

Northridge East Neighborhood Council
General Board Meeting Minutes (to be approved)
Wednesday, September 17, 2014

1. **Call to Order** (President) 7:02pm

2. **Pledge of Allegiance**

3. **Roll Call – Determination of Quorum** (Secretary) – 8 of 14 (One seat vacant) present at Call to Order. (Glenn Bailey, Don Dwiggins, Y J Draiman, Nestor Fantini, John Hardy, Kelly Lord, Alice McCain, and Joseph Seoane) Francesca Vega arrived late, at approximately 7:15pm (Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 3 GBM 9-17-14 ROLL CALL.pdf)

4. **Agenda Setting Meeting Participation:** President Steve Patel (out on FMLA), 1st VP Glenn Bailey, 2nd VP Kelly Lord, Secretary Don Dwiggins, Treasurer Joseph Seoane. Kelly Lord offered his input for the next General Board Meeting Agenda prior to leaving. The Budget & Finance Committee meeting took place immediately following the Agenda Setting Meeting.

5. **Approval of Minutes** — July 16 and August 20, 2014 (Secretary) * July 16 additions,
July 16 - Alice McCain moved to approve Joe Seoane 2nd. 8 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstain (5 Absent)
August 20 - Joe Seoane moved to approve YJ Draiman 2nd. 7 Yes, 0 No, 1 Abstain (5 Absent)

6. **Comments from Public Officials:** CD12, Mayor, DONE, BONC, LAPD, LAFD, CSUN

CD12 – District Director Megan Cottier introduced newest staff member, Jonathan Coto former CD12 Intern, now Field Deputy overseeing community events, urban forestry issues, and senior services. Megan offered NENC congratulations on ten years of service. She reported on AB 2370 Proposed more frequent Business Tax Reassessment; Councilmember Englander voted No on this issue. CF 14-0277 is currently in committee, under consideration; it is the Ace Citation Program having to do with Quality of Life issues; it proposes the issuance of tickets (& fines) to violators. Megan spoke about NWNC & street medians, reporting that they voted to work with contractors [through] New Vision/Northridge Vision (?) to maintain the median on Lassen at Reseda, [on Reseda] between Superior and Plummer, and from Rayen to Parthenia. This is part of the Mayor's 'Great Streets' Initiative.

Mayor – No one from the Mayor's Office appeared to represent or speak on Mayor Garcetti's behalf.

DONE – Melvin Cañas was unable to attend due to being needed to resolve serious issue at another NC.

BONC – Lydia Grant was unavailable at this time, for the same reason, but was expected later. LATER...
Commissioner's Report: Code of Conduct, a new protocol, is to be read, signed, and submitted by all Board Members. This protocol was created in response to the backlash of opposition when mandatory Anti-Bullying training was proposed for every Neighborhood Council member. In lieu of taking mandatory Anti-Bullying training, every council member will be expected to read and agree to the code of conduct. This way every NC Board Member will know what's expected. Only those who violate the code are subject to being ordered to attend such training. In the public interest those who refuse to sign the new code of conduct, violators who refuse to attend recommended training, and repeat offenders are subject to censure and immediate removal from Neighborhood Council Office. New Topic Comment: Board Member Kelly Lord asked why BONC doesn't report on DONE shortfalls and inefficiency with regard to funding matters [perform oversight functions.] Lydia listened and agreed to address this; she asked Mr. Lord to submit something in writing with his specific wording so that she may convey this request to BONC and DONE.

LAPD, LAFD – No one appeared to represent either of these City Departments.

CSUN – Francesca Vega, CSUN Faculty Representative introduced Anna Iskikian, Associated Student Representative and Chair of the Legislative Affairs Committee. She reported on CSUN involvement in a community cleanup with CSUN Students and CD12 Staff. Since this is an election year, the students are working on voter registration by encouraging their fellow students to take interest in political issues and become actively engaged in the political process. Francesca mentioned the ongoing Multi-Purpose Event Center project and made herself available as an information resource, to answer questions, noting only a staff of one but she's available to the community and happy to work with NENC. She reported on the Valley Arts Center, planning for a Town Hall meeting sometime in December, Outreach Efforts, President Harris, and invited Anna Iskikian to join NENC as CSUN Student Representative. NENC Secretary, Don Dwiggin, asked about getting CSUN's President Harris to come to an NENC General Board Meeting.

