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

October 22, 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 – Mr. Braswell
2. Approval of September Minutes – Ms. Apple
3. President's Comments, Introduction of Guests – Mr. Braswell
4. Public Comment on Agenda Items (limited to 2 minutes per speaker, and speaker must fill out a speaker card)
5. State Assembly Member Mike Feuer
6. Finance Report – Mr. Hatfield
7. MTA/Universal Working Group (Communities United for Smart Growth) – Theresa Davis per Mr. Sacher
8. Emergency Preparedness Presentation – Bill North and Linda Pruett per Mr. Braswell
9. Valley Village Park Tree Planting – Mr. Sacher
10. Standing Committee Reports –
    - Elections – Ms. Hatfield
      - Appointment of Board member for Renter Seat
    - City Services – Mr. Gauthier
    - Projects – Ms. Lewis
    - Planning and Land Use – Mr. O'Connor
    - Communications – Mr. Stokes
11. Valley Village CERT Class Update – Ms. Apple
12. Reminder November, 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. President's Closing Comments and Adjournment

DATES TO HOLD: CERT TRAINING - EVERY THURSDAY THROUGH 10/30

Next NCVV Board Meeting – November 19, 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
October 22, 2008

Approved

Agenda Item 1 – Call to Order, Roll Call, Agenda Distribution and Welcoming Remarks – Mr. Braswell – Mr. Braswell asked speakers fill out a speaker card and please limit their comments to two minutes. He 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; Tony Braswell, residential renter; Beth Fulton, education based; Ginny Hatfield, senior based; Paul Hatfield, at large; Suzanne Lewis, residential renter; Andrew Sacher, business owner; Lory Oberg, residential homeowner; Dave Bate, at-large; Marc Woersching, community based; Philip Schaeffer, student representative; Dr. Joshua Levy, faith based.
Board members excused were: Greg O'Connor, residential homeowner; Steven Stokes, residential renter.

Agenda Item 2 – Approval of September Minutes – The minutes were approved by a vote of 10-0-0.

Agenda Item 3 – President's Comments, Introduction of Guests – A representative from Ms. Greuel's office stopped by before the meeting to offer help for our NCVV Anniversary Party on September 21st.

Agenda Item 6 – Finance Report – Mr. Hatfield – The numbers are pretty much the same as they were last month, there are some transactions in process. We still have the Vital Research bill that needs to be paid and Mr. Hatfield has sent the information to DONE in order for the invoice to be paid. We had the Valley Village tree planting this weekend, this was a great event because it didn't require NCVV to spend much money on it and we got some very good publicity out of the activity. Right now we have about $16,000 in terms of items that have either been paid or are in process of being paid. We have the Colfax Elementary School Grant of $2,500 coming up for payment. We still have the unpaid bill for the interrogation room for the North Hollywood LAPD station in the amount of $750. We are not even sure if this project was completed. As soon as we hear from the LAPD that this project was completed, Mr. Hatfield will inform DONE to issue the payment. Mr. Braswell said that he went to the North Hollywood Station to see if he could find out if the project was completed and the person at the desk did not have any information about the interrogation room project.

Agenda Item 4 – Public Comment on Agenda Items – Michael Keeley, a resident at 4650 Vantage Avenue asked about the storage unit on Laurel Canyon. He said that it does not look anything like the original plan rendering. There are not as many trees as they agreed to plant and the color of the building is pink with red doors and trim. Mr. Keeley had photos of the building and trees that he gave to Ms. Fulton so she could follow up with the builders. Mr. Braswell asked Mr. Keeley to stay so we could bring up these issues with Jim Dantona from Wendy Greuel's office. Mr. Paterson said that they do not appear to be observing the five (5) foot front setback for landscaping on Laurel Canyon.
Ms. Fulton reminded us that a representative from the storage facility appeared before NCVV Planning and Land Use committee about three (3) months ago to go over the

