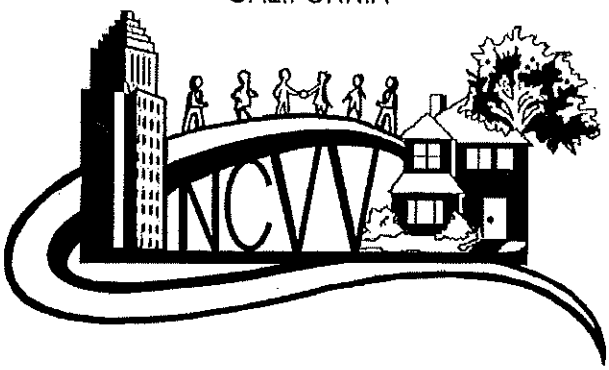
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
VALLEY VILLAGE
OFFICERS

Tony Braswell
PRESIDENT
Ginny Hatfield
VICE-PRESIDENT
Paul Hatfield
TREASURER
Dorothy Apple
SECRETARY



NEIGHBORHOOD
COUNCIL VALLEY
VILLAGE

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NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL VALLEY VILLAGE AGENDA

November 19, 2008 6:30 PM
Colfax Elementary School Auditorium
11724 Addison Street, Valley Village, CA, 91607

The public is requested to fill out a **"Speaker Card"** to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived by the presiding officer of the Board. Agenda is posted for public review at: Colfax Elementary School, 11724 Addison Street, Valley Village 91607, Shaarey Zedek Congregation, 12800 Chandler Blvd, Valley Village 91607, East Valley Senior Center, 5000 Colfax Ave., Valley Village 91601, Sego Nursery, 12126 Burbank Boulevard, Valley Village 91607, Marie et Cie, 11704 Riverside Drive, Valley Village 91607, 7-11 5343 Laurel Canyon Boulevard, Valley Village 91607, North Hollywood Library, 5211 Tujunga Avenue, North Hollywood, 91601, Newspaper (Daily News and Sun), NCVV website. As a covered entity under Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act, the City of Los Angeles does not discriminate on the basis of disability and upon request, will provide reasonable accommodation to ensure equal access to its programs, services, and activities. Sign language interpreters, assistive listening devices, or other auxiliary aids and/or services may be provided upon request. To ensure availability of services, please make your request at least 3 business days prior to the meeting you wish to attend by contacting the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment Project Coordinator, Taneda K. Larios, at taneda.larios@lacity.org.

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution, and Welcoming Remarks – Ms. Hatfield
2. Approval of October Minutes – Ms. Apple
3. Introduction of Guests – Ms. Hatfield
4. Public Comment on Agenda Items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker, and speaker must fill out a speaker card)
5. Finance Report – Mr. Hatfield
6. Instant Run Off Voting – Gautam Dutta, New America Foundation per Ms. Hatfield
7. Financial Disclosure for NC Board Members – Ms. Hatfield
   Motion to adopt position on financial disclosure
8. NBC Universal Town Hall Meeting Update – Mr. Sacher
9. Ad Hoc Subcommittee on SB1818 – Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Oberg and Mr. Bate
   Motion to amend the height requirements of the Valley Village Specific Plan
10. Standing Committee Reports –
    - City Services – Mr. Gauthier
    - Projects – Ms. Lewis
    - Planning and Land Use – Mr. O'Connor
    - Communications – Mr. Stokes
    - Elections – Ms. Hatfield
      2010 Election
11. Valley Village CERT Class Update – Ms. Apple
12. Reminder December Board Meeting Date Change
13. Future Agenda Items
14. Public Comment – Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction
15. Vice President's Closing Comments and Adjournment

Next NCVV Board Meeting – December 17, 2008

Process for Reconsideration – *The Board may reconsider and amend its action on items listed on the agenda if that reconsideration takes place immediately following the original action or at the next regular meeting. The Board, on either of these two days, shall: (1) Make a Motion for Reconsideration and, if approved, (2) hear the matter and Take an Action. If the motion to reconsider an action is to be scheduled at the next meeting following the original action, then two items shall be placed on the agenda for that meeting: (1) A Motion for Reconsideration on the described matter and (2) a [Proposed] Action should the motion to reconsider be approved. A motion for reconsideration can only be made by a Board member who has previously voted on the prevailing side of the original action taken. If a motion for reconsideration is not made on the date the action was taken, then a Board member on the prevailing side of the action must submit a memorandum to the Secretary identifying the matter to be reconsidered and a brief description of the reason(s) for requesting reconsideration at the next regular meeting. The aforesaid shall all be in compliance with the Brown Act.*

Neighborhood Council Valley Village
Board Meeting
November 19, 2008

Draft

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution and Welcoming Remarks – Ms. Hatfield – Ms. Hatfield called the meeting to order at 6:45 and asked speakers fill out a speaker card and please limit their comments to two minutes. She reminded the audience that the meeting would be conducted under the Brown Act and within the guidelines of Robert's Rules of Order.