LAUSD – David Acevedo, District Representative for Tamar Galatza reported out on the school district's latest developments and gave a list of NENC area schools represented by Ms. Galatza. **Andasol Elementary, Balboa Magnet Elementary, Beckford Elementary, Calahan Elementary, Darby Elementary, and Northridge Academy** (Please verify that these are the six schools in NENC borders.) Mr. Acevedo reported that 7.1 million dollars has been allocated for making improvements to these 6 local-area schools. Funding is always a struggle, but finding funds for Valley Schools is Tamar's 1st priority. We need to upgrade our students overall educational experience, not just the hardware, students need to learn about online communications and professional decorum along with their Computer Science classes. There are many jobs available that can't be filled because of the lack in technical expertise required for these jobs. There's a gap that our students must be trained to fill. David also reported on the need for a 'Fiscal Watchdog' – the integrated IS Audit in the wake of the "MiSiS Crisis" (My Integrated Student Information System.) Mr. Acevedo also discussed funding for school buses and he offered his help in addressing school-related issues. Q & A - Nestor Fantini offered the assembly a more in-depth description of what the MiSiS Crisis entails. 61 million dollars was spent on iPads with a 500 million dollar extension. Add it up (additional software, financing charges, etc...) [There should be] one bill [to ensure transparency]. Dr. Davies is responsible for this problem. Nestor asked where Tamar Galatza stands on the criticism of Dr. Davies. Mr. Acevedo responded that Tamar is supportive but critical, as a friend should be. Only 60 schools have g... [unable to hear end of this sentence.]

Stakeholder Question: Karen asked whether 'Active Shooter' training is currently available.

Answer: Someone at LAUSD is responsible for training like this, LAPD too. Our top people are on it!

7. Public comments (3 min. max.)

William Kuzman congratulated NENC on being the first to be in compliance with stakeholder notification, noting that NENC neighbors (NHWNC) were the second to comply with the new guidelines. He spoke about his 'Stakeholders Empowerment Enlightenment Coalition' offering the following website: <http://SEEC-Reform.com>. Mr. Kuzman read the mission statement aloud (see attached handout) and he announced their next public meeting will be held on Monday, October 27 (meeting location [time] and format to be posted on the above website.) He referred people to the fliers available on the literature table in the back of the room. (Public Comment_SEEC-Reform Handout.pdf)

Stakeholder Brian asked for an update on the Verizon Tower situation. What was the ruling? Glenn Bailey said the decision was rendered about the cell tower to be placed on the Heritage School property. (Going forward?)

Myrna Davis, on behalf of Candidate Mark Reed, Candidate for California House of Representatives: House members represent the [interests of] the people, rather than the State. (Congress represents State [Corporate] interests.)

8. **Susan Shelley** for 45th Assembly District campaign presentation (invited) **Susan Shelley** introduced herself and announced her bid for California State Assembly, as a Republican Candidate. She explained that during the last election cycle, she missed being voted into office by only 439 votes so this seat is up for election [run-off?] again in November. Ms. Shelley expressed her opinion that a 'super-majority' hurts California. She referred to Proposition 13, stating that she is supported by the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association, and that she plans to protect Proposition 13. She said, "If property taxes aren't protected by Prop 13, we'll have tax increases after every election!" She advocated for protecting businesses from property tax increases using the example that TESLA wouldn't build a battery factory here (the Valley?) because it would take a year for environmental studies. She said that she wants to ensure safety but it shouldn't take a year [to get approval.] Ms. Shelley also criticized the Governor, referring to tax on fuel that will save the climate but adversely affect the cost of everything including our food. She stated that Climate Change and earthquakes are [phenomena] we all have to accept, likening the Bullet Train to a ludicrous attempt at thwarting the physics of plate tectonics by installing giant bolts to hold shifting plates in place to avoid an earthquake. (?) Ms. Shelley said that 25% [property or fuel taxes, or 25% of the difference between current and increased taxes?] would be spent on the Bullet Train. She advocated for cancellation of the Bullet Train Project. Ms. Shelley criticized the LADWP, calling for more affordable Energy and Water.

Question: **Francesca Vega** (CSUN Faculty Representative) asked about education funding.

Answer: Prop 30 money is misspent. It's not [spent] for students but to fund pension liabilities. Ms. Shelley invited people to listen to KRLA on Sunday morning and to look for her free e-books on Google and Amazon.

Question: **Nestor Fantini** (Board Member, Education Committee) Asked about the impact of 1994's Proposition 187. Your party supported this.

