

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
Barry M. Greenberg – Secretary
Kelly M. Lord – Treasurer



ELECTED BOARD MEMBERS

Lisa Anderson Alice N. McCain
Jay Draiman Lucille Meehan
Nestor Fantini Steven Ramirez

Stephen Hubbard

APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS

Brittany McCarthy – CSUN Faculty/Staff
Darren L. Hause – CSUN Student
Michael McNulty – 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, February 16, 2011

at Northridge Academy High School, 9601 Zelzah Ave., Northridge, CA 91342

1. Call to Order

President Steve Patel called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Ramirez.

3. Roll Call – Determination of Quorum

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Board Members present: Steve Patel, Don Dwiggin, Barry Greenberg, Kelly Lord, Lisa Anderson, Jay Draiman, Nestor Fantini, Stephen Hubbard, Alice McCain, Lucille Meehan, Steven Ramirez and Brittny McCarthy. Peter McCarty and Michael McNulty arrived later.

Twelve 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: approximately 35 Stakeholders and Guests.

4. Agenda Setting Meeting Participation

Steve Patel, Don Dwiggin and Lisa Anderson.

MOTION (by Mr. Greenberg): The Northridge East Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its December 15, 2010 and January 19, 2011 General Board Meetings as written.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

5. Comments from Public Officials

a. Council District 12

Semee Park, Field Deputy for L.A. City District 12 Councilman Greig Smith (818-756-8501; Semee.Park@LACity.org), announced that a Community Beautification Request Form is available for shopping cart, abandoned vehicle and other removal or call 3-1-1, and described Adopt-a-Street Applications. Mr. Lord was concerned that long ago the NENC submitted an application to adopt part of Lassen St.; nothing happened and he wants to re-apply. Ms. Park encouraged sending her information. New San Fernando Valley Oral History Project interviewees are sought. There was extensive discussion regarding the City's parking meters plans. Ms. Park said "it's really a non-issue for" this area; it's "an expansion of the zone (on Nordhoff St. east from Reseda Blvd.) . . . to include parking meters in the future . . . no parking meters are coming soon." Mr. Lord voiced that "as much local tax base [as possible] should stay in the community."

Mr. Patel noted that "the City is borrowing \$640,000 from the Sunshine Canyon Landfill Fund and [loaning] it to the LAUSD . . . it'll all be paid back."

LAPD Senior Lead Officer Kathy Bennett distributed a "S.O.L.I.D. Fundraiser" flier and announced the SOLID (Supporters Of Law enforcement In Devonshire) fundraiser on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. at Islands Restaurant at 11400 Porter Ranch Dr. They'll give a percentage of their dinner sales to the LAPD Devonshire Division. She encouraged signing up for e-policing information. An L.A. Times online mapping system is available for more local information. Officer Bennett announced that she's retiring next week and encouraged contacting her at www.KathyBennett.com if you want help with City services. The Interim Senior Lead Officer will be Ignacio Morillo (818-634-0495; 34879@LAPD.LACity.org).

[The following presentation was made after Item #10.] **[SP CONFIRM: __]** __ of the L.A. County Dept. of Mental Health presented and described the Department and its services. Last year they made more than 283,000 assistance calls in 24 languages, including to many military veterans.

b. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment

No representative was present and there was no report.

c. CSUN

Brittney McCarthy encouraged signing up for the monthly CSUN Newsletter for "activities and programs" information. She described upcoming events at the Performing Arts Center and sports events, and introduced Darren, the CSUN Government and Community Relations Intern. Traffic safety information is available by e-mailing TrafficSafety@csun.edu. Zelzah Ave. and Prairie St. improvements are "part of long-term traffic mitigation . . . [to] significantly improve access to campus . . . [there'll be] a new left-turn signal . . . and more formal access at Prairie . . . Matador Dr. will break through to Nordhoff . . . to create a right-turn lane . . . [we're] closing Dearborn [St.] access at Zelzah."

