

Minutes - Board Meeting, Neighborhood Council - Valley Village

8-27-2025

1. Roll Call

Twelve Board Members were in attendance: Tony Braswell, Carol Convey, Alice Hart, Ginny Hatfield, Sandy Hubbard, Danny Jordan, Suzanne Lewis, John Moser, Diana Salman, Christyn Saracino, Maribel Ulloa-Garcia and Marc Woerschling.

2. Approval of Board Minutes.

The Board approved the minutes for the July 23, 2025 meeting with corrections from Suzanne Lewis and Carol Convey.

3. Special Election for Residential Renter "A" Seat

Recently Jenna Powers, a renter representative, resigned from the Board. Outreach to prospective candidates occurred 30 days before today's election. Initially there were four candidates but two dropped out due to not being available to attend Wednesday Board meetings. Ginny Hatfield listed the requirements to run, to be a stakeholder. They are that one must be at least 18 years old, provide identification and provide proof of being a stakeholder and a renter.

The first candidate, Deepak Sahni, has parents who own a restaurant and have been involved in the Valley Village community. Deepak is a UCLA graduate with a degree in political science and wants to focus on quality of life issues. He wants to make Valley Village a thriving, vibrant community. His community experience includes being a planning deputy for Supervisor Katherine Barger.

The second candidate, Sunny Reagan, is a mother with three children and has experience in community organizing. She has volunteered for the last three years assisting Colfax Charter School by organizing and holding events. Four events are planned for this year. She is an immigrant from Ukraine, who learned English here. She has a Political Science degree and is a certified paralegal. She describes herself as being a people person.

Tony Braswell asked whether they have read the Bylaws and noted that they will need to take training. Deepak Sahni was elected to the Board by a vote of 10-2-1, with John Moser recusing himself from voting.

4. Financial Report - Tony Braswell

For July a total of \$2,543.56 was spent with a remaining balance of \$22,681.45, an outstanding balance of \$225 and a net available balance of \$21,553. The July Financial Report was approved by a vote of 14-0-1.

5. Reports from Elected Officials

Ben Kwok with C.D. 2 reported that C.D. 2 will be focusing on the aging Valley Plaza Shopping Center in order to have an extensive strategy to remove the blight. Ben then thanked the Board members who assisted with movie night. The C.D.2 office also has trees available for planting the parkways. A five-year commitment to water and care for the trees is needed. Tony Braswell had a map of the 123 trees our neighborhood council planted in 2019 plus additional trees planted in Valley Village Park, totaling

about 300. Tony will reconstruct and reissue the map. Several Board members will be driving around on Friday to survey the major streets of Valley Village to determine where there are gaps in the street trees and where additional new trees can be planted. If incomes in a particular neighborhood are too high C.D. 2's trees cannot be planted there.

Victor Reyes of Assemblyman Schultz's Office reported that the committee hearings on S.B. 79 will take place in August. The next coffee meeting with Assemblyman Schultz in Studio City will be on Sept. 20. A car safety event will be held on Sept. 27 and Oct. 4. A meeting with the Executive Director of Caltrans will take place in November at Oakwood School. Their office is monitoring the encampments along the 170 & 101 freeways and Caltrans is promptly removing them. Alice Hart mentioned that there is an encampment on the Magnolia Blvd. offramp from the 170 freeway.

6. Committee Reports

Events & Outreach - Maribel Ulloa-Garcia

National Night Out was a big success with a very good turnout. Target provided good snacks and there was live entertainment. An item that was over budget needed Executive Committee approval. Maribel commented that there were new families attending. Movie night with Mawona was successful. A partnership with C.D. 2 for a community cleanup will take place on Sept. 22. The cleanup will start on Laurel Canyon and Magnolia. Light Up Valley Village will cost around \$8,000, which is not feasible given our reduced, \$25,000 budget. Tony Braswell suggested that an alternative to Light Up Valley Village is needed, working with the business community. Will Nov. 29 be too early for an event similar to Light Up Valley Village? Diana Salman suggested setting up more tables for the businesses as part of Light Up Valley Village. Ginny Hatfield responded that the offsite businesses lost interest after a few years. Also, a sidewalk permit is expensive, and there are other expenses. The idea for Light Up Valley Village came from Peter Sanchez. The Congress of Neighborhood Councils will be meeting next month.

