

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE
NORTHRIDGE WEST
NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL**

**Tuesday, January 12, 2010, 7:00 p.m.
Beckford Avenue Elementary School**

1. Call to order: 7:08pm

2. Roll call

Board members present

Dennis DeYoung
Glen Wilson
Meg Augello
Rosanne Dwyer
Jerry Bloom
Pam Kramer
Beverley Adler
Ken Futernick
Neil Perl

Board members not present

Daniyel Gordon
Tom Johnson
Craig Michayluk
JoAnn Phillips

3. Acceptance of December 8, 2009 general meeting minutes

Futernick motioned that the minutes be approved. Perl seconded the motion. **8 ayes; 1 abstention -- December 8, 2009 minutes approved as presented.**

4. Senior Lead Officer, LAPD Devonshire Division - Officer Kathy Bennett

Not present. No report.

5. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) - Thomas Soong

Not present. No report.

6. CD12 Councilman Greig Smith's Representative - John Bwarie

- a. Discussion of rollover.
- b. Discussion of legislative budget. \$400M needs to be cut by July. Councilman Smith is working on how the city of LA will sustain itself without going bankrupt. Changes in city departments. Talking about consolidation/elimination. Priority is to get the city on track with change of revenue, etc.
- c. Citrus Sunday (5th annual) to be held in June this year.
- d. January 19 is the Centennial kick-off at the Northridge Recreation Center gymnasium. 5:30pm-7:30pm.
- e. Centennial photo project discussed.
- f. Oakie House discussed.
- g. K-Mart property discussed. No movement.

7. Guest Speakers

None

8. Treasurer's Report – Neil Perl

- a. Reviewed latest financial report, bills paid. **Futernick motion to approve Treasurer's Report as presented. Dwyer seconded. The vote was unanimous. Motion passes.**
- b. Discussion held re: rollover funds which have been in dispute. NWNC audit by Neil agrees with the city's numbers. End of June rollover: \$76,415.18. True status is still in question and is holding up the \$25K for NE/W Vision.

9. Committee Reports

- a. Beautification Committee – Beverley Adler: it's too cold at this time to plant. West Valley Alliance cleaning up the west side of Reseda.
- b. Budget / Finance - Neil Perl: No report.
- c. Bylaws: No report.
- d. Education – Ken Futernick: had a conference with the principal of Beckford who's in favor of his proposal re: science fairs and will be contacting other schools in the area.

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- e. Elections – Neil Perl
 - i. Candidates for the eight positions on the Ballot
 - At-Large – Leonard “Len” E. Effron
– Pamela R. Bolin
 - Community & Faith Based – Glen A. Wilson
 - General Business – Thomas Johnson
 - Homeowner – Juativa Spurlock
 - Renter – **NONE**
 - Education (2yr) – **NONE**
 - Northridge Fashion Center – **NONE**
 - General Business – **NONE**
 - ii. Write-In Candidate Filing period has begun
January 5, 2010 through February 1, 2010
Get candidate filing forms at
<http://cityclerk.lacity.org/election/ncdocs/website.pdf>
 - iii. Stakeholder Information Meeting
Thursday, January 14, 2010, 6:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.
San Jose Elementary -- Auditorium
14839 Clymer Street
Mission Hills, CA 91345
For more information please contact Amelia Herrera-Robles amelia.herrera-robles@lacity.org or call her at (213.485.1360)
 - iv. Candidate forum for Northridge West Neighborhood Council will be held
Tuesday, February 9, 2010 at 6:30 p.m. – Regular meeting will follow.
 - v. NWNC candidates Pamela Bolin, Juativa Spurlock and Glen Wilson introduced themselves.
- f. Government Affairs: No report.
- g. Grievance: No report.
- h. Planning / Land Use / Zoning - No report.
- i. Community Outreach - Jerry Bloom: schools were all on winter break. No report.
- j. *ad hoc* CSUN/NWNC Outreach Committee – No report.
- k. *ad hoc* Neighborhood Enhancement Committee – No report.

10. Public Comments-Comments from the public on non-agenda items within the Board’s jurisdiction

- a. Noel Weiss
Input re: city budget. He would like us to ask Councilman Smith for open hearings to allow input from NCs. Also suggests that each NC contribute for example \$2,000 into a pool to retain consultants drawing on the expertise of retirees, etc. He believes this will help NCs perform their job better. He also recommends a charter amendment for an ex officio member which would be in the loop of the city council.
- b. Wes Rogers
Expressed concerns over a bark beetle infestation in Northridge which is currently affecting many of our Canary Island Pines. Lack of water due to the draught and water conservation efforts has made the trees more susceptible to the beetle and Northridge has at least 25 dead trees that he has documented.

11. Discussion and possible action items

- a. Discussion of the SB1818 as implemented by the LA City Council and its current status.

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- i. Presentation by Noel Weiss -- Noel was an attorney on the companion lawsuits which resulted in a directive from the Court to remove two offending provisions of the City's ordinance implementing SB1818 and is currently advising (pro bono) the citizens of Valley Village on their appeal of the SB1818 project in their area. He was a candidate for the City Attorney in the last primary. He was also the attorney that represented the authors of the ballot argument opposing Measure B when they needed to go to court to support their argument.
- ii. Motion By Neil Perl to support the appeal of the Neighborhood Council of Valley Village and the Community's stakeholders to the City Council in connection with the development at 11933 Magnolia Blvd., Valley Village, California and to request a revision of the SB 1818 Implementation Ordinance to incorporate one simple provision which requires the developer to share its economic pro-formas with the City Planning Department and with the Community as to why a given concession or incentive is needed to make a project pencil-out

Whereas the Planning Department did not require a review by Neighborhood Council Valley Village (NCVV) nor did it consider NCVV's input prior to approval, an action that demonstrates a disregard for the community, and is an inappropriate use of Planning Department discretionary authority.

And whereas the development of this project is not consistent with the prevailing character of community and is dramatically at odds with adjoining properties -- a failure of the Planning Department to uphold and negotiate vigorously to minimize transgressions of our General, Community and Specific Plans and to properly meld the