6. Public Comments

Brad Smith, City Council District 12 Candidate and Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council Vice-President, introduced himself and encouraged voting March 8th. There'll be a Candidates Forum March 3rd at Granada Hills High School.

Richard Fisk of the Old Granada Hills Residents Group and the Chamber of Commerce relayed that the Public School Choice vote will be announced February 23rd and "we'll know by March 15th who's going to operate the School."

Pamela Bolin, L.A. Community College District Candidate and Northridge West Neighborhood Council Treasurer, introduced herself and described her background. She's a Candidate to help "represent all of Los Angeles" and would "like to raise the percentage of" applications and College graduates.

Board Member Michael McNulty arrived at this time.

Stakeholder Glenn Bailey said that "the purpose of the Sunshine Canyon Fund is to benefit communities within five miles of Sunshine Canyon." He encouraged the NENC to submit a Community Impact Statement regarding the sidewalk repair issue to attach to the City Council File to support that homeowners should not be forced to repair sidewalks upon the sale of their homes. He played an audiotape from a mid-December City Council Transportation Committee Meeting regarding Council District 12 parking meters that appears to indicate that the City intends to install more parking meters in the NENC area; he said that "last week, [Committee Chair] Councilman Bill Rosendahl said essentially the same thing." He urged contacting Councilman Rosendahl [213-473-7011; Councilman.Rosendahl@LACity.org; <http://CD11.LACity.org>] to discourage it.

7. New Vision Committee Update

Mr. Patel described the Vision as "a partnership between the three Neighborhood Councils in Northridge and with CD12 . . . [about] what we want Northridge to look like" and encouraged completing the survey [<http://www.NorthridgeVision.org>].

8. Old Business

Oakridge Estate project update [Pat LoPresti]
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #9. b.] Ms. LoPresti distributed a "The Oakridge Estate: A Historic Icon of the San Fernando Valley" brochure, showed slides and described the property and some of its history. They're working with the University of Wyoming and the L.A. Conservancy to retrieve and preserve artifacts and the Estate, which will be established as a 501(c)3 non-profit organization. There'll be a meeting Thursday, March 24th at 3:00 at Fire Station 87 [10124 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills; information: 818-756-8501; OakridgePAB@gmail.com].

9. New Business

a. Honor Darby Elementary School [Mr. Fantini]

Mr. Fantini described "incredible" API progress at the School and introduced Principal Virginia Ghoneim and PTA President [**INF CONFIRM: __**]. Ms. Ghoneim announced that the School's API has increased "over 200 points to 871." She

described programs to promote and ensure student success, including a Science Fair and June 10th Orchestra concert.

- b. CERT Training at LAFD #87: 7 Week course, Thursdays May 5-June 16. Co-funding \$100 [Mr. Patel]

Mr. Patel described the CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) program (818-756-9674; cert-la.com, lafdcert@lacity.org).

MOTION (by Mr. Dwigins, seconded by Ms. Anderson): The Northridge East Neighborhood Council allocates \$100 for refreshments for the CERT Training seven-week course Thursdays May 5-June 16, 2011 at LAFD Station #87.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

- c. Chamber of Commerce Installation Luncheon, March 3. Funding up to \$200 [Messrs. Patel, Lord]

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #9. c.] Mr. Lord explained the Luncheon. Mr. Patel added that Dr. Bill Roberts will present regarding Valley economic issues. Four Board Members indicated interest in attending.

MOTION (by Mr. Lord, seconded by Ms. McCain): The Northridge East Neighborhood Council allocates up to \$200 for four Board Members to attend the March 3, 2011 Northridge Chamber of Commerce Installation Luncheon.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote with one abstention.

