

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

**Wednesday, January 16, 2013**

- 1. Meeting Called to Order by Steve Patel at 7:10pm**
- 2. Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3. Roll Call – Determination of Quorum:** Ankur Patel, Jack Harriman, Nestor Fanatini, Roland Faucher, Don Dwiggins, Kelly Lord, Alice McCain, Spencer Schmeli, Francesca (Insert Last Name) , Steve Patel, Glenn Bailey
- 4. Agenda Setting Meeting Participation –** Steve Patel, Don Dwiggins, Roland Faucher, YJ Draiman, Glenn Bailey
- 5. Swear In Francesca to Northridge East Neighborhood Council**  
**Francesca** – I was hired at CSUN as the New Director on December 20 and hit the ground running on January 2. I'm really excited to get to know the community. I've been meeting with campus leadership and it has been clear how very councils in the region and businesses are a part of the fabric of the University. I want to be a resource and look forward to working with you.
- 6. Approval of Minutes – Dec. 2012**  
**Kelly Lord** – It was mentioned in the minutes that I was to follow up with Ed Londono regarding his complaint last meeting and there was no address listed. If the minute taker could retrieve that information and add it to the minutes that would be great.  
**Glenn Bailey** – No mention of the resignation of Alice McCain in the previous minutes.  
**Steve Patel** – Need to incorporate into the minutes Alice's resignation as well as Glenn Bailey's new position as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President and Roland Faucher as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President.  
**Steve Patel made a motion to approve the December 2012 meeting minutes with modifications**  
**MOTION PASSES**  
**(11-0-0)**
- 7. Comments from Public Officials – CD12, DONE, LAPD, LAPD**  
**Sammy Park** – A couple of reports from the Councilman about the work that he has been doing over the past month as we start the new year the LAPD has released a city wide crime stat and the city has seen a continued decline over the past 10 years. According to the report it shows a 39% decline in homicides from 2005. There doing a really fantastic drop with the resources that they have and the LAPD Devonshire division is holding there semi-annual meeting on January 17 at 6pm. Councilman Englander has second a motion to requesting LAPD to report back to the Public Safety Committee as far as what LAPD is doing to curtail hit and runs. We've seen a very alarming of hit and runs occurring whether it be pedestrians, motorcyclists or bicyclists and we want to make sure our streets are safe and that there is some type of mechanism in place so that we capture these offenders. I also want to let you know that the Proposed Street Bond Measure has

been postponed to an indefinite date. It's not going to be on the May ballot as originally proposed but by a unanimous vote the City Council has asked the City Attorney to draft the language for the measure. This is a \$3 billion twenty year bond. The reasoning behind this is because the city is 60 years behind fixing failed streets. We have systematically analyzed the conditions of every single street in city, rating it from A to F level. Currently the D & F level are the most expensive because it requires major reconstruction. That total equals 8700 miles of streets. It's much more cost effective to maintain streets level A, B & C but because D & F streets cost a lot more to reconstruct, we can only do a small amount of reconstruction. This bond is the largest public infrastructure bond proposing to fix all of the failing streets in 10 years.

**Roland Faucher** – Does that include sidewalks?

**Sammy Park** – We are trying to include that in the bond measure. It is an issue that we want to address. With the low interest rate we can borrow at a very good rate. It also reduces direct costs for residences, raises property value and will create 30,000 new local jobs. If the bond measure passes, the money will be used to hire contractors and will be overseen by a citizen's oversight committee. It will not go to the general fund or pensions. The Public works committee will be holding series of meetings throughout the city so stay tuned and I will keep you informed of when those meetings will be.

**Glenn Bailey** – Councilman Englander said 6 years ago that the cost would be \$1.5 billion and now it's \$3 billion and some people have said that this does not include interest. The Citizen's Advisory Committee is made up of the CAO, COA and a member of the Mayor's staff. I think the Citizen's Oversight Committee is very important but it has to truly be a citizen's committee. I think neighborhood councils should be part of that planning process because we're talking about streets throughout the city.

**YJ Draiman** – I found out that most jobs are being bid out by the city contractors. There's an exclusion in those contracts that states that any extras doing the job are not supposed to be bid out and they are making twice the amount of money by overcharging any extras. Contractors are ripping the city off.

**Don Dwiggins** – I looked at the map showing all of Northridge East and looking at my cul-de-sac and it's marked with red. My area is in very good condition. Something has to be addressed. My street was resurfaced not too many years ago.

**Steve Patel** – We all looked very closely at the map and a lot was marked in red. Streets around my neighborhood were marked in red and had been resurfaced less than 3 years ago.

**Don Dwiggins** - We want to make sure the map is accurate. This makes difference because there is a possibility that the database overstates the problem.

**Sammy Park** – I will make sure to take back this and make the data is current.

**Tom** – There is going to be a Mayor's survey that is going to come out and we're trying to get as much response as possible because in the survey there will be specific questions that he will respond to. The survey will tell us what needs to happen to make this a better city. If you have any input that you want please call or e-mail me and I will take it to some of these advocacy meetings.

