

Minutes - Neighborhood Council, Valley Village

11-17-21

1. The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm. 14 Board members and two student members were in attendance.

2. Finance Report - Dorothy Apple

\$654.41 was spent in October. With \$4,555 carried over to Fiscal Year 2021-22, \$33,744.22 is remaining for the rest of the fiscal year. The amounts remaining for the committees are \$3,450.13 for the Communications Committee, \$5,000 for the City Services Committee and \$2,500 for the Vision Committee. \$8,500 is allocated for the Gateway Banners

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

3. Our Neighborhood Voices Presentation - Peggy Huang, Mayor of Yorba Linda

Tony Braswell introduced Ms. Huang, noting that single family home neighborhoods and local control are being decimated by the State housing bills. A ballot initiative is being prepared by Our Neighborhood Voices to retain local control.

Peggy Huang discussed the need for the initiative, noting that Sacramento is out-of-touch with ordinary people. Other cities are joining against Sacramento's taking away local control. Local officials know how best to deal with land use issues. Sacramento is responsible for the housing crisis. Developers think their rights supersede the rights of the neighbors. The RHNA (Regional Housing Needs Assessment) numbers are exaggerated, at 3.3 million units rather than the 900,000 actually needed in California. Cities, counties have been saddled with unfunded mandates while the State government has a \$35 million surplus. The initiative allows local zoning to override conflicting State laws with a few exceptions. Local ballot initiatives, such as Prop. U, that establish land use and density controls would not be overridden by the State. The RHNA allocation cannot be altered. Councilman Koretz is a strong supporter of the initiative. 65 State housing bills will be impacted by the initiative. Rather than constructing just market rate units, funding for affordable housing is needed instead. Donations and help with signature gathering is needed. To donate or volunteer the web site address is [ourneighborhoodvoices.com](http://ourneighborhoodvoices.com).

Tony Braswell asked whether the donations being requested are only for signature gathering? Peggy responded that at this time the requested funds are only for signature gathering and even more funding will be needed to offset the large amounts of funding in opposition from the construction industry, YIMBY organizations and Silicon Valley.

Beth Fulton was introduced as a supporter of the initiative. The required signatures must be gathered in 180 days. The initiative will allow cities to get a larger portion of their developer fees back. There is a State bill to freeze developer fees for eight years, to not allow cities to increase them.

Ginny Hatfield asked whether there are any lawsuits against the recent State housing laws that were approved. Peggy responded that there is one suit to reduce the RHNA number to well below 3.3 million. There is another suit against S.B. 10, that it is unconstitutional.

Zach Rynew stated that Peggy Huang endorsed Larry Elder in the recall election, ran for Congress against Katy Porter and that there are few black people in Yorba Linda. Peggy replied that the initiative is tripartisan, endorsed by many cities. This is not partisan. The focus should be on affordable housing, not more market rate housing.

4. Executive Committee Report - Ginny Hatfield

Jessica Law, the main speaker at VANC is a candidate for Mayor. She presented herself well. While The Chamber of Commerce supports S.B. 9, Jessica does not necessarily support it. School Board member Scott Schmerlson objects to the new LAUSD school board boundaries that exclude the western portion of his district. Ginny cites S.B. \_\_\_\_ that will affect neighborhood council procedures and election procedures. Many neighborhood councils have opposed it. While mail in voting is all right, in person voting is preferred. There are certain provisions that should be removed from the bylaws and put into the standing rules. Bylaw changes will go to the Board in December .

5. Committee Reports

Events and Outreach - Maribel Ulloa-Garcia

A virtual, online light Up Valley Village event will be held on December 12 at 5:00 p.m. Various talent shows will be presented. The Committee is requesting an allocation of \$3,000 for expenses related to Light Up Valley Village. The motion was approved by a vote of 14-0-1 and 2-0-1 by the Student Committee.

Student Committee - Carol Convey

The Committee's mission is to get people involved. There will be a food and toy drive on December 11, from 9-11 and 1-6 pm at the Faith Presbyterian Church parking lot. The food will go to the Interfaith Food Pantry and the toys to the LAPD and LAFD for distribution. A flyer for the toy & food drive has been prepared. A motion to allocate up to \$250 for the drive was approved by a vote 14-0-1 and 2-0-1 by the Student Committee.

City Services - Suzanne Lewis

30 street lights along Magnolia Blvd. have been out for two months and need to be repaired. Enforcement actions have been taken against the Full House restaurant on Riverside Dr. The restaurant has 30 days to comply. Multiple enforcement agencies have been out to the restaurant. Kevin Duffner is the new neighborhood prosecutor. There was a shooting at the restaurant several years ago that killed four people. The ownership of the restaurant has not changed. Coyotes continue to be a problem due to them being desperate for food and water. Do not leave out children, pets and food. There will be a DWP virtual tour of the park prior to the start of construction on the underground water retention tank. The flyer needs to clarify whether it is an online meeting or a meeting on site.

Renters Committee - Suzanne Lewis

The Committee will meet prior to the December Board meeting and give a report to the Board at that meeting.

#### Business Committee - John Thyne

A mission statement for the committee has been completed. They have been talking to the Office of Finance regarding obtaining a list of businesses in order to compile a complete list of the businesses in Valley Village. The committee is meeting tomorrow night.

#### Emergency Preparedness Committee - Paulette Stokes

Recently the committee sent out informational E mails to the Board. Their next meeting is next week. Now only an independent nonprofit can do CERT safety training, not us anymore. There is a list of neighborhood councils that have prepared emergency preparedness plans. One should become familiar with one's neighbors, what the needs and vulnerabilities are during a disaster.

#### Planning Committee - Sandy Hubbard

There have been no projects, only notices of demolitions have been received.

#### 6. Redistricting - Tony Braswell

The draft map prepared by the City Council's Redistricting Committee keeps Valley Village in C.D. 2 and C.D.2 intact.

The map for the LAUSD's boundaries shows Valley Village remaining in Scott Schmerlson's district.

The proposed maps for State Assembly and State Senate are not good for Valley Village. We are included in a district that goes all the way to downtown. The lines on the maps are not cleared, they are blurred.

#### 7. Report from State Elected Officials

Ryan Ahari from Assemblyman Nazarian's office noted that the Assembly is adjourned for the rest of the year. Nararian's office is hosting a earthquake resistance town hall on December. There will also be an Armenian town hall on the COVID 19 pandemic this weekend. Sessions on domestic violence were done in October. There are self defense classes for all age groups. Tony Braswell invited the Nazarians to participate in Light Up Valley Village.

#### 8. December Meeting Date

The Board selected December 15 as the date for the December Board meeting.

#### 9. Spelling Bee -Carol Convey

A spelling bee will be held on March 13, 2022.

#### 10. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 pm.