- d. VANC Annual NC mixer (March 10) Funding Request \$100 [Messrs. Patel, Lord]

MOTION (by Mr. Lord, seconded by Ms. McCain): The Northridge East Neighborhood Council allocates \$100 for expenses of the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils March 10, 2011 mixer at CBS Studios in Studio City.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Lord explained that a number of Valley Neighborhood Councils are contributing. Mr. Patel added that all are welcomed to attend.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

- e. Planter Replanting along Reseda Blvd. Funding up to \$100. [Mr. Lord]

Mr. Lord explained that this is "to purchase a variety of supplies" and watering cans with the NENC logo to go to local businesses. Mr. Patel recognized former Board Member Thomas Baker for his help and Ms. Park offered to help.

MOTION (by Mr. Lord and seconded): The Northridge East Neighborhood Council allocates \$100 for planter replanting along Reseda Blvd.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Lord explained that a number of Valley Neighborhood Councils are contributing. Mr. Patel added that all are welcomed to attend.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

- f. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) [Sara Paul]
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #8.] Ms. Paul described that she founded the CSA to raise funds for school gardens and nutrition programs.

Board Member Peter McCarty arrived at this time.

The programs are “promoting health and wellness resources for the community” and she encouraged outreach and support for them.

- g. Bylaws Committee DONE Template Update [Dwiggins, Greenberg, Draiman, Lord]
[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #9. e.] Mr. Dwiggins described that the Committee is organizing the Bylaws to conform with the DONE template by April 10th and “a draft will be presented next month.” He described some of the revisions being made and encouraged Stakeholder feedback. He read the new Stakeholder definition; Mr. Patel noted that it “is a very contentious issue . . . the City Attorney refuses to get involved . . . an Election Commission will define” it. There was discussion regarding the challenge of defining a Stakeholder and eligibility to vote in Neighborhood Council elections. The Committee will meet again March 1st at the Agenda-setting Meeting.

- h. Possible Addition to NENC area: Presentation [Estelle Goldman/Liz Morgan]
Mr. Patel explained that “there’s a section between Bull Creek and Woodley Ave. . . . that has requested the City to change their address to Northridge from North Hills . . . there’s 1,100-1,200 homes there.”

- i. Measure "L" presentation [Librarian Lawrence Rotunno]
Mr. Rotunno distributed a “Vote Yes on Measure L” flier, and described Measure L and that Libraries have “lost 28% of their staff in the last three years . . . people [are] being ushered out of the Library at 5:30 just when the kids are coming in to do their homework.” The Measure would help “restore service . . . hours and the book budget . . . [which was] cut 19% each of the last three years. His Assistant reminded that “this is not a tax increase.” There was discussion regarding the Measure’s relation to the City Budget.

- j. Outreach Plan -- NENC Outbound Telephone Notification System [Ms. Anderson/Mr. Patel]
Ms. Anderson reported that there’re “approximately 7,500 business and residential sites in the NENC area . . . [she’s] done some basic research . . . [and will] present a report at the next Meeting.”

Mr. Patel reported that BONC [the L.A. Board of Neighborhood Commissioners] is going to pass a Resolution within the next 60 days “mandating Ethics Training for all Board Members” and that Neighborhood Councils could lose funding if even only one Board Member hasn’t completed the Training [available at [http://Ethics.LACity.org/Education/Ethics2007/?audience=done.](http://Ethics.LACity.org/Education/Ethics2007/?audience=done)]

10. Committee Reports

Mr. Patel announced that the next NENC General Board Meeting will be held at Fire Station 87 [at 10124 Balboa Blvd., Granada Hills].

Education

Stakeholder Karen Green reported that the Committee is “creating an information pamphlet . . . [and has] bi-monthly meetings.”

11. Adjournment

Mr. Patel recognized and thanked CSUN students for attending this Meeting.

MOTION (by Ms. Meehan, seconded by Mr. Lord): to **ADJOURN** the Meeting.

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

The Meeting was **ADJOURNED** at 9:04 p.m.

Certified True and Correct

By: Barry M. Greenberg, Secretary