

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA

ELECTED EXECUTIVE BOARD

Steve S. Patel – President
Don Dwiggin— 1st Vice President, Membership
Peter J. McCarty – 2nd Vice President, Outreach
Jay Draiman – Secretary
Barry M. Greenberg – Treasurer



ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Lisa Anderson
Nestor Fantini
Stephen Hubbard
Alice N. McCain
Lucille Meehan
Steven Ramirez
Kelly M. Lord

APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

Brittany McCarthy – CSUN Faculty/Staff
Darren L. Hause – CSUN Student
Vacant – Youth



Northridge East Neighborhood Council

Making Northridge a Better Place to Live, Work, Play and Learn

Minutes of the
NORTHRIDGE EAST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (NENC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Wednesday October 19, 2011 7:00 PM
At the Northridge Woman's Club, 18401 Lassen St., Northridge, CA 91326

1. Call to Order:

President Steve Patel called the meeting to order at 7:06 pm

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Ramirez

3. Roll Call – Determination of Quorum

Roll Call was taken by Mr. Ramirez. Board Members Present: Steve Patel, Don Dwiggin, Peter McCarty, Barry Greenberg, Lisa Anderson, Nestor Fantini, Stephen Hubbard, Alice McCain, Lucille Meehan, Steven Ramirez, Kelly Lord, and Brittny McCarthy

12 of the 15 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting. The NENC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is eight so the Board could take such votes. No Board seats were vacant. Also attending: Stakeholders and guests. Board Members absent: Jay Draiman (excused) and Darren Hause.

4. Agenda Setting Meeting Participation

Don Dwiggin, Lisa Anderson, Peter McCarty, Stephen Hubbard, Barry Greenberg, Steve Patel, and Kelly Lord attended.

5. Approval of Minutes — of August & September 2011

(August minutes were previously approved)

MOTION (by Mr. Greenberg, seconded by Ms. Anderson): The Northridge East Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its September 21, 2011 General Board Meeting, as recorded.

MOTION PASSED by voice vote

6. Comments from Public Officials:

a. Semee Park, Field Deputy for L.A. City Council District 12 Councilman Mitch Englander (818)756-8501;

Semee.Park@lacity.org

- The Councilman has entered a resolution to make December 15th “Day Without a Bag Day”
- Councilman Englander was instrumental in writing the Review LA Plan: A 30 year plan to move LA City into a narrow waste city. All the waste in our landfills will be diverted and used for recycling, and energy conversion.
- The Board of Public Works has passed a motion to ban all single use paper and plastic bags
- The City is working towards improving customer service and efficiency by utilizing technology. You will be able to go online, put in request, and then track that request through its completion i.e. pothole repair.
- The Councilman has introduced a motion to extend the business tax exemption extension that expires in 2012. The exemption extension would continue through 2015.

b. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

No representative from the department attended the meeting.

c. Brittany McCarthy, Department of Government and Community relations at Cal State Northridge

Announcements:

- Valley Performing Arts Center raffle. One each month November through the spring.
- Incident on campus September 27th prompted to use emergency notification. Neighbors can opt in to be part of the emergency notification system. Use facebook and twitter as part of the emergency response system

Upcoming events open to the public:

- Campus Sustainability Event: October 26th 11am-2pm
- Art Exhibit opening this Sunday October 23rd from 2p.m. -5p.m.: “Identity and Affirmations” African American Photography. The exhibit will run through December 10th
- Campus Food and Clothing Drive: November 1st-17th various drop off locations on campus.
- Community Engagement Discussion Series: November 1 2:20-3:30pm
- Support the Matadors men and women’s soccer teams
- CSUN President is retiring; she will step down as of December 31st. The Presidential Transition Search Team will host the only meeting open to the public: Thursday, Oct 27th 10am-12pm.
- KCSM Membership Drive: people can become members of the radio broadcast system. They are revamping the station. For more information visit the website.

d. Rosala Gonzales Assembly Blumenfield’s office

- Invites you all to the Senior Fraud Prevention Service: October 29th 9am-1pm. Experts on fraud prevention.
- Senior service directory available in our office: 818-904-3840
- Small business development workshop on Social Media: October 26th at the State Building in Van Nuys. Workshops will begin at 11am and 1:30pm
- Bob Blumenfield’s “Mobile Billboards Motion” passed and was signed by the Governor. As of January 1st. The Department of Transportation should not have any more issues on enforcing the ban.

e. Mel Wilson:

Update on sidewalk repairs. There was joint committee meeting between Public Works Committee and Budget and Finance Committee today. 3rd time they met. Narrowed the recommendation down to four:

