

Minutes - Neighborhood Council, Valley Village

10-27-21

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm. All 15 Board members and five student members were in attendance.

2. Introduction of New School Principals

Tammy Ramirez with Scott Schmerlson's office indicated that the principal for Burbank Elementary School will be invited to a future Board meeting. A new web site, www.scott.org, will provide information on Scott's activities. Scott chairs the Family Engagement Committee and the Special Education Committee of the Board of Education. A comprehensive early intervention plan will be discussed. A stakeholder participation survey was launched. 20,000 have responded to the survey. The Board is accepting applications for the superintendent position. Valley Village is in the proposed redistricting map. Tony Braswell requested a map that clearly shows which district Valley Village is in.

Mr. Sariavia - Principal, Emilia Earhart High School, at Chandler & Colfax. The goal of the school is to inspire students to have a higher education, not just at a university but at a junior college or learning a technical trade. The school is in a gym. The building needs beautification. It was recently painted blue.

3. Executive Committee Report - Ginny Hatfield

On redistricting the final map for the Council districts will be approved soon. Valley Village has been removed from C.D. 2 and placed in a new C.D. 3 that is mostly in the West Valley. Tony Braswell reported that little information is available on the State Assembly, State Senate and Congressional district lines.

4. Finance Report - Dorothy Apple

\$1,223.47 was spent in September. With \$4,555 carried over to Fiscal Year 2021-22, \$34,428.63 is remaining for the rest of the fiscal year. The amounts remaining for the committees are \$3,789 for the Communications Committee, \$5,000 for the City Services Committee and \$2,500 for the Vision Committee.

The September financial report was approved 13-0-2 and 3-0-1 by the Student Committee.

5. Committee Reports

City Services - Suzanne Lewis

An appropriation of \$750 is requested for the Interfaith Food Pantry. The Pantry no longer has access to leftover pet food from Pet Co. The money is needed for pet food. This is a reapproval of what was approved earlier this year. Sandy Hubbard asked for a higher amount. Pets improve one's mental health. The motion was approved 13-0-2 and 3-0-1 by the Student Committee.

Planning Committee - Sandy Hubbard

There have been no projects recently, only demolitions. The Committee has been focusing on S.B. 9 and S.B. 10. There is a need for a community impact statement on S.B. 10 as to conditions for S.B. 10. The City Council should opt out of S.B. 10 and not implement it. Are we presenting our own community impact statement? Language is needed for a vote on a CIS for S.B. 9.

Sandy Hubbard moved and Dorothy Apple seconded to authorize Sandy to prepare language for a CIS for S.B. 9. The motion was approved 14-0-1 and 3-0-1 by the Student Committee.

A second motion that the City Council not implement S.B. 10 was approved 14-0-1 and 3-0-1 by the Student Committee.

Glenn Block discussed the District No Ho project. It is a joint project between the MTA and Trammel Crow at the North Hollywood Metro Rail station. It is a \$1 billion project with office space and 1,500 dwelling units. Only 300 units are to be affordable in two buildings that are separated from the market rate units. The Draft EIR will be released soon. The No Ho Home Alliance is asking for 100% affordable units. Only working people will ride the transit system.

Sandy Hubbard favored reimagining the project to serve the community. Increase the percentage of affordable housing to 35%, which was the original percentage, and disperse it around the buildings. The goal is to be 100%.

Desmond Faison observed that the low income housing is separated from the other buildings by the internal streets. The financing for the project is limiting the percentage of affordable units.

Tony Braswell advised not putting a number on the percentage of affordable housing. 100% will not pencil out, will not be economically feasible. Not having a specific percentage will allow us to negotiate, to advocate for more than 20%. This is taxpayer owned land. Set 35% as a minimum. A monitoring and enforcement mechanism is needed.

Desmond Faison noted that the average income in North Hollywood is \$43,000. Since this is publicly owned land much more affordable units should be provided for most of the residents of North Hollywood. Currently there are only 17 affordable units identified in North Hollywood.

Paulette Stokes said that she has been having a difficult time finding a new apartment in part due to a scam involving an apartment leasing company.

Tony Braswell proposed adopting a motion to request that at least 35% of the units be affordable and that there be no segregation of the units into separate buildings.