Student Committee - Carol Convey

We have an expanded committee. Six seniors are graduating. Beckett Block, Dillan Reed & Jerry Wang are continuing on the committee. New students joining Student Committee: Juliette Hookom, Truman King and Sylvie Maltvy.

City Services - Suzanne Lewis

Several on and off ramps at Laurel Canyon, Magnolia and Burbank will be cleaned up. Check the walking path between Oakwood and the 170 freeway. The RVs parking along Chandler have been removed. The number of encampments is down to two from ten. Ben Kwok with C.D. 2 has helped a lot. The parked RVs hinder Orthodox Jewish people from walking to their temple. Students and families are walking their children to school. We need to be proactive on the RV issue since new ones will be appearing. Tony Braswell moved to "encourage the Council office to clear out the RVs on Chandler between Bellaire and Whitsett". Suzanne Lewis seconded. Sandy Hubbard favored extending the motion beyond Bellaire and Whitsett. Carol Convey favored extending motion to the area between the 170 freeway and Coldwater Canyon. Sandy Hubbard also supported extending the boundary for the motion further south. She also noted that Code Section 41.18 prohibits sleeping on sidewalks. Tony and Suzanne have received many E mails about the RVs parked along Chandler. Carol Convey noted that the street just north of the 101 freeway is Hortense. Tony Braswell proposed adding "any other areas identified by the Board" to the motion. Ginny Hatfield suggested that the motion say "prioritize" the area along Chandler. In response, Tony's revised version is "prioritize clearing the sides of Chandler between Laurel Canyon and Coldwater and other areas". The amended motion was approved by a

voice vote. The homeless person at Colfax and Magnolia has moved off the sidewalk to a private property. The homeless person at Riverside and the flood control channel initially left and then has returned.

Planning & Land Use - Sandy Hubbard

There were two projects before the Committee at its August meeting. The first is at 4714-18 Colfax, consisting of five units that are three stories and 36 feet tall with 11 parking spaces and one accessory dwelling unit. The lot is zoned RD1.5. The second project is at 11944-50 Riverside Drive with four units, three stories and 36 feet tall, eight parking spaces and the lot is zoned R3. Both projects are by right. There was an August 27 hearing on the Full House Restaurant on Riverside Dr. The owner's appeal will be denied. The Mayor will be signing the denial of the application. Yesterday there was a meeting arranged by Supervisor Barger's office regarding landscaping the sides of the Tujunga Wash flood channel. On Friday S.B. 79 will be heard by the Appropriations Committee of the State Assembly. Write letters to the Committee members. Building higher densities near transit stops will cost the City for infrastructure Improvements. Tony Braswell will prepare a letter to the Appropriations Committee and to the Governor's Chief of staff. Do not mention that we are a neighborhood council. The radio tower site at the northwest of Bellaire and Burbank has been sold. Sandy Hubbard has requested a meeting via the C.D. 2 Council office with the new owners.

Community Improvement - Ginny Hatfield

The August 26 meeting set up by Barger's office regarding landscaping the Tujunga Wash focused on prior meetings held in 2022 & 2023 with staff from the Upper L.A. River Watershed district. The Committee will be filling out applications for funding from Prop. W and Prop. 4 funds administered by The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy.

Business Committee - John Moser

Diana Salman will be joining the committee and then start contacting and surveying the businesses in Valley Village.

7. VANC Report - Ginny Hatfield.
There was no report due to Ginny being out of town.

8. Closing Comments
The Congress of Neighborhood Councils is meeting on September 27.

The Bylaws Revision Committee with Tony Braswell, Ginny Hatfield and Suzanne Lewis will be set up in the near future.

Jose of DONE will send out an E mail to the new Board members listing the required training classes that need to be completed in order to vote on the Board.