1. Point of Service: Before your service is hooked up you would have to get sidewalks repaired
 2. Point of Permit: Any home improvements costing \$20,000 dollars or more would require a permit. The sidewalks would have to be repaired before the permit is granted.
 3. City-wide Bond Measure: This will place the measure and ballot so that people will be able to vote on raising property taxes to pay for the repairs.
 4. City-wide Assessment District: Different communities would be able to asses amount of money over time to be used to fix the sidewalks
- Item not voted on: discussion on whether the city should maintain the responsibility to fix the sidewalks.
 - Continued Measure: Whether or not the City should maintain the responsibility to repair and replace sidewalks
 - voted that what ever they do they have to get the information out to the communities through neighborhood council they will meet again in about 60 days
 - For more information visit www.cityofla.org click on Case Management and click on Joint Committee Public Works and Department of Street Services.

f. LAPD Watch Commander

There is a new captain in this area, for more information visit www.lapdonline.org

President Steve Patel extended an invitation for the Senior Lead Officer to come to next months NENC meeting.

7. Public Comments — (3 Minutes. Please fill out Speaker Card)

Estel Goldman- Thanked the Board for supporting the community name change to Woodley Hills. The zip codes would remain the same.

Stakeholder Complaint- Regarding a CSUN fraternity that resides on Halstead St. between White Oak and Zelzah: noise complaints, littering on streets, and dumping old couches.

Crystal Costello and Lisa Loreto- “Safe Smoke Free Air for Everyone” presentation. The Governor has signed a bill that apartment owners can designate areas of their building as smoke free. They are attempting to pass an ordinance that would require all apartment building owners to designate a smoke free area in the complexes. They requested a letter of support ordinance.

Jason Ackerman- Voiced support to ban the use of plastic and paper bags in the community. They are not biodegradable and come back to us in our water and food. Encourage people to use reusable canvas bags. Paper bags: have a larger environmental output the plastic. Impact of grocery bags

8. NENC – Board to vote on approval of Financial Committee mandatory resolution and reports to DONE for the last 24 months (Barry Greenberg)

Item was not agendized as an Action Item and will be ratified for action at the November General Council Meeting.

9. Youth reps. Appointed. Presentation 3 minutes each, total of 20 minutes.

Amir Qureshi, Junior at S.O.C.E.S and Sheela Bhongir, Senior at Granada Hills High School

Both candidates submitted resumes to the Board and stated that they would be able to commit every third Wednesday and an average of another 5 hours per month to the NENC. The Board will review the candidates and will inform them on their selection.

10. Assign terms for all committees.

Item was not agendized as an Action Item so no vote could be taken. It will be ratified for action at the November General Council Meeting.

11. Set-up protocol for fund request. Grant documents 501c3 or demand warrants. Neighborhood purposes grant form for funding.

Item was not agendized as an Action Item so no vote could be taken. It ratified for action at the November General Council Meeting.

12. NENC – Business Cards \$29 per 250 cards & Authorization to provide expenditure up to \$390.00 and order cards.- (YJ Draiman)

Item was not agendized as an Action Item so no vote could be taken. It ratified for action at the November General Council Meeting.

Lisa Anderson announced that she would print out business cards for any Board Member who is interested at her own expense. She will not ask the council for reimbursement.

13. Status of 2012 Elections – possible action

Report by Mr. Dwiggins. Neighborhood Council elections take place every two years. The last elections were The City has not been allocated any more for elections in 2012. The City Council is trying to figure out what to do. One option is to cancel next year’s elections and hold them in 2014. The Congress of Neighborhood Councils unanimously approved a resolution to not cancel the elections. Some of the neighborhood council would like to fund their own elections.

MOTION: (by Mr. Dwiggins 2nd by Mr. McCarty) The Northridge East Neighborhood Council moves to support the Congress of Neighborhood Council resolution, to the Mayor and the City Attorney, to not cancel the 2012 elections.

MOTION PASSED by voice vote

14. Proposed development at 18342 Halsted 42 condos – possible action (Don Dwiggin)

The planning committee will be meeting the first Monday of November to discuss this project and bring an action resolution to the board.

15. CSUN D6 Parking lot – cutting thru traffic – Tom Baker/Pat LoPresti

Report by Tom Baker, Area Resident

Around 2002 Northridge home owners petitioned the school to close Etiwanda at Halsted to reduce traffic in the residential neighborhood. Students have found a way to use the faculty parking lots to get around this closure and exit campus onto Halsted St. This is a public safety issue: Student drivers are not following the posted 5 mph speed limit signs in the parking lots and are cutting off other students coming to and from the Art and Design Center.

Brittney McCarty reported that a permanent solution is in the works. The Facilities Department will be installing bollards that will only open for the CSUN shuttle. She will keep the council informed on the progression of the installation with a project status report.