**Steve Patel** – Are you going to providing us an update on a monthly basis?

**Tom** – Yes I will.

**YJ Draiman** – I think all the elected officials at City Hall should agree to take a pay cut. That would serve as a nice gesture to the community.

**Glenn Bailey** – Would like to finish up item 15 while Tom is here. The Mayor's budget survey will be coming out a week from Friday. If you have questions or comments get them to Tom because then it will be done. It is our responsibility to get it out to as many stakeholders as possible. The Mayor's Council looks at every council's participation. We have a huge resource with CSUN that we need to take advantage of. The survey is user friendly and interactive.

**Steve Patel** – Do we have an Outreach Plan?

**Glenn Bailey** – At the very minimum we need to send out and e-blast and post a link on our website. More important thing is when this is we get this out. I will take responsibility for that.

**Steve Patel** – One thing we need to do is hound people to take the survey. We should also add this to next month's meeting agenda to take out ads in local papers.

**Glenn Bailey** – The last thing I wanted to say is the budget advocates are taking their group on the road. The next meeting in the valley is on January 31 at the Bradley center 7pm.

## **8. Public Comments**

~None seen, none heard.

## **9. NENC Retreat Sun. Jan 13, 2013 noon, at Northridge Woman's Club – S. Box and Grayce Liu**

**Steve Patel** – We had our retreat this past Sunday. We had an overview of our By-Laws, and make changes and put together a manual for procedures and policies. The Committee members were Dwiggins, Bailey and Spencer.

**Glenn Bailey** – **Are we going to have a compile of notes and have a record of them?**

**Steve Patel** – **Yes we should. Don, do you have a total tally of expenditures for this retreat?**

**Don Dwiggins** –I will have a complete report next meeting.

## **10. Treasurer's Report Term**

- a. **Prior Month Exp \$732.28**
- b. **Current Balance \$34,036.51**
- c. **Committed Funds \$7,055.20**
- d. **Uncommitted Funds \$26,981.31**

**Don Dwiggins** – Any money at the end of the fiscal year will be swept. If things need to get done in the community we need to get moving.

## **11. Standing Expenditures Approval**

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter 2013 (Jan – Mar)

- a. Rent \$200/mo Northridge Women's Club
- b. Web master: \$100/mo Aaron DeVandry
- c. Minute Taker: Apple Services up to \$200/mo
- d. Google App. E-mail, Tel Etc. \$66.66 monthly
- e. One and One Web Hosting up to \$143.88 per qtr yr

- f. ?
- g. ?

**Spencer Schmeli** – We are spending too much for item E.

**Ankur Patel** – Will schedule an Ad-Hoc meeting within the next 2 weeks to examine this. Who would like to be on the committee?

**YJ Draiman, Don Dwiggins and Spencer Schmeli volunteer.**

**Ankur Patel** – I will be the chair of this committee.

**Don Dwiggins** – Item E is stated incorrectly. It should be \$35.97 per quarter and \$143.88 for the year.

**Steve Patel made a motion to approve items A-D with the amendment to item E**

**MOTION PASSES**

**(11-0-0)**

**Don Dwiggins** - Item F was amended because it was not enough to cover the amount.

**Kelly Lord** – Would like to make a suggestions that we buy these items locally.

**Spencer Schemli** – What about buying a warranty for these items? It might be worth it.

**Steve Patel** – Do we want to modify this and budget up to \$1500?

**Glenn Bailey** – Unfortunately we can't increase what's on the agenda we can only decrease.

**Steve Patel** – Let's approve the \$890 and then next month we will include service.

**YJ Draiman** – Item G was already approved in last month's meeting.

**YJ Draiman made a motion to approve items F & G, seconded by Ankur Patel**

**MOTION PASSES**

**(11-0-0)**

**12. Approve funding for video projector& acc. Up to \$750**

**Steve Patel** – This is in progress.

*~ Item Tabled*

**13. Approve Financial statement reports monthly & P card quarterly audit**

**Steve Patel** – Every quarter a reconciliation needs to be provided. We need a copy of the P-Card statement. That's what we have requested for the past several months. Please provide along with a demand warrants. Also, there are 2 items listed with the same date and amount approved up to \$500. I believe this is a duplicate.

