

CITY OF LOS ANGELES

CALIFORNIA



Northridge East Neighborhood Council
Elected Executive Board

Kelly Lord - President
Don Dwiggins - 1st Vice President
Thomas Baker - 2nd Vice President
Judith Nutter - Secretary Appointed CSUN
Faculty/Staff
Steve Patel - Treasurer

Northridge East Neighborhood Council

Northridge East Neighborhood Council
Elected Board Members

Ray Calnan Travis Daniels
Yeprem Davoodian Barry Greenberg
Alice McCain Peter McCarty
Lucille Meehan Carol Moore
Sara Adelman Youth Representative

Conor Lansdale Appointed CSUN Student Body

Wednesday, March 10, 2009 7:00pm to 8:30pm

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

10126 Encino Ave.

NOTE: The Andasol Elementary auditorium was locked on account of the summer vacation, so the board was forced to hold a condensed meeting outside, in the school's courtyard.

Call to Order/ Roll Call:

Kelly Lord called the meeting to order at 7:15pm. There was no flag present, so there could be no Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America

Attendance: Kelly Lord, Lucille Meehan, Peter McCarty, Ray Calnan, Barry Greenberg, Yeprem Davoodian, Don Dwiggins, Alice McCain, and Judith Nutter were present. Steve Patel arrived late.

Thomas Baker and Sara Adelman were excused. Travis Daniels and Caroline Moore were absent. Harold Ellison has moved on, to be replaced as the CSUN appointed representative by Conor Lansdale.

Approval of the minutes from February Board Meeting:

Alice McCain motioned to approved the February minutes. Yeprem Davoodian seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA:

NOTE: The following agenda items will be listed here in the order they were discussed at the meeting.

2. White Oak Development Halsted to Lassen Letter to PLUM from NENC possible action (Dwiggins)

Don Dwiggins discussed the White Oak development. He stated that the Planning & Land Use Management (PLUM) committee is the next place where conversation about this project will show up, and that meeting has not yet been scheduled. Don said that Joel has been doing an excellent job and that they have contacted the mayor's office. He will update the NENC website with the appropriate contact information. They (Don and Joel) tried to file an appeal but it was not accepted for some reason. There will be a public hearing. A stakeholder asked Don to define the project in question: He gave an abbreviated definition, that the project entails four contiguous lots consisting of 32 units. Another stakeholder asked for a project contact number, and Don referred him to the website,

where there is a PLUM contact and a Mayor's Office contact. No discernible action was taken on this item. It sounded like Don figured it would be discussed again at next month's meeting.

3. 18259 Halsted St. Conditional User Permit to allow Church (Sunoko Lin presentation)

Sunoko Lin, the pastor of the Reseda church, stated that they (the church) have just purchased the Halsted property. They need the city council's blessing. Pastor Lin brought some members to the meeting. He noted that the new property is a geographically convenient location for worship for his congregation, and will provide an attractive environment for religious sanctuary. Pastor Lin's colleague Dave Spitzman works with young adults and hopes to reach out to CSUN and thereby make a positive impact on the community with mentoring and counseling. A stakeholder then asked how many lots the new property will have (Pastor Lin replied, one) and what the parking situation will be (the church needs 20 spaces for their current membership of 100 people). Another stakeholder asked if they intend to construct a new building. Pastor Lin replied yes; that the city planner said that they need the city council's approval to do so. Greig Smith's office needs to be aware of the request also. The church is aware of the neighborhood concerns about traffic and about the history with fraternities. All services will be conducted inside the buildings. In response to another stakeholder question, Pastor Lin stated that the church hours are 9:30am-12pm on Sundays, and that on weekdays they are only open to operate the office. The church has already purchased the Halsted property. Yeprem Davoodian asked how long is their conditional permit issued? Pastor Lin: 6 months. Kelly Lord: Can you come back and present again? Pastor Lin: Yes.

Kelly then insisted that the meeting move on, due to the fading daylight.

4. NENC to host City Planning Over-site Committee up to \$500 action required (Lord) Planning Consultant

Kelly said that the NENC will hold a Planning Oversight Committee for the Department of Planning. He recognized that Judith Nutter does a great job coordinating with CSUN. It will take \$500 to invite this meeting. Kelly made a motion to approve the expenditure of up to \$500 for NENC to host the City Planning Oversight Committee. Either Yeprem or Ray seconded the motion (it was getting dark out by then.) The motion passed unanimously.

5. Salute to Recreation May 31, 2008 Fireworks approved not to exceed \$5000.00 Zambelli Application submitted by NENC

Peter McCarty stated that this event will be completed by June, and as such, a motion was made to table the agenda item to next June. The motion passed.