16. LA Green Machine – Andy Schraeder – Sustainable plastic bag & food containers – possible action

- Councilmember Paul Koretz has proposed a motion to ban all single use plastic and paper bags. This motion will save 1.7 trillion pounds of waste dumped into the Los Angeles River
- The EPA: has required that we meet a certain amount of trash reduction. 20 billion bags are used a year and 1-4% of those bags are reused.
- We are running out of landfill space. Cleaning up waste is something we shouldn't spend money on because its avoidable
- The plastic bags are made of petroleum; oil should not be used for single use items.
- This motion was voted down at the statewide level. We are now taking a city by city approach; each city is responsible for paying for their waste management
- China, India, and Pakistan have all banned the use of plastic bags
- They strangle wildlife, clog storm drains and dirty beaches have the potential to cost us millions in tourist dollars.
- World oceans are in shocking decline. Recommendation: Map and Reduce input of waste into oceans. Oceans provide 50% of our oxygen.
- Asking that the Board and community support Councilman Koretz's motion to ban all single use plastic and paper bags.

17. Sierra Club – Beyond Coal – Presentation by Vicky Kirschenbaum

The Sierra Club is asking the Northridge East Neighborhood for their support/endorsement of the "Beyond Coal Campaign". The campaign would get Los Angeles off of coal as an energy source by 2020, and invest in alternative renewable resources. LADWP still gets 39% of their energy from coal. They have already gotten endorsements from 20 Neighborhood Councils, Councilman Koretz and Councilman Rosendahl.

Action on this agenda item was postponed until the Environmental Committee is able to meet and thoroughly evaluated the proposition.

18. Jewish Women's Group – Charlene Eisen - \$100 request sponsorship

Jewish Woman International, non-profit organization works to improve the welfare of all women, children and families. They are planning a fundraising activity in the spring and request a donation of \$100 to sponsor this event

MOTION (by Ms. Anderson 2nd by: Ms. McCain) The Northridge East Neighborhood Council Moves to support the Jewish Women's Group with a sponsorship of \$100 to be ratified at the next council meeting.

MOTION PASSED by voice vote

19. Approve Robin Kellogg for the balance of the year for up to \$2100 for Advertising and Public Relations

Item was not agendized as an Action Item, no vote can be taken.

MOTION (by Ms. Anderson 2nd By Mr. McCarty) The Northridge East Neighborhood Council moves to approve the payment of Robin Kellogg, for the balance for up to \$2100, for Advertising and Public Relations, this motion will be ratified at the next meeting.

MOTION PASSED by voice vote

20. Revision to NENC by-laws by DONE. (Mr. Greenberg)

Update by Mr. Dwiggins

MOTION: (by Mr. Dwiggins 2nd by Mr. McCarty) The Northridge East Neighborhood Council moves to approve the updated bylaws, subject to approval by DONE, the approval will be ratified at the next meeting.

MOTION PASSED by voice vote

21. NENC to appoint TWO BUDGET REPRESENTATIVES for Mayor's Budget Day on Oct. 20, 2011

Budget Representatives: Barry Greenberg and Sheela Bhongir

22. Teenage Musical Theatre Program Funding

Item tabled until the next meeting

23. Education committee report - Nestor Fantini

The Education Committee is in the process of organizing a forum that will take place in March. We have spoken with the principal of Northridge Academy and Rosala Gonzales Assemblymember Blumenfields office. We are getting more support then we had last year.

24. Committee Reports

Mr. Fantini announced that the Education Committee will be meeting this coming Wednesday: 4:00pm at Darby Elementary School, everyone is invited. On behalf Darby Elementary and Andasol Elementary would like to thank the Board for all their work in providing grant funds.

Mr. McCarty announced that the Outreach committee participated in the senior fair last weekend; everyone got shots.

Congressman Sherman invites members of the board to a meet and great. Please RSVP.

Mr. Patel announced that the Safety Fair two weeks ago had an attendance of about 500 people. First aid kits, flashlights, water, and other items for emergency kits were passed out. They will continue to hold this event the first week of October annually.

Mr. Dwiggins announced that the Land Use Committee: will be discussing possible action for the proposed project located at Reseda and Halstead at their next meeting. The Environmental Committee will be participating in workshop on green practices Oct 22nd. For more information visit the Valley Green Team Website.

Mr. Greenberg announced that there was no Treasurer's report for this month and that The Budget and Finance Committee will meet 1st Tuesday of the month at Northridge Park. By the next meeting we will have a budget that will include encumbered and no encumbered funds. The rent on the Woman's Club has been paid through the fiscal year.

25. Adjournment

The next General Board Meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 16th at 7:00pm at the Northridge Woman's Club, 18401 Lassen St., Northridge, CA 91326

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** without objection at 9:05pm.