plans and concerns of neighbors. They were very cooperative and showed a desire to work with the community. Ms. Fulton said she would get in touch with them to ensure that they are following the original plans, especially when it comes to landscaping.
Mr. Roosevelt from Wendy Greuel's office said that he would follow up with the Planning and Land Use staff to see how far along they are in the building process.
Dan Chesmire, a resident at 4653 Vantage Avenue, asked about the properties at Riverside Drive and Ben Avenue. Mr. Roosevelt let us know that the owner needs to maintain the property, even if it is in foreclosure. Ms. Fulton told us that the property on Riverside between Ben Avenue and Gentry Avenue has been foreclosed on and now belongs to Gateway Bank. The Stevens Nursery project is still owned by Gary Schaffel is currently being marketed for sale. Mr. Schaffel also gave the Los Angeles Graffiti removal Company a key to the property so they could access the property to clean up any problems with graffiti. A stakeholder asked if there is money earmarked for resources to help maintain foreclosed properties. Mr. Braswell responded that he would have a response at our November board meeting. Ms. Lewis asked if there is anything being done about the speeding on Riverside Drive, and Mr. Roosevelt responded that the LAPD was on Riverside Drive last week for four (4) days doing code enforcement. We deploy the LAPD officers and motorcycle officers as often as possible, but we need to be kept aware of any hot spots in the neighborhood. We cannot put stop signs on Riverside Drive, but we can look at installing traffic lights. The problem with getting additional traffic lights installed is that they need to have cross traffic needs in order to get a new traffic signal installed and there does not seem to be enough traffic at Radford Avenue or Laurelgrove Avenue. Ms. Hatfield asked if we could get a lighted crosswalk at the intersection of Riverside Drive and Laurelgrove Avenue. Mr. Roosevelt responded that he would send the information into the DOT for consideration. Mr. Hatfield asked if we could get the curb painted red and no parking signs on Westpark between Addison Street to Huston Street. Mr. Roosevelt said he would get this accomplished within the next sixty (60) days.

Agenda Item 5 – State Assembly Member Mike Feuer – Mr. Feuer gave an update on the main items that he has been working on in Sacramento. He has been working on specific bills that would really have an impact on our neighborhoods. He authored the bill that enables Measure R to be on our November ballot. He stated that Measure R is arguably the most important measure for years to be on our ballot. This bill has to do with transportation. It says that if everyone will kick in ½ of one (1) cent over thirty (30) years, we will raise forty (40) billion dollars. This money will be used for a list of specific projects. It will increase the Orange Line and subway systems, help build light rail systems and repair roads. If this measure does not pass, Mr. Feuer feels that we would be resigning ourselves to gridlock for the indefinite future. If the measure passes, he feels that in a few years we would have major improvements to our public transportation system. This measure would also give state scientists the authority to determine what chemicals are dangerous and how to get them out of our products. This would also include getting products off the shelves if they contain dangerous chemicals. The impetus of this came from a study that showed that children in the womb are programmed to get cancer, diabetes and other serious diseases that can never be unprogrammed once their mothers are exposed to certain chemicals. Other top priorities of Mr. Feuer are public safety, transportation, health, education and the environment.
Mr. Braswell told Mr. Feuer that one of the most important issues affecting our community right now is SB 1818 and asked for Mr. Feuer's opinion on this topic. Mr. Feuer responded that he has been exploring ways to deal with SB 1818. One would be to work with leaders in the affordable housing community, City Hall and Sacramento. Is there a way to smooth the rough edges of SB 1818? We clearly need affordable housing. The problem

that everyone recognizes, does SB 1818 have a net benefit of infusing more affordable housing into a neighborhood or instead in real life has it had the opposite result. His thought is to create an approach that says if a city has an inclusionary zoning law, which is a law that requires developers to infuse into their building a certain percent of affordable housing. If we had a law like that in our city, we would not need SB 1818. It would enable there to be more affordable housing and would not sacrifice the existing affordable housing units.

Mr. Sacher asked if Measure R would include funding for sound walls? Mr. Feuer responded that he has gone to the MTA to request the building of the sound wall along the 170 Freeway. If measure R does pass, it would have funds for the building of a sound wall. Immediately upon the passage of Measure R we need to go to all of our representatives to ask that the sound wall be built as quickly as possible.