**Glenn Bailey** – I would suggest that you amend the second page it will reduce expenditures.

**Don Dwiggins made a motion to approve with the amendment to the second page, seconded by Kelly Lord**

**MOTION PASSES**

**(11-0-0)**

- 14. Auto-deducts to pay recurring charges from vendors that don't accept the P-card. Approve auto-deduct for Rent Northridge Women's Club \$200 starting Jan. 2013 inc. storage**  
**Don Dwiggins** – I am still working on this.  
*~Item Tabled*
- 15. NENC Annexing Northridge Library & Fire Station 87 Update**  
**Steve Patel** – I have sent a note to the North Hills West and I have not heard back. We will keep this on the agenda.  
*~Item Tabled*
- 16. Approve payment to NVRCC \$500 for NENC Sponsorship of June 2012 Senior Dance**  
**Don Dwiggins** - This is an outstanding commitment we made last year. We sponsor it every year along with every council in the area.  
**Glenn Bailey** – When did they invoice?  
**Don Dwiggins** – Sometime last year.  
**Glenn Bailey** – In general people should invoice in advance so we can make payments to the city in time.  
**Don Dwiggins made a motion to approve \$500 for June 2012 Senior Dance, seconded by Kelly Lord**  
**MOTION PASSES**  
**(11-0-0)**
- 17. Resolution on Postponement of Proposed \$3 Billion Street Repair Bond Measure (Council File number: CF 13-1300-S1)**  
**Glenn Bailey** – I think it is important even though the council voted yesterday to not put it on the May ballot. Part I would like to take a position on this. I would like to file a CIS.  
**Glenn Bailey made a motion to support the position of LANCC that this matter not come back to city council for at least 60 days until all 95 neighborhood councils have an opportunity to meet and report back to the council members and the council file a CIS, seconded by YJ Draiman**  
**MOTION PASSES**  
**(11-0-0)**
- 18. City Budget update, budget advocate rep. report, NENC Budget Representatives & NC budget representatives & NC Budget advocates**  
**Glenn Bailey** – CIS access needs to be set up. Need to communicate with Amelia.
- 19. Northridge Vision Update**  
**Steve Patel** – No update on this currently. We need to get 3 councils to come up with a time frame to help unveil Northridge Vision Plan.

**20. Set up Committee for by laws review, policies & procedures. Standing Rules of order, Neighborhood Purpose grant. Job Description. Sharing resources**  
**Steve Patel** – Glenn, Don and Spencer are all on the committee.

**21. Gracye Liu appointment as GM of DONE & CIS**

**Glenn Bailey** – Grayce is appointed subject to city council approval. Public comment is closed.

**Glenn Bailey made a motion to support her, seconded by Roland Faucher.**

**MOTION PASSES**

**(11-0-0)**

**22. VANC Citywide Candidate Forum February 23 at LA Valley College**

**Glenn Bailey** – Last I heard they were moving forward with candidates for city controller and mayor. The citywide Candidate form will be held on February 23 at 9:30am.

**Francesca** - The mayor's candidate forum will be held at CSUN on Feb 7 at 10am.

**Glenn Bailey** – Since this is within the boundaries of Northridge East we should get this up on the website.

**23. Sidewalk Repairs?**

**Glenn Bailey** – This does not belong on the agenda. It was tabled last meeting. It basically states that if any city passes an ordinance that makes property owners pay for sidewalk repairs, that it must go through public vote. I would like to take a position on this.

**Glenn Bailey made a motion that NENC make a recommendation that the city council support, seconded by Spencer Schmeli**

**MOTION PASSES**

**(11-0-0)**

**24. Proposed Half-Cent Sales Tax Increase in City of Los Angeles – March 5, 2013 Ballot**

**Glenn Bailey** – It's on the ballot. We are not allowed to take a position. Then it seemed like we could take a position however we had to allow both sides to come in, get equal time and can't put in public funds. This was handled the same way as the Street repair bond and went straight to council vote a few days later. If they had public participation it might have had a better chance of passing. A number of Neighborhood councils are getting together to co-sponsor an independent forum on Tuesday, February 19 at Cleveland High school at 6:30pm. I would like to publicize the forum and co-sponsor.

**Glenn Bailey made a motion to co-sponsor Independent Forum, seconded by Roland Faucher**

**MOTION PASSES**

**(11-0-0)**

**Seymour Amster** – School Side Council Chairperson at Northridge County High school. Northridge county High School has scored low proficient in math department since 2009 and the parents have asked the school to take care of the problem. Parents are having a meeting to exercise a parent trigger wall. If %50 of the parents sign a petition and submit it to the district, then the district is required to meet with the principal. Affiliated charter

keeps the collective bargaining agreement in place. We won't be allowed to access the parent trigger wall for 2 years. We have about a school of teachers not teaching in a manner that encourages achievement. There is a program called ALEX, where kids who do not perform math in middle school do well in math after. There are other neighborhood councils interested in this. There are a few teachers who will not change their method of teaching.

**Steve Patel** – Are there any other schools using the ALEX system?

**Seymor Amster** – Primarily CSUN. It's not for parents to dictate to teachers what methods they should try or not try. Teachers can't keep doing the same thing, that's encouraging student achievement. Must try something new.

**Steve Patel** – We're going to appoint two people to report to each of the surrounding Neighborhood Council meetings as an Ambassador:

Granada Hills – Ankur Patel, Jack Harriman

North Hills West – Don Dwiggin, YJ Draiman, Nestor Fantini

Northridge South - Roland Faucher, Glenn Bailey

Northridge West – Kelly Lord, Steve Patel

Porter Ranch – Spencer Schmeli, Steve Ramirez

**Steve Patel** – Need to add Northridge Recreation center annex on February Agenda.

Need a replacement for Lucille. Please keep eyes and ears open for anybody interested.

Steve Patel made a motion to adjourn meeting, seconded by Kelly Lord

MOTION PASSES

(11-0-0)

**25. Meeting Adjourned at 9:00pm.**