6. Environmental Embassies possible action up to \$2500 (McCarty)

Peter did not want to table this motion. He recommended that it be voted on tonight. We want to bring people to certify as ambassadors for composting and gardening. In Northridge East, there has been a concerted effort. Don asked if this item is related to the Zero Waste Program. Peter replied that yes, rule AB-22 says that by 2020 we have to know how to do these things. A stakeholder asked how the schools will be informed of the event. Peter replied that they have been informed already, but are currently on spring break. There will be a May 17th workshop in Highland Hall. The costs involved are for outreach and materials. Ray Calnan said that LA UST will be reached out to, but that we want to get word out there and sponsor this event and increase turnout. Barry Greenberg asked if some of that \$2500 should come out of the outreach fund. Peter answered yes. Ray noted that the board needs to vote in order to move funds that way. Peter made the motion and Ray seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

1. Communication upgrade NENC Email; accessing Gmail groups possible action up to \$750 (Greenberg)

Barry Greenberg discussed the proposed communications upgrade. This would get the board's email together and get rid of spam. Barry proposed a commercial Gmail account. The cost is \$50 per account -- \$750 total for all board members. Barry proposes to allocate up to \$750 to open a Gmail account for the board for one year. Peter seconded that motion. Discussion ensued: Ray was unsure that such an account would be used often enough to be worth it, and wondered if everyone would be able to adhere to the rules of the Brown Act. Barry countered that currently as is, the board sends email according to the Brown Act. The thing is working on documents. A stakeholder asked why the board could not just use regular email. Barry answered that email attachments need to show individual changes on a centrally stored document. Peter McCarty made a point of order: Not all people assembled know the definition of the Brown Act. Don Dwiggins briefly defined it as the requirement that board meetings need to be held in front of the

public, and agendized. Essentially – full disclosure. The same stakeholder asked how much time this upgrade would save. Barry replied that some projects don't get done because of the board member's varying schedules and technology capabilities. The proposed upgrade would serve to remedy that. *Steve Patel shows up at the meeting just in time for the following:* Barry noted that he and Steve Patel, the treasurer, have discussed the upgrade. Steve confirmed that it would be budgeted under communications and internet. Alice McCain said that she did not remember this being an issue. Kelly Lord noted that such a comment belonged earlier, in participation, and declared that Barry is good at these things. If the board does not use the Gmail account, it can be scaled back. Anything that makes NENC more efficient is a good thing. Barry added that the program can be returned within 30 days of purchase. The same stakeholder as before asked how Barry knows that Gmail will work. Barry replied that it will. That's the application. The board then voted: Ray was against the motion, and Lucille and Alice abstained. The motion passed.

7. New Vision request for expenditures up to \$2500 action required (McCarty)

NOTE: This item was not clearly discussed. It may have been among the motions tabled for the next meeting, along with Item #6.

8. Full Public Campaign Financing possible action (Dwiggins)

This item was also tabled for next month.

Kelly Lord then invited Public Comments.

Public Comments:

- An unnamed stakeholder present asked that in the language concerning the Salute to Recreation, that something be put in regarding the fireworks that are to be used. The fireworks will be loud, may upset pets, and so on. Barry Greenberg pledged to make sure that appropriate forewarnings will get into the Salute to Recreation advertisement.
- Marni Nemkoff, director of the North Valley Regional Center, briefly mentioned the Salute to Recreation and said she hoped to achieve outreach and promotion through the board. Don Dwiggins offered to be in touch.
- Dorit Jacoby, an Andasol parent, mentioned the PTA Annual Open House on April 22nd. There will be a Silent Basket gift auction, to which she asked everyone to please donate. The proceeds will go to the YMCA physical education program. The children love this program, and the teachers get to collaborate with different grade levels than they normally get to work with. Dorit demonstrated that she brought brochures. She asked anyone with a business or organization to donate new items, not used ones. Steve Patel clarified that the board itself cannot donate, but can and will help with outreach.
- Melvin Canas from DONE had two items to discuss: 1) the neighborhood council assessment surveys that are being dispersed. The stakeholder survey asks how the neighborhood council is doing. This is the first time for such a survey. Stakeholders can bring completed surveys to the next meeting, or can fax them in or submit them to the NENC website. Melvin also mentioned Survey Monkey. DONE wants to improve neighborhood councils at the organizational level. 2) To the board, the bylaws amendments that they submitted to DONE are being processed. They will probably be done tomorrow, and most of it looks okay. Melvin is available to talk more about this after the meeting. Kelly asked him to talk to Barry and Don.
- Nathan Jackson of Genesta Avenue commented about a letter he sent to the police chief about graffiti and trash in the neighborhood. There are bottles left in streets that are never cleaned, and sometimes Nathan has to do it himself. Kelly told Nathan that NENC has a Service Cabinet that goes in front of the city on such matters. He asked Nathan to give the board his information so that they can help. Alice hypothesized that Nathan was talking about the area behind Mandarin King. Nathan added that the grass in that area was never cut; the trees never trimmed. He warned that the area needs to be patrolled, or else there will be problems in the summer. Peter noted that the drag racing problem in that area was corrected. Nathan reiterated that the main problem was bigger than traffic issues. Kelly said that the situation was taken under advisement, and moved towards ending the meeting.
- Conor Lansdale announced that he will be replacing Hal Ellison as the CSUN delegate. He is a sophomore at CSUN, active at the university and its fraternity system. He knows Hal and Yeprem well, and is looking forward to working with the board.

Board Member Reports:

There were no Board Member Reports invited or given.

Future Agenda Items and other Calendar Events:

No Future Agenda Items were discussed outside of those mentioned in the preceding agenda items.

Adjournment:

Kelly Lord noted that a motion to adjourn was in order. Barry Greenberg made the motion, which was seconded by Judith Nutter. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at **8:02pm**.