Mr. Woersching asked if there is a way to amend State law to slowly take away billboards, particularly the ones that are electronic? Mr. Feuer responded that they are working very intensively right now to find a way to work with digital billboards. These billboards pose a safety hazard; they are designed to get you to look away from the road to see the changes in the billboard. The glare that comes off of these billboards is very disruptive at nighttime for residents living in the area. We have been successful in having some of them turned off at night. Right now there are only certain districts in the City that can have digital billboards.

Mr. Bate asked if there is anything that we as a board can do to help support the effort to either repeal or change SB 1818. Mr. Feuer said that there is no way he could have SB 1818 repealed. There is very little enthusiasm to have any changes made to SB 1818 at the committee level. He does not think that we are at a stage where emails, phone calls and letters could get SB 1818 changed; it is far too premature for this. A formula for adjusting SB 1818 is not even on the table yet. He would be very interested in concrete ideas that would amend, but not end SB 1818. We need amendments to SB 1818 that would have the impact that we all agree is necessary, which is promoting the goal of affordable housing and not undermining the community in the meantime.

Ms. Apple asked why can't communities insist that builders be required to replace "like for like?" If a building has (ten) 10 units that are affordable, then the new building should have ten (10) affordable units. Mr. Feuer responded that it is hard to determine what affordable is and we are not there yet. Mr. Feuer asked that we get together a list of perhaps ten (10) bullet point items that we feel are necessary for the neighborhood and get it to him. He would then try to work on obtaining these items for us, if possible.

Ms. Hatfield said the Valley Alliance has a subcommittee on SB 1818 and maybe they should work on a list of ideas to help amend SB 1818 so that it is better for our community. She is suggesting that we take inventory of how much affordable housing each district has right now and if they do not have enough affordable housing then SB 1818 should apply. Mr. Feuer said that he thinks this is a very good idea, but it should be directed to our council members, Ms. Greuel and Mr. Weiss. This would have to do with an amendment to how the city deals with SB 1818.

Ms. Hatfield asked how Mr. Feuer feels about Proposition 11. He responded that he has mixed feelings and is not sure how he is going to vote at this point.

Ms. Oberg asked how the money received from Measure R will be safe guarded and spent only on the items specified in the Measure R. Mr. Feuer responded that in Measure R there is a provision that lists all the projects that will be funded if this Measure passes. If the MTA tries to change any of the projects in the Measure, they would require nine (9) out of thirteen (13) votes in to make a change. If they agree to a change, the legislature is given a one (1) year notice before any change could happen. Every year there will be an independent audit conducted to see how the money is being spent. There will also be a Citizen Oversight Commission put in place to monitor exactly how the expenditures

are happening. These are four (4) very important safeguards that should ensure the money would be kept for transportation in the county of Los Angeles.

Agenda Item 4 - Public Comment on Agenda Items – Dale Neglia, a stakeholder who resides at 11911 Magnolia Blvd #12 voiced her opposition to SB 1818. Freddie Goldberg, a stakeholder who resides at 11911 Magnolia Blvd. #36 voiced her opposition to SB 1818. Mr. Feuer reiterated his support of NCVV opposition to SB 1818 projects and reminded us that he was not in office during the hearings on and approval of SB 1818. Jennifer Reed, a stakeholder who resides at 11911 Magnolia Blvd voiced her opposition to SB 1818. Mr. Feuer let us know that he assembled a series of working groups to try to find a way to amend SB 1818 in the last legislative session. His idea was to say that if a city has an inclusionary zoning ordinance that exists, then that city ought not be held to comply with SB 1818. He tried to promote this idea, but failed. He reminded us that he is eager to engage us in dialogue that would help come up with ideas that would make SB 1818 something everyone could agree on. Tom Paterson, a stakeholder at 5329 Vantage #4, said that he is working on an information matrix that demonstrates clearly that SB 1818 does more damage than good. He said he would be happy to share his findings when the study is finished. He also asked about the status of SB 2280, which was supposed to be a revision to SB 1818? Mr. Feuer responded that it was amended so dramatically, it was not a very meaningful piece of legislation.