The roll was called. Board members present were: Dorothy Apple, residential homeowner; Beth Fulton, education based; Ginny Hatfield, senior based; Paul Hatfield, at large; Suzanne Lewis, residential renter; Andrew Sacher, business owner; Dave Bate, at-large; Mark Woersching, community based; Philip Schaeffer, student representative; Richard Gauthier, business owner; Dr. Joshua Levy, faith based; Steven Stokes, residential renter.
Board members excused were: Tony Braswell, residential renter; Tom Paterson, residential renter; Greg O'Connor, residential homeowner; Lory Oberg, residential homeowner.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of October Minutes – The minutes were approved by a vote of 9-0-0.

Agenda Item 3 – Vice President's Comments, Introduction of Guests – A representative from Mr. Weiss's office, Matthew Schupbach was pleased to announce that the City Council approved the DNA rape kit test backlog. There are now funds available to hire criminalists in the crime lab to test each kit and clear the backlog. Regarding the residential floor area request for Valley Village, we are in touch with Ms. Greuel's office about the language in the motion and we will have more information for us in the next few weeks. He asked for a copy of our Mansionization Survey, Mr. Braswell will forward a copy to Mr. Weiss's office. Regarding the gunshots fired on Hortense Street, Sergeant Delgado went out to the scene and did not find any evidence of gunshots fired. This item is still under investigation. Mr. Schupbach spoke with the Bureau of Street Lighting and found out that the DWP is currently installing the wiring for the lights; they will be up and running shortly. Lastly, we have funds in our general council funds that can go towards neighborhood projects and community events. Please feel free to contact our office to see if we can help in any way. Mr. Hatfield asked if we could get some parking restrictions on Hortense Street to help with the problems they are having in their pocket. Mr. Schupbach will work together with Mr. Roosevelt on trying to get parking restrictions in this area.

Tom Hester, a resident at 11558 Addison Street and Kathy McCloskey, a resident at 11658 Addison Street gave a presentation on a project they are undertaking called "Tree Wishes," a Community Tree Planting Project. They are contacting residents between Hesby and Morrison streets and Colfax and Westpark avenues to see if they would like trees planted in their parkways. Trees would be obtained through the City of Los Angeles, Department of Public Works Bureau of Street Sanitations, from their approved list of trees. They will send us a copy of this project that we can post on the website and send out to our email contacts. Once they have completed the planting in this area, they plan on undertaking the same project in other parts of Valley Village. Dianne Handmaker, a

resident at 4904 Agnes Avenue asked if this project was available for residences with sidewalks only. The response was "no" it is for all residences in Valley Village.

Agenda Item 4 – Public Comment on Agenda Items – Shali Lee, a resident at 11613 Hortense Street expressed her concerns regarding crime in the neighborhood and the length of time it is taking to have the street lights, that the residents paid for, working.

Ms. McCloskey asked when the sound wall along the 170 Freeway is going to be installed? Ms. Hatfield let us know that with the passing of Measure R, Assemblymember Mike Feuer has written the Metropolitan Transit Authority to move forward on funding long overdue freeway sound walls in the Valley Village area. Specifically, those planned for the 170 Freeway through Valley Village included in Sound Wall Project Package 11.

Agenda Item 5 – Finance Report – Mr. Hatfield – Year to date we have spent about $20,000; we have approximately another $10,000 outstanding that needs to be paid. Mr. Hatfield proposed a motion to move some funds to other accounts. *Motion: to move $2,000 from the Executive Discretionary Fund to the Outreach Fund* and *move $1,500 from the Board fund to the Outreach fund to cover the invoices and corporate specialties pertaining to the purchase of outreach materials.* Motion is approved 11-0-0. We supplied the equestrian group for the Fourth of July Parade. The expense was $500 less than we anticipated. *Motion: to move $500 from the Fourth of July fund to the Valley Village Anniversary Fund to cover expenses.* A total of $1,436 for the Anniversary Party, this included the Business Directory printing. Motion approved 11-0-0.

Ms. Hatfield asked if the Valley Village Homeowners Association would be willing to split the costs of trimming the plants at the Valley Village Gateway sign. Mr. Sanchez said that they would be willing to contribute funds. Ms. Leslie Owens, a resident at 12155 Blix Street said that the Department of Public Works does this for us for free and that she had contacted them a few months back to trim the plants. Ms. Hatfield said she was told we need to maintain the island. Ms. Owens said that we are only responsible to maintain the sign and would give us the phone number for the department that handles this type of work.

