

Minutes of the Meeting of the Northridge East Neighborhood Council Board Meeting

December 16, 2009

1. The meeting was called to order by Steve Patel at 7:01PM.
2. The pledge of allegiance was led by Kelly Lord.
3. Roll Call: Steve Patel, Don Dwiggins, Peter McCarty, Barry Greenberg, Kelly Lord, Alice McCain, Thomas Baker (tardy - excused), Nestor Fantini (absent - excused), Pamela Butts (absent – excused), Lucille Meehan (absent - excused), Caroline Moore (absent - excused), Yeprem Davoodian, Brittney McCarthy, Connor Landsdale (absent – excused), Steve Ramirez. Quorum was present.
 1. Board members in attendance at agenda setting meeting: Don Dwiggins, Kelly Lord, Pamela Butts, Peter McCarty, Nestor Fantini, Steve Patel.
4. Steve Ramirez welcomed and introduced Principal of NAHS (Karen Matsui). Principal Matsui welcomed the Council to the school and looks forward to a strong partnership with them. Mr. Patel thanked the students for their holiday cards.
5. Approval of Minutes: Deferred to January meeting.
6. Comments from Public Officials:
 - a. Council District 12: Mr. Bwarie announced that the Northridge Centennial Kick-Off will be held on January 19th, 2010 starting at 5:30PM at the Northridge Recreation Center. More information can be found at cd12.org.
 - i. The Council will take 2 weeks off starting December 23rd. With the election deadline coming up, council asked to move candidate filing to last week of January. Mr. Bwarie recommended the Council write a written request to bring up the issue to the City Clerk. A discussion followed regarding the Chatsworth council controversy with staggered elections vs. candidates being up for election every two years.
 - ii. Medical marijuana issue: There is a draft ordinance in progress to decrease to 80 legal operating facilities located a proper distance from schools. Council is discussing legal ramifications with final ordinance.
 - iii. Vote by mail: No updates. Election will be held March 2nd at the Northridge Recreation Center.
 - iv. Renew LA Plan: Updates are being drafted regarding status of recycling technology. RFP process started to solicit companies in order to fund new recycling plants. Final candidates are being reviewed, but economy has slowed down the process.
 - v. DWP Contracts: Mr. Bwarie will get up to speed on education of improvement and how employee pay rates have been increased. He recommended the NENC request a liaison from DWP to explain IEBW contracts and employee rates.

- b. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment: Melvin Caños discussed civic engagement in the community and gave a presentation of NENC's purpose in city and direct community service. More information provided at empowerla.org.
 - c. Police Update: Officer Kathy Bennett discussed the development of Devonshire police department. Burglary is currently a high risk through motor vehicles and it is advised that students and community take all items out of their car and lock it at all times. Hot spots for burglary are in and around apartment complexes near Lassen and Zelzah. A discussion ensued regarding street robberies on Nordhoff and Reseda; the suspect has been arrested.
 - d. LAPD-shooting update: There is no new information regarding the homicide at Lassen and White Oak and no one has been taken into custody. Mr. Patel raised a concern for individuals walking around with guns and asked what the council can do to help. Officer Bennett assured the council that there were witnesses in area and detectives are following up on clues.
 - i. Officer Bennett distributed the following handouts:
 - 1. Important phone numbers including 911 non-emergency police dispatch, department of transportation, and the Council District 12 office.
 - 2. E-policing www.lapdepolicing.org gives the community the ability to send email messages, receive police updates, and anonymously text crime information and tips.
7. Public Comments: There were no public comments.
8. Old Business:
- a. Land Use Committee:
 - i. 18259 Halstead: Pat LoPresti addressed the Council and announced that the City Planning Department denied the CUP at 18259 Halstead denying the request that the residence be converted into a church. Ms. LoPresti thanked the Council for their support during this lengthy ordeal and the Council thanked Ms. LoPresti for her hard work on the issue.
 - b. PALS-Jeopardy program funding: Mr. Patel made a motion to approve \$5,621 for the PALS-Jeopard program, 2nd by Mr. Lord. Motion is pending due to agenda not being posted.
 - c. Election Update: Mr. Dwiggins discussed the 2010 Candidate Filing Packet handout. Write in candidates will be accepted until February 1st. More information can be found on the NENC website. Mr. Patel suggested the use of lawn signs to announce elections throughout community to create outreach.
 - d. Free CERT training will be held at Northridge Academy every Thursday from 3:30-6:30PM starting in January. Sign-up sheets are available at NAHS.
 - e. Mr. Ramirez announced that 10 recycling bins are being added to NAHS campus. The NAHS Environmental Club will be responsible for the bins' delivery.
 - f. NENC Office/Storage space move update: Deferred to January meeting.

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9. New Business:

- a. Headington Media-Introduction: Edward Headington announced the Education Summit that will be held at NAHS on February 11th. Headington Media's large scale goals are to brand the SFV as a place to bring in thought leaders and experts, to showcase NENC as a leader in the community, and to get all NC's involved.
- b. Outreach presentation on NENC and social networking: Monica Hernandez discussed ways to get the community involved with online chatting and advertising via facebook, myspace, and other social networking sites. The Council requested a demonstration of ideas be presented between now and February 11th. More information will be sent to Mr. Fantini.
- c. Mr. Davoodian announced his resignation from his council position. The Council thanked Mr. Davoodian for his service and wished him well.

10. Committee Reports: There were no committee reports.

11. Adjournment: Mr. Lord made a motion to adjourn at 8:45PM, 2nd by Ms. McCain. Motion passes unanimously, meeting adjourned.

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