Answer: [Our government programs] are incentivizing people to send their children here from all over the world, to get free care and benefits. This is unsustainable. California can't pay for this. She mentioned that giving California Driver's License to illegal immigrants so they can work doesn't make any sense since illegal immigrants can't legally work here, and employers can't legally hire them to work in the US.

Ms. Shelley finished by announcing a 10/26 Candidate Debate between herself and Matt Dabaneh and by making the assertion that she's also striving to save the Pierce College Farm from development.

9. Our **Budget Advocate's Report on the 2015 budget process**: Glenn Bailey reported on Great Streets, Mobility, and ACTION Sessions with the NC Alliances. There are 21 Budget Advocates across the City of Los Angeles, three in our area: Glenn Bailey (NENC), Pamela Gentry (NWNC), and Debra Perkins (NHWNC). Their work has already begun with the first meeting. Mr. Bailey reported plans to move up Annual Budget Day, to Saturday, October 11th. Regional Budget Day will be held at the Braude Building [at the Van Nuys Civic Center] Past Budget Surveys showed that 10,000 people participated at its height with Monthly Budget Surveys. A Meeting of Budget Advocates will take place after the Congress. (It will be a long day, but all are invited to participate.)

10. **Open Invitation to Register for the Congress of Neighborhoods** to be held on September 20 at City Hall (www.NCCongressLA.com) Glenn Bailey made an announcement noting that Lydia Grant will offer more details about the two workshops, that she planned to facilitate. #1- Political Etiquette, to aid those who want tips on how to speak with your Council Member and other City officials # 2 – Public Works Roundtable with Street Tree Superintendent, Ron Lorenzen, and others from the Bureau of Engineering and the Bureau of Contract Administration.

11. **Land Use** recommends motion to support applicant's request for Q condition changes however keeping the 7 year waiting period and add the following: Add an Exception clause allowing the homeowners to rent out prior to waiting period; Death of any homeowner; Medical disability; Mandatory job transfer; Job loss; Change of circumstances, i.e., divorce

NOTE: Per DONE this item wasn't properly agendaized. Item postponed for possible discussion at October meeting. Although allowed, there was no Public Comment on this topic.

12. **Motion to support the LANCC motion demanding that the City Council direct the Veteran's Administration to use the West LA VA facility solely for permanent supportive housing and healthcare for veterans.**¹ (Bailey, Dwiggins) Don Dwiggins moved to support, Alice McCain 2nd. Recommendation: File Community Impact Statement once action is taken. (8 Yes/0 No/1 Abstention - Vega)

Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 12 GBM 9-17-14.pdf.

13. **Motion to support the LANCC motion to resolve the issue of responsibility for sidewalk repair.** (Bailey, Dwiggins) Glenn Bailey tabled this motion for possible discussion later in the meeting. Alice McCain "moved the agenda"; Stakeholder Karen asked for a copy of the LANCC motion language. Glenn Bailey promised to follow-up on this request. MOTION TABLED

14. **Approval of the Annual Community Benches Maintenance Agreement for the coming year.** (Bailey) Discussion followed regarding quantity (2 at each intersection) and the maintenance work to be completed by an extraordinarily generous volunteer (name?), who has agreed to care for the benches. The cost of installation will be shared with other NC's. The agreement covers a one year period. Historically, the benches were removed, then cleaned, repainted green and "labeled" with NC Logos affixed to each bench. Annual renewal of maintenance contract is open to bid or selection process. The agreement on file has already expired. Joseph Seoane moved to approve renewal of the previous agreement, John Hardy 2nd. **None opposed, no abstentions – the motion passed unanimously.** Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 14 GBM 9-17-14

15. **Approval of funding for Granada Hills Street Faire up to \$1000** (Bailey) Discussion: the Faire will take place on October 11, 2014 from 10 am to 5pm. Mike Kabo, asked NENC Board to allocate an additional \$1500 in funding to equal the full \$2500 fee charged for co-sponsorship. He stated that two pole banners are already up, noting that the postcards had to be printed prior to this approval so that NENC logo won't appear on them. He confirmed that NENC's name would be mentioned as part of the radio advertising and emphasized the \$50,000 it cost the foundation to produce the faire. He asked that NENC Facebook like the Granada Hills Street Faire to

¹ **LANCC (Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition) motion with respect to use of West L.A. VA land (Ivan Spiegel on behalf of LANCC):** (399 acres) for permanent supportive housing and healthcare for veterans.

drive more online traffic to the website. Mr. Kabo emphasized the importance of Social Media state that the Disaster Fair had no presence on Google and only 600 people attended it in 2013. In answer to a question about the need for volunteers, he responded that Kennedy High School **Key** Club (?) had committed to help out, but noted that adult volunteers were still needed.