Agenda Item 6 – Instant Run Off Voting – Guatum Dutta, New American Foundation per Ms. Hatfield – The New American Foundation is a public policy institute, also known as a think tank. Their job is to look into ways to make government more efficient, effective and accountable. Mr. Dutta gave a presentation on Instant Runoff Voting. IRV elects leaders with a majority of the popular vote in a single election, therefore eliminating the need for runoff elections. Voters rank their favorite candidates in their order of preference – first, second and third. If a candidate has a majority of first choice rankings, then he or she wins. If no candidate has a majority of first choice rankings, the instant runoff begins. The candidate with the least support is eliminated. Voters who ranked that candidate now have their vote count for the second choice, and all ballots recounted. The candidate with a majority of the vote wins. Instant Runoff Voting will save Los Angeles taxpayers $8-9 million each election by avoiding a May runoff election in the event that one is needed.

Agenda Item 8- NBC Universal Town Hall Meeting Update – Mr. Sacher – Mr. Sacher gave an update on the developments proposed for Lankershim Blvd. and Victory Blvd., Lankershim Blvd. and Chandler Blvd. and Universal Station. This latest meeting focused primarily on the Universal City Station development. The area Universal Studios is trying to develop is on public land and the proposed area that it would cover is approximately 1.7 million square feet of production and office space, possibly a hotel and two (2) office

towers that would be approximately three hundred seventy (370) feet in height. This is an unusually large project for such a small piece of land. NCVV is supporting a group that is trying to reduce the size of this proposed project and possible move some buildings to the Universal Studios lot.

Ms. Dinkin, a resident at 11750 Hesby Street asked if there is anything we can do to help stop or at the very least reduce this development. Mr. Sacher replied that we should send any concerns and/or objections to Mr. John Forman, the City Planner on this project. You can contact him via email or USPS. There will be a formal presentation on this project at our January meeting and NCVV will take a position on this development.

Agenda Item 7 – Financial Disclosure for NC Board Members – Ms. Hatfield – Motion to adopt position on financial disclosure – The proposed motions for financial disclosure by neighborhood council board members from BONC are: Motion 1: The BONC recommends the implementation of system-wide, mandatory conflict of interest ethics training for all Neighborhood Councils, with repercussions and consequences to individual board members who are in non-compliance, the specifics of which will be deliberated, determined and made public at a later date. Motion 2: The BONC recommends that Neighborhood Council board members who open a Neighborhood Council File (NCF), be required to submit a modified Form 52 financial disclosure document that details information of their own, as well as their spouse or registered domestic partner's current or past employment, and any gifts, real estate holdings or business interests that may pertain only to the Neighborhood Council File in question. Ms. Hatfield suggested that we adopt the recommended BONC motions.
The board feels we need more time to review forms 52 and 53 before voting on either of their motions and have chosen to adopt our own motion.
Motion: We believe in mandatory ethics training with reasonable sanctions. The reason being as citizen volunteers in a non-law making capacity and the fact that we are already required to disclose any conflict of interest on any motion before us, we should be exempt from filling out any financial disclosure forms. Mr. Gauthier seconded the motion. Motion approved 11-0-0.

Mr. Hatfield made motion

Agenda Item 9 –Ad Hoc Subcommittee on SB 1818 – Mr. Hatfield, Ms. Oberg and Mr. Bate Motion to amend the height requirements of the Valley Village Specific Plan –
Mr. Hatfield gave a brief description of SB 1818 for the audience not familiar with bill. SB 1818 overrides the Valley Village specific plan. In our specific plan there is a height limit on multi-residential buildings of thirty-six (36) feet and single-family residences of thirty (30) feet. The ad hoc subcommittee is proposing an amendment to our Valley Village specific plan reducing the height limit currently in the plan.
Motion: that NCVV adopt the following resolution: WHEREAS, Valley Village is a predominantly single-family neighborhood; WHEREAS, The Valley Village Specific Plan currently limits one-family buildings to a maximum height of thirty (30) feet, and permits multiple-family buildings up to thirty-six (36) feet in height; WHEREAS, a height limit of twenty-six (26) feet is sufficient to permit construction of multi-family and single- family buildings consistent with the character of Valley Village as currently established; and WHEREAS, equalization of the maximum height of one-family and multi-family buildings permitted under the Valley Village Specific Plan is necessary and desirable to preserve the character of Valley Village as presently established by ensuring that all multi-family housing to be built in Valley Village remains consistent with the character of Valley Village as so established, NCVV hereby adopts the following resolution: RESOLVED, that the Los Angeles City Council take all necessary steps forthwith to promptly amend