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – Elections – Ms. Hatfield – Ms. Hatfield let us know that Tom Paterson, a residential renter in Valley Village and former board member of NCVV submitted an application for the renter seat. The executive committee approved his application. His appointment was approved 10-0-0.

Agenda Item 8 – Emergency Preparedness Presentation – Bill North and Linda Pruett – Bill North gave an update on what CERT classes hope to accomplish in preparing us for a disaster. He proposed that we have a plan on what to do if and when a natural disaster hits our area. He said we should organize teams to meet at a central location in order to provide care to residents in need. Colfax Elementary School would be a great spot to meet in disaster and we should have a storage bin stocked with suggested emergency preparedness items. Linda Pruett, from Lake Balboa Neighborhood Council gave a presentation on what their neighborhood has done to prepare for a natural disaster and what they still hope to accomplish.

Agenda Item 7 – MTA/Universal Working Group (Communities United for Smart Growth) – Theresa Davis per Mr. Sacher – Ms. Davis, president of Greater Toluca Lake Neighborhood Council, member of the Toluca Lake Chamber of Commerce and member of the MTA Universal City Projects Working Group gave a presentation on Communities United for Smart Growth. Andrew Sacher pointed out that this is not just about the Universal City Project, but also about the proposed growth along Lankershim corridor.

Agenda Item 9 – Valley Village Park Tree Planting – Mr. Sacher – Mr. Sacher thanked everyone for participating in the tree planting on Sunday. It was a combined effort between the Valley Village HOA, NCVV, the Forestry Division and Department of Recreation and Parks. Along with all of the volunteers that helped plant trees, it was a huge success and will make a difference in our park for years to come.

Agenda Item 3 – Introduction of Guests – Taneda Larios – Ms. Larios told us that there is a town hall meeting about financial disclosure for NC Board members on October 30th at

Wilbur Elementary School. If you want your opinion heard you should come to this meeting or you can make your comments online.

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – Projects – Ms. Lewis – Already covered by Mr. Sacher

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – Communications – Mr. Stokes – Mr. Stokes is not present to give us an update.

Agenda Item 10 – Standing Committee Reports – Planning and Land Use – Mr. O'Connor – There was not a PLU meeting this month and there is nothing new to report.

Agenda Item 11 – Valley Village CERT Class Update, Ms. Apple- October 23rd meeting is our final class and graduation. We will be having a CPR class on October 30th if anyone would like to attend; there is a $25 charge.

Agenda Item 12 – Reminder November, December Board Meeting Change Date – Our November meeting is on November 19th and the December meeting is on December 17th.

Agenda Item 13 – Future Agenda Items – Mr. Sacher asked if we should dedicate our December board meeting to SB 1818. Mr. Braswell suggested we have a town hall meeting after our ad hoc committee on SB 1818 meets.
Mr. Paterson said that the Valley Village HOA is having a meeting with Wendy Greuel on November 19th to discuss SB 1818.
Ms. Hatfield attended the congress on the BONC meeting on financial disclosures. Most of the people testifying were favorably inclined to say that as board members we have ethics that we have to abide by and this should be sufficient enough to deal with the whole conflict of interest. One of the items being considered is that we should be required to take the ethics class every year.
Mr. Schaeffer asked if we could discuss CERT awareness at a future meeting.
Ms. Oberg asked if we could get an update after the outcome of the Communities United for Smart Growth meeting. Mr. Sacher agreed to provide us with an update.

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

Agenda Item 15 – President's Closing Comments and Adjournment – Mr. Braswell adjourned the meeting at 8:52 pm.

Moved: that Neighborhood Council Valley Village 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 30 feet, and permits multiple-family buildings up to 36 feet in height;

WHEREAS, a height limit of 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,

Neighborhood Council Valley Village 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 26 feet in height."