AYE: Bailey, Dwiggins, Draiman, Fantini, Hardy, Lord, McCain, Seoane VOTE (8-0-0) MOTION PASSES
Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 15 GBM 9-17-14.pdf

16. Approve the **purchase of extended warranties** for microphones and speakers (**up to \$100**) (Bailey)

AYE: Bailey, Dwiggins, Draiman, Fantini, Hardy, Lord, McCain, Seoane VOTE (8-0-0) MOTION PASSES
Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 16 GBM 9-17-14.pdf

17. **Approve funding for Valley Disaster Preparation Fair up to \$1000.** (Bailey) No specific needs were stated, no details provided, therefore no motion was made and no vote was taken.

18. **Authorization to support the Valley Alliance of NCs (VANC) for the 5th Supervisorial Candidate Debate on October 9, 2014 and the Planning Forum on December 11, 2014 by funding up to \$150 each (\$300 total)** (Bailey) Brief discussion after which a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

AYE: Bailey, Dwiggins, Draiman, Fantini, Hardy, Lord, McCain, Seoane VOTE (8-0-0) MOTION PASSES
Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 18 GBM 9-17-14.pdf

19. **Motion: Negotiate a lease arrangement with Northridge Woman's Club for Board meetings.** (Bailey) Glenn Bailey reported on a delay due to applicable rules governing such transactions being under review. Lease Agreements are mandatory. It's effectively a moot point since de facto the NENC is already meeting at the Northridge Woman's Club and the NWC is accepting NENC's money. **[Tabled?]**

20. **Authorize the employment of the NENC notetaker, Carol Hart, with Partners In Diversity, effective Immediately.** (Dwiggins) Brief discussion after which a vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

AYE: Bailey, Dwiggins, Draiman, Fantini, Hardy, Lord, McCain, Seoane VOTE (8-0-0) MOTION PASSES
Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 20 GBM 9-17-14.pdf

21. **President to appoint NENC Legal Liaison, board to approve.** (Bailey)

AYE: Bailey, Dwiggins, Draiman, Fantini, Hardy, Lord, McCain, Seoane VOTE (8-0-0) MOTION PASSES
Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 21 GBM 9-17-14.pdf

22. **Treasurer's Report** [Seoane] Narrative report was given by Joseph Seoane.
(Unable to follow, or understand clearly. Please provide Treasurer's Report Handouts)

a) **Approve August 2014 Monthly Expense Report**

Additional funds will be added to NENC Debit Account to maintain a positive balance up to \$4000. Per DONE Finance Department Guidelines the Account Balance should never be allowed to fall below \$1000. Woman's Club payments will be made by check through DONE Finance Department.

AYE: Bailey, Dwiggins, Draiman, Fantini, Hardy, Lord, Seoane VOTE (7-0-0) MOTION PASSES
Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 22a GBM 9-17-14.pdf

b) Ratify previous approval of July 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report

AYE: Bailey, Dwiggins, Draiman, Fantini, Hardy, Lord, Seoane VOTE (7-0-0) MOTION PASSES
Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 22b GBM 9-17-14.pdf

c) Amend the Approved NENC 2014-15 Budget to include Reoccurring Monthly Expenses:

Google – e-mail and phone service: \$66.00
1and1.com – website hosting: \$17.26 (payable quarterly in the amount of \$51.78)
Aaron Devandry – website maintenance: \$100
Northridge Woman's Club – Facility Rental for Monthly Board Meetings: \$200
Various – Refreshments for Board Meetings: \$150
AppleOne/Partners in Diversity – Notetaker for Board Meetings: \$200
Partners in Diversity – Administrative Assistant: \$325

AYE: Bailey, Dwiggins, Draiman, Fantini, Hardy, Lord, Seoane VOTE (7-0-0) MOTION PASSES
Reference: NENC-Board-Vote-Count AI 22c GBM 9-17-14.pdf

d) Approve the remainder of the Budget Package for FY 2014-2015: include at least self-assessment, strategic plan, and outreach survey.

NOTE: Action postponed pending receipt of all outreach survey data. Special Board Meeting may be required.

23. Adjournment – 9:17 pm