Section 6.B.1.a of the Valley Village Specific Plan, Ordinance No. 168,613, effective April 4, 1993, to read as follows: " No building shall exceed twenty-six (26) feet in height."
Mr. Bate let us know that the amendment process is the same process for amending any other city ordinance, the one risk is when you ask the city council to amend an ordinance, theoretically they can amend any part of the ordinance. This particular motion is only asking for one small amendment to the ordinance that is to change the maximum height restrictions for both single-family and multi-family buildings to twenty-six (26) feet. Ms. Fulton asked if there was any dialogue during the process of writing the amendment to address the downside to changing the building height restrictions? In particular buildings that may be at risk to a developer that may now have to utilize SB 1818 in order to get a thirty (30) foot building? If we lower the height limit we may be forcing builders to utilize SB 1818. Mr. Hatfield said that was a very good question and they did not address that possibility. Ms. Fulton suggested we should take an inventory of properties at risk of being developed as SB 1818 projects. This is something that City Services Committee is working on, but will take time to compile the list of properties. Ms. Dinkin, former president of the Valley Village, HOA asked why we are changing the height limit. Mr. Hatfield explained that with SB 1818 projects, a building could be up to forty-five (45) feet in height. Ms. Owens asked why we could not have a thirty (30) foot height limit for both single and multi-family buildings. After much discussion between board members regarding this motion Mr. Hatfield withdrew the motion until we could discuss the ramifications of the motion at further length.

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – City Services – Mr. Gauthier – Mr. Gauthier is working on a project to develop an infrastructure/zoning map of all of the parcels in Valley Village that may be at risk of development on the main traffic corridors in Valley Village, Burbank Blvd., Chandler Blvd., Magnolia Blvd., Riverside Drive, Whitsett Avenue, Laurel Canyon Blvd. and Colfax Avenue. We want to be prepared when a developer wants to develop a property on how it will affect our infrastructure, sewer, electrical, traffic, etc.

Mr. Schmidkte, a resident at 5451 Morella Avenue asked whom he should contact to have vegetation trimmed away from STOP signs. Mr. Gauthier said he should contact the Department of Street Services or 311.

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – Projects – Ms. Lewis – Ms. Lewis gave an update on our Anniversary Party in September. She gave all board members copies of the directory to pass out to residents. The directory should be online on our website shortly. On October 19th we planted about fifty (50) trees in Valley Village Park. Ms. Lewis has a list of people that want to be involved in the Disaster Preparedness Committee that City Services is working on.

Agenda Item 10 - Standing Committee Reports – Planning and Land Use – Mr. O'Connor – Ms. Fulton reported that we did not have a quorum at our last meeting and therefore no motions were passed. We did discuss the problem of lighting at the Public Storage Facility on Laurel Canyon. Jim Dantona is having someone from Building and Safety come out to measure the light overflow issue on the residences behind the building.
Mr. Woersching asked if Mr. Dantona had an update on the Masionization Motion that we passed in August 2008. He did not have an update for us at this time.

Agenda Item 10 - Standing Committee Reports – Communications – Mr. Stokes – Mr. Stokes took over the website in January 2008. At this time there were three (3) major projects being worked on. The Neighborhood Watch page, a photograph history and

a data base collection page. These projects were paid for in the spring and are now completed. We currently have four (4) pages of edits with the website waiting to be completed. These items will be done as soon as they our receive payment.
Mr. Sanchez, former president if NCVV said that he is bothered by the amount of money that has been spent on the website. He is disappointed with the service and quality of work from our website manager and thinks we should look into finding a different company to host the website.

Agenda Item 10 - Standing Committee Reports – Elections – Ms. Hatfield, 2010 Election - NO update at this time.

Agenda Item 11 – Valley Village CERT Class Update – Ms. Apple – We are trying to schedule another class to start in March, which will be a five (5) week course. We will have more information at our next meeting in January.

Agenda Item 12 – Reminder December Board Meeting Date Change – The next NCVV board meeting in December 17, 2008

Agenda Item 13 – Future Agenda Items – Mr. Hatfield said that Dr. Rosemarie White would like to make a presentation on behalf of the Sierra Club about things we can do to cut down on pollution locally. Mr. Woersching asked that we address the danger of our billboards being converted to flashing digital billboards and possibly making a change to our Specific Plan to prohibit conversions of current billboards in Valley Village. Dr. Levy asked that we have a discussion on Neighborhood Watch and crime in Valley Village. Ms. Apple let the board know that Tim Saito, Neighborhood Prosecutor and/or Officer Mike Lewis from the LAPD will be speaking at our December board meeting.

Agenda Item 14 – Public Comment – Comments from the Public on Non-Agenda Items within the Board's subject matter jurisdiction -

Agenda Item 15 – Vice President's Closing Comments and Adjournment – Mr. Bate made a motion to adjourn the meeting, motion was seconded and passed, Ms. Hatfield thanked all in attendance and adjourned the meeting.