewalks are installed? This request should be sent to Scott Schmerelson's office at LAUSD. Paulette Stokes will forward the pictures to

Schmerelson's office.

5. Executive Committee Report - Ginny Hatfield

A new City department has been established for human rights. The new West Valley Animal Shelter will be closed due to a \$4 million cut to the budget of the Animal Services Department. An alternative is to do a 10 to 15% cut for all the animal shelters.

On Thursday, October 8, 7:30 pm the League of Woman Voters will be conducting a Town Hall on the November election. There are 12 ballot measures. Ginny Hatfield moved to approve up to \$1,300 for the LWV Town Hall. The motion was approved 15-0 and 5-0 by the student representatives.

6. Treasurer's Report - Dorothy Apple

There was \$32,000 allocated to us at the start of the 2020-21 fiscal year. \$969.67 was spent in August. With \$9,802 carried over to Fiscal Year 2020-21, \$22,709.44 is remaining for the rest of the fiscal year.

The August financial report was approved by a vote of 15-0 and 5-0 by the student representatives.

A motion to allocate \$750 to the Valley Village Homeowners Association for an October food drive to support the Valley Interfaith Food Pantry was approved by a vote of 15-0 and 5-0 by the student representatives.

7. Reports from Elected Officials/DONE

Jessica Fulgate with C.D.2 reported that signs for Slow Streets program are being placed in street medians, to reduce traffic speeds. The Mayor is established a program to allow some business activity on sidewalks. The 72 hour parking limit is not being enforced. There will be no installations of new speed bumps due to the coronavirus related furloughs. Additional time has been requested for comment on the draft EIR for the new Burbank Airport terminal. Send information on illegal short term rentals and house parties to Adrienne in the C.D.2 Council office. Tony Braswell noted that Councilman Krekorian will be coming to our October Board meeting.

Betty of DONE reported that a set of answers to frequently asked questions will be sent out. The Congress of Neighborhood Councils meeting will be on October 3. Planning 101 training will be required on October 13, 15 and 17 for members of the Planning Committee. There also may be training required for Finance and Communications (Is it Communications?). We are all compliant with the requirement for Ethics training.

8. Committee Reports

Events and Outreach - Maribel Ulloa-Garcia

The Committee will be involved in election outreach, including to residents of apartments.

A student committee, consisting of Luke and Gabby, prepared a handout on the importance of the census. The response rate for the census in Valley Village is only 50%, not so good. October 31 is the deadline for completing the census.

City Services - Suzanne Lewis

17 utility boxes have been approved for the artwork. The boxes have been prepped for painting. The Slow Streets program has been expanded to include Valley Village. Recently there was a fatal pedestrian accident on Riverside Drive (Is it Riverside?)

The motion to approve \$1,000 for outreach for the RYLAN Town Hall was approved by a vote of 14-0-1 and 5-0 by the student representatives.

The motion to support the addition of two bus shelters at Riverside/Radford and Riverside/Colfax was approved by a vote of 13-0-2 and 5-0 by the student representatives.

Communications - Erin Stover

There has been much on-line support for Paulette Stokes after her apartment caught fire. Tony Braswell thanked the Board for the assistance we have provided to Paulette.

Vision - Marc Woerschling

Charlie Fisher indicated that the supplemental report for the nomination for a historic district for the Magnolia Boulevard Oak trees has apparently been received by Melissa Jones in the Office of Historic Resources. However, another urgent nomination for an historic district in Boyle Heights has a higher priority. It will take longer for OHR to get to processing the Magnolia Boulevard trees nomination.

Planning and Land Use - Glenn Block

There was a great presentation by Ken Bernstein, head of the Office of Historic Resources, on a proposed HPOZ for the Morella Avenue neighborhood north of Chandler Boulevard and west of Colfax Avenue to Radford Avenue. Alice Hart asked why is the neighborhood proposed for an HPOZ? It is proposed because the neighborhood is an early example of ranch style single family homes in the Valley. The Mills Act provides property tax benefits for historic preservation. Ginny Hatfield recalled that there was little enthusiasm for an HPOZ from the homeowners when it was first proposed.

A meeting on the Community Plan Update Committee is scheduled for October 12.

Elections and Bylaws - Ginny Hatfield

We are in Region 4 with our elections for the Board scheduled for May 21. Neighborhood councils are responsible for election outreach. A stakeholder registration form is being prepared. Registration will start 60 days before the election. We are asking for more time for registration, for 120 days. A ballot package will be sent out to those who register. The ballot envelope must be postmarked no later than the day of the election.

9. The meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm.