

Minutes - Neighborhood Council, Valley Village

10-28-20

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm. All 15 Board members and five student members were in attendance.
2. On October 8, 2020 the League of Woman Voters had a town hall on the 12 State propositions on the November ballot. The provisions of the ballot measures, arguments for and against and the supporters and opponents of each ballot measure were discussed.
3. Finance Report - Dorothy Apple

\$3,789.13 was spent in September. With \$9,802 carried over to Fiscal Year 2020-21, \$31,201.63 is remaining for the rest of the fiscal year. The amounts remaining for the committees are \$5,000 for the Communications Committee, \$5,000 for the City Services Committee and \$2,500 for the Vision Committee.

The September financial report was approved by a vote of 10-0-5 and 5-0 by the student representatives.

A motion to allocate \$500 for a neighborhood purpose grant to the Valley Interfaith Food Pantry was approved by a vote of 11-0-4 and 5-0 by the student representatives.

An \$1,000 neighborhood purpose grant to the North Hollywood Library needs to be re-approved because a check to the library was not prepared in May. Dorothy Apple moved and Suzanne Lewis seconded to amend the motion to change North Hollywood Library to the Friends of the North Hollywood Library because the grant cannot be given directly to the library. The motion was approved by a voice vote. Lisa Miller objected to the motion because the library is functioning as a homeless shelter. An ongoing police presence is needed. Research can now be done on line. The amended motion was approved by a vote of 11-1-3.

4. Committee Reports

Student Committee

A December 16 Zoom date has been obtained for "Love at Home" in place of Light Up Valley Village Flyers are to be posted on the web site. Ginny Hatfield moved and Maribel Ulloa-Garcia seconded to allocate up to \$3,000 for this event. The motion was approved by a vote of 12-0-3 and 5-0 by the Student Committee.

Justin Berkowitz submitted a budget for up the \$3,000 for the holiday food drive, to take place in three locations. Suzanne Lewis questioned the amount for the food drive. Maribel Ulloa-Garcia suggested dropping the \$1,500 for the food bags. Justin Berkowitz responded that the 4,000 bags needed can come free from Gelsons. John Thyne agreed that the bags are needed. The bags will encourage more giving. The flyer should be attached to the bags. Ginny Hatfield moved and John Thune seconded to approve up to \$3,000 for the food drive. The motion was approved by a vote of 12-0-3 and 5-0 by the Student Committee.

City Services - Suzanne Lewis

The painting of 18 utility boxes has been completed. Stakes next to the new trees have been removed. There will be a RYLAN Town Hall event on November 18. The trees next to the Ventura Freeway offramp need to be trimmed. Resolutions on the passing of Dale Liebowitz-Neglia are being prepared.

Communications - Tony Braswell

There has been no time for a full report. There have been 1006 responses to the Facebook page, 696 followers and 1300 households reached.

Vision Committee - Marc Woerschling

Alice Hart reported that they are waiting for a City permit in order to trim the Oak trees along Magnolia that have been nominated for an historic designation. Bartlett Tree Service will be doing the trimming.

Marc Woerschling indicated that a supplemental study with additional information was submitted to the Office of Historic Resources in the spring and the application for the historic designation for the Oak trees along Magnolia is behind a nomination for an historic designation in Boyle Heights that has a higher priority.

Planning & Land Use - Glenn Block

Nine townhouse style apartments are planned for the southwest corner of Colfax and Hartsook, at 5119 - 5125 Colfax. The building will have a three story height and the units will have 2, 3 & 4 bedrooms. The architectural design is reasonably good. The architect was open to our comments.

Events and Outreach - Maribel Ulloa-Garcia

They have been assisting the students with their holiday project and will be dropping off flyers for the project at apartment houses. Tony Braswell favored using Waling Man in lieu of mailing out the flyers and noted that the street banners will need to be replaced in 2021.

5. Reports from Elected Officials/DONE

Jessica Fulgate with C.D.2 reported that amendments to the law on homelessness have been ruled unconstitutional. A long Council hearing was held today that was continued to November 24. A drive through holiday food drive will be held on December 10 at 10:00 am, in partnership with Assemblyman Nazarian's office. Because of the drop in City revenues due to the coronavirus, City employees are being required to take November 3 off with more furloughs next year. Tree trimming has been cut in the budget.

Dorothy Apple asked whether the holiday food drive planned by the Student Committee could be combined with and held on the same day as the food drive planned by the Council office?

Betty of DONE listed the furlough days and unpaid holidays that City employees are required to take. Planning training for the Planning Committee is required by December 15. The social media Program for the neighborhood councils will go to the DONE Commission for approval. \$450,000 is to be approved for outreach for the neighborhood council elections. The City Council has approved new neighborhood council rules which will require amendments to our bylaws. Everyone on the Board is in compliance with the training requirements. Ginny Hatfield requested confirmation that the event forms have been approved.

Emma Taylor with Assemblyman Nazarian's office was supportive of having a partnership with the food drive planned by the Student Committee. Volunteers have been delivering food to the elderly. The pedestrian tunnel under the Hollywood Freeway needs to be closed up. Caltrans says it is under the jurisdiction of the MTA. She will call the MTA tomorrow. Assemblyman Nazarian spoke at the October meeting of the Valley Village Homeowners Association. He invited us to submit our ideas for State legislation. Tony Braswell mentioned that we need bags for the food drive. Emma agreed to help with this.

Anne Bowman who is the manager of the North Hollywood library reported that the library is closed due to the coronavirus. Even though it is used by the homeless, the Library to Go program is an alternative way to pick up books and materials from the library. Virtual programs, such as on art, are being held. They are looking into adding additional services while staying safe. They are hoping to reopen. Ginny Hatfield asked how was the decision made to keep some libraries open? Anne responded that the factors are book circulation and parking spaces available.

Tony Ramirez with Scott Schmerlson's office announced that they will be conducting a webinar on school reopening criteria and special education workshops. Maria introduced herself as the special coordinator for services for Colfax and Burbank Elementary Schools and North Hollywood High School.

6. Public Comment

Rudy () was concerned that the Board may have been co-opted by the Council office. He cited the trash, dirt, homeless people in the parks and graffiti on the new freeway sound walls.

Paulette Stokes said that she appreciates the help she received after the fire in her apartment building.

7. Special Meeting

A motion to allocate up to \$1,000 for a permit for the lane closure on Magnolia Blvd. for the trimming of the Oak trees by Bartlett Tree Service was approved by a vote of 12-0-3.

A motion to approve an election worksheet and placement of a drop box for the neighborhood council election at the Faith Presbyterian Church was approved by a vote of 12-0-3.

Ginny Hatfield announced that the 60 day period for registering for the neighborhood council elections has been increased to 90 days. The City Clerk had initially resisted the additional time.

8. The meeting adjourned at 9:12 pm.