Paul Vitello was concerned about segregating the affordable units and how much revenue will the MTA receive? Glenn Block responded that it will be a long term ground lease with minimal rent payments.

Tony Braswell proposed a motion that 50% of the units be affordable but at a minimum no less than 35% be affordable and that segregation of the units into separate buildings be completely unacceptable. Desmond Faison moved and Sandy Hubbard seconded the motion. The motion was approved 14-0-1 and 3-0-1 by the Student Committee.

Events & Outreach - Maribel Ulloa-Garcia

The annual Light Up Valley Village event is scheduled for December 12, either at 5:00 or 7:00 pm. A master of ceremonies has been located. A special committee meeting will be held.

Student Committee - Carol Convey

Melody Caplan, who has applied to be on the Student Committee introduced herself, noting that she has lived here, went to Colfax School and has fond memories of Valley Village. She would like to learn how the Board functions and how to be effective and get things accomplished. John Thyne moved and Suzanne Lewis second to appoint Melody Caplan to the Student Committee. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Carol indicated that there will be additional students proposed for appointment to the Student Committee in November. She is encouraging and getting more students to volunteer for the Volunteer Corps which partners with other groups and businesses. She is interested in finding out student preferences.

City Services - Suzanne Lewis

Coyotes are everywhere during the day, traveling in packs, desperate for food and water. Do not leave children, pets and food outdoors. Assistance to the homeless is needed. The noise from the restaurant on Riverside Drive is being reported. What is the historic monument number for the newly designated Oak trees on Magnolia Boulevard? The street lights are being vandalized, with their wires cut. 19 lights are out. The lid to the concrete vaults for the lights needs to be more securely attached.

Business - John Thyne

It will take some time to inventory all the businesses in Valley Village. The Committee is discussing its mission statement.

Emergency Preparedness - Paulette Stokes

Paulette showed Board members a beautiful, colorful poster she prepared that lists ten items needed for an emergency preparedness kit. 200 posters are to be placed in apartment buildings. A motion to approve the NCVV Emergency Preparedness poster was approved 14-0-1.

6. DWP Stormwater Recapture Program - Valley Village Park.

Michael Ventri of the DWP Community Affairs office described the citywide program with storage tanks to be placed in nine parks.

Anthony Naressian discussed the intake system from the storm drains, with the water to be pre-treated and sent to an infiltration gallery to percolate into the ground. The goal is to have 150,000 acre feet of storage by 2035, saving 70% of the water locally with less going into the ocean. There will be community benefits. The steps for this project are (1) public outreach from 2019 through completion of the project, (2) project design from Jan. 2020 through Dec. 2021 and (3) construction from Jan. 2022 through Nov. 2022.

Brian Powell described the tanks constructed in other locations in the City and in Valley Village Park. He listed the improvements to be built in Valley Village Park - hydration stations, improved walking paths, 80 new trees, benches and seating areas, planting a habitat area, replacement turf and an upgraded irrigation system.

Alex Santiago noted that the trees will be inventoried and the locations of underground tanks and pipes were moved to preserve the greatest number of trees. Replacement and tree protection protocols will result in 80 new trees replacing 38 trees to be removed. Water consumption and approved trees from Recreation and Parks Dept. are the major factors in selecting trees.

Brian Powell discussed the construction procedures for safety, parking and traffic access. They are: fencing a portion of the park, coordinating with neighbors and schools, notification, outreach and signage.

Tony Braswell had several questions: (1) How much time is required for the project? 18 months. (2) Where will parking for the project be located? That is up to the contractor. (3) How will the trees be maintained? Richard Fisher with Rec & Parks Dept. responded that the new trees will be larger and new irrigation systems and water lines for the trees will be installed. (4) Will the playground be closed? It will stay open. & (5) Will a liaison be appointed? One will be designated.

Suzanne Lewis asked whether the project will include a shade cover for the patio, restroom Improvements additional lighting? There are no additional funds in the budget for them.

Paul Vitell asked: (1) How much will the tanks add to the water storage capacity? 3,000 acre feet. & (2) Will any of the water be used for fountains? No, all of the water will go into groundwater.

7. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 pm.