Board Meeting - Neighborhood Council, Valley Village

3-27-2024

1. Roll Call

Twelve Board members are in attendance: Dorothy Apple, Tony Braswell, Carol Convey, Alice Hart,

Ginny Hatfield, Suzanne Lewis, Ernie Merlan, John Moser, Paulette Stokes Maribel Ulloa-Garcia,

Marc Woersching, Jake Yocham.

2. Meeting Minutes

The minutes for the February 28 Board meeting were approved with a change by Suzanne Lewis in the

City Services report from “to remove the street venders” to “move the street venders down the road ”

and changes by Ginny Hatfield to (1) identify Tess Taylor as being from one of the neighborhood councils

in No. 3, (2) correct the spelling Gebriel to Gabriela in No. 5, (3) Change Anti-Bias training for NC Board

members to will be in June from will be done this year in No. 6, (4) the 5,000 number for emergency

preparedness outreach volunteers in No. 7 is correct and (5) state that Todd Gilman is with the

Community Legal Corps in No. 8.

3. Public Comment

Ryan reported that existing low income, Section 8 housing units are planned to be torn down.

4. Guest Speaker - Todd Gilman, Community Legal Corps

Todd reported that the neighborhood prosecutor program has been discontinued and replaced by the

Community Law Court and moved from the criminal to the civil courts. The Law Court handles the same

issues as before and they bring different offices and organizations together, to work together. Call or

E mail him if the City procedures are not working well. There are eight people in the new program, four

of which are attorneys. Todd handles the Valley. Additional funding for the program will be added.

Suzanne Lewis noted the problems with the abusive restaurant on Riverside and the street venders on

Laurel Canyon. Venders get a slap on the wrist due to new, relaxed laws. Ginny Hatfield asked whether

there have been any successes with the new program? Todd responded that there is a rental house that

was rented out to Airbnb as a party house. It violates the City’s short term rental law. The owner of the

house does not care. The fines imposed did not work. The property has been sold to a new owner who

rented it to a nice couple. Another example is a house with junk in the back yard and offensive odors.

The owner of the house has been prosecuted and sent to jail for half a year and still does not care. A

receiver has been appointed to take over the property, clean it up and sell it to a new owner who will

remove the junk yard and redevelop it. Jeff Camp with C.D. 2 complimented Todd, stating that he is

very good at what he does. He meets with the Council office regularly and has been effective. Recently

a house was taken over by gang members who terrorized the neighborhood. The gang members were

removed from the house by the LAPD and the new owner is rehabilitating the property. Similarly,

squatters were removed from another property and the new owner took over and is renovating the

house.

5. Financial Report - Dorothy Apple

For February a total of $695.71 was spent with remaining and net available balances of $8,425.34. There

will not be a large rollover of funds from this year to the next year. The finance committee will meet

on Friday. The Financial Report was approved by a vote of 12-0-3 and 1-0-5 by the Student Committee.

Suzanne Lewis moved and Alice Hart seconded to postpone for 30 days votes on motions to allocate $600

to the Colfax School’s world fair and $1,000 to the Burbank school in order to be sure that the money is

available.

The budget for 2024-25 will be presented at next month’s meeting.

6. Elections and Bylaws - Jake Yocham

There is a need to fill the vacancy on the Board resulting from Paul Kujawsky’s resignation. Jake Yocham

discussed the procedures and qualifications for new Board members. The Board will vote on filling the

seat on April 24th. It will be for the remainder of the term, for three years. A prospective Board member

has already applied to fill the vacancy.

7. Reports from City, County and State Officials and DONE

Jeff Camp - C.D. 2 Metro will receive $700 million for the San Fernando Valley light rail line. District No

Ho was recently approved for 1,400 units with 20% of the units to be low income, affordable housing.

