

Minutes - Board Meeting, Neighborhood Council - Valley Village

9-17-2025

1. Roll Call

Thirteen Board Members were in attendance: Tony Braswell, Carol Convey, Donald Grant, Alice Hart, Ginny Hatfield, Sandy Hubbard, Danny Jordan, Suzanne Lewis, Diana Salman, Christyn Saracino, Deepak Singh-Sahni, Maribel Ulloa-Garcia and Marc Woerschling.

2. Approval of Board Minutes

The Board approved the minutes for the August 27, 2025 meeting with corrections from Ginny Hatfield and Carol Convey.

3. Financial Report - Tony Braswell

For August a total of \$3,423.73 was spent with a remaining balance of \$20,041.59, no outstanding balance and a net available balance of \$20,041,59. The August Financial Report was approved by a vote of 13-0-2 and 6-0-1 by the Student Committee.

4. Report from DONE & Elected Officials

Jose Galdemez reminded the new Board members that training is needed on all five courses; Ethics, Funding, Code of Conduct, Anti-Bias and Gender Expression and Gender Identity.

Ben Kwok of C.D.2 reported that the Bureau of Street Lighting will be doing repairs in our district. Copper wire theft has risen 15 fold. This has resulted in repair delays. Street Lighting is starting to work on the 2024 list of repairs. There is an event with the Mayor in September 27. The beautification team is making trees available. Send in your lists in order to obtain the trees. Suzanne Lewis noted that the homeless man living next to the newer "white whale" building on the southwest corner of Magnolia and Colfax is still there. Ben will work with the property owner before initiating an enforcement action. Another homeless man is continuing to refuse outreach. Code Section 41.18 has not been enforced due to a directive from the Mayor. C.D. 2 has done everything legally possible. Tony Braswell asked Sandy Hubbard whether the ownership of the vacant lot south the newer white building has changed? Sandy replied that she was not aware of any ownership change.

5. Committee Reports

Student Committee - Carol Convey

The new members of the Committee are:

Truman King, who is a junior at N. Hollywood High. He has lived in Valley Village all his life, likes it and is a member of the Student Council.

Dillan Reaves, who is a senior and N. Hollywood High. He has lived in Valley Village all his life and looks forward to contributing to the community.

Julie Hookom, who is a student at Louisville High in Woodland Hills, plays sports and is a girl scout.

Sylvie Maltby has been helping out with Village Arts and works with small children.

The Student Committee meets on the second Wednesday of each month. Jose Galdamez swore in Truman King, Dillan Reaves and Sylvie Maltby as new members of the Committee. Jerry Yard is a senior at North Hollywood High who will serve as a student representative on the Board of Education.

City Services - Suzanne Lewis

A cleanup will take place this Saturday from 9-11. A motion to approve up to \$200 for the purchase of refreshments for the neighborhood cleanup event was approved by a vote of 13-0-2 and 4-0-2 by the Student Committee.

Danny Jordan discussed abusive neighbors in an independent living home. There were several incidents involving the residents of the home. An investigation has been started and this is a Federal issue. Local government does not get involved. Donald Grant is supporting the home but also Danny's leadership in working with the home to get additional care. Suzanne Lewis agreed that there is a need to find a way to get more supervision of the residents of the home. Suzanne noted that they do not want to put the street vendors out of business but want compliance with the rules, the County health regulations. Alice Hart has been walking early in the morning and noticed the unsanitary trash left behind by the vender. Ben Kwok of C.D. 2 has been most helpful in restoring irrigation to the trees on Radford. There are Coyotes in the neighborhood. They are brazen and will snatch young children and pets.

Planning & Land Use - Sandy Hubbard

S.B. 79 was passed by the State Assembly and Senate by one vote. Governor Newsom has received Mayor Bass's letter. Sandy noted the need for additional infrastructure to serve the increased density that would be permitted by S.B. 79, which would allow 5-8 story buildings in single family home neighborhoods. Newsom will probably sign the bill by the October 13 deadline. Tony Braswell asked can we send a letter for our neighborhood council? Jose Galdemez replied that he would check on this and get back to Tony. Bass is against S.B. 79 as written. We should keep sending in letters to Newsom.

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. We have received information on the application forms and the types of grants available. An account for the Committee has been set up with an I.D. number.

We need to replace our banners for \$18,000. We had 124 banners before some were damaged or lost. The welcoming sign and Laurel Canyon and the 101 freeway needs to be renovated with the stone replaced with river rock. DOT has not been forthcoming in providing the information we need in order to decide on whether to pursue Valley Village street signs after repeated attempts by C.C. 2 staff. Metro may allow a sign at the Laurel Canyon/Chandler Intersection.

Business Committee - Tony Braswell for John Moser

The Committee is trying to figure out how to boost local businesses in lieu of Light Up Valley Village due to the reduced budget for this year. The students may do a food and toy drive on December 6.

Events and Outreach - Maribel Ulloa-Garcia

An ad hoc committee including Tony Braswell, Susanne Lewis, Donald Grant and Ginny Hatfield will study amendments to the Bylaws.

6. VANC Report - Ginny Hatfield

Chris McGrath has been writing about policy issues. He commented mainly on S.B. 79. There has been little transparency on the 14 amendments to S.B. 79. Many Assemblymembers and Senators did not vote. In general, the Democrats in the State Legislature are controlled by the Bay Area Democrats. A

law allowing minor changes to legislation has been misused to make major changes. Our Neighborhood Voices will be mounting an initiative campaign in 2028. They need money and S.B. 79 may generate more supporters. For the City's Charter Reform Committee, contact Ms. Chang at Reform L.A. Charter .gov. Our recommendations for the City's charter reform should come from a subcommittee of the Bylaws Committee.

7. Future Agenda Items, Closing Comments.

Tony Braswell stated that he had found the records for the location of the 85-90 trees that our neighborhood council planted several years ago. There is a need to water newly planted trees.

Our next Board meeting will be on the 4th Wednesday in October.

Maribel Ulloa-Garcia asked about tree trimming. Ben Kwok replied that there is a backlog of trees that need trimming and the trimming will not be done soon. The Bureau of Street Trees can only trim them every 20 years. Alternatively, one can obtain a permit and have a contractor trim them instead.

Councilman Nazarian will be speaking at a future in person meeting, most likely in October.

In response to a question about how to get an item on the agenda, the item must be appropriate, relevant to our neighborhood council's issues and about something we can take action on.

On public comment, we do not have a problem with tumultuous public comment due to only a few speakers show up.

Tony Braswell and Ginny Hatfield will review the agendas of the committees.

Prime Pizza will be moving into the graffitied former Pizza Hut building.

The community cleanup will be on Saturday, September 27.