The California Clean project will improve the appearance of the 170 freeway with rocks, native landscap-

ing and a pedestrian bridge to join Valley Plaza with the park to the east. No Ho West is holding a

shredding event on Saturday. The Valley Plaza Recreation Center is holding their spring celebration

tomorrow from 1-3 pm. The 170 freeway improvements were delayed six months but will start soon.

The improvements will not extend further south to Burbank and Magnolia. Carol Convey asked whether

the portion of the Tujunga Wash along the west side of Valley Village can be landscaped and can the

properties on both sides of the channel be landscaped? Jeff will look into this. The mural along the

Tujunga Wash will be funded soon.

Diana Rana - Assemblywoman Laura Friedman A bill Ms. Friedman introduced, AB 2297, will modernize

the Fair Hospital Collections Act to prohibit liens on homes resulting from hospital bills. An off ramp

cleanup will take place on April 19 on the I-5 ramp as planned. Suzanne Lewis reported that the filling of

a pothole on the Ventura Freeway was not done well. It needs to be redone.

Gabriela Agarie - Congressman Cardenas Students have been having problems applying for financial

assistance for college. Funds have been allocated for a project in his district.

8. VANC Report - Ginny Hatfield

At last month’s VANC meeting there was an update on the Mayor’s Executive Directive 1 which has had

unintended consequences. Ten amendments to ED1 were submitted to the City Council. The main

speaker was Councilman John Lee who discussed Council File No. 2627 and was supportive of CF-2342

that would cut back on the use of Police helicopters. VANC opposes the motion and Lee agrees. The Traci

Park motion would give community councils the same status of neighborhood councils. There are two

Community Councils in Brentwood and Pacific Palisades. Community Councils can lobby, support

candidates and sue the City while neighborhood councils are subject to various City requirements in

order to obtain their funding from the City. Ginny Hatfield moved that NCVV submit a community impact

statement in opposition to Park’s motion. Alice Hart seconded. Carol Convey noted the unfair

advantages that community councils have. The motion was approved by a voice vote.

9. Committee Reports

City Services - Suzanne Lewis

A coordinated effort to relocate the street venders has been underway. Jons and Der Weinerschnitzl

have hired guards. The venders are violating several regulations. Nearby homeless encampments are

scary, next to the buildings and next to a recycling center on Randall Street in Sun Valley. Recycling will

be done as part of Earth Day on April 22nd. A refund from a sign posting will be reused. Fifteen lights

on Magnolia are still out.

Planning and Land Use - Sandy Hubbard.

A project at 5555 Morella adjacent to Burbank near to 170 freeway will be all affordable housing for

persons with very low incomes. It will have a height of four stories. The zoning for the project site is

R3-1. Suing the City to block the project will not be effective due to State preemption laws. There are

no parking requirements for the project. Property values are not likely to be affected. There is a time

limit for parking on Morella. Check the parking restrictions, such as permit parking. Ryan and Doug

Cotfone are concerned about no parking provided that will result in spillover parking onto the streets.

Juan Parraza noted that our apartments were designed with inadequate parking years ago. A demolition

permit has been issued but there have been no evictions yet. Tony Braswell announced that the Housing

Element maps are out.

Emergency Preparedness - Paulette Stokes

On the proposed motion, the City Clerk does not have information on Council motion CF-24-0600 that

cuts funding for the Emergency Management Department. The March 23 meeting on emergency

preparedness was cancelled. The disaster fair is in Woodland Hills at Warner Center Park this Saturday.

Drive by recycling will be included as part of Earth Day.

Community Improvement Committee - Ginny Hatfield.

Ginny is looking into the cost figures for the new welcoming sign at Coldwater and Chandler. The land-

scaping added to the existing sign at Laurel Canyon and the 101 freeway is still in good shape. The tree

was cut back too much.

Events and Outreach - Maribel Ulloa-Garcia.

There is a need for volunteers for the Earth Day event. Signs will be put up and postcards will be mailed

out. More food donations are needed. The truck has not ever been filled up.

Student Committee - Carol Convey.

Applications will be sent out in late April/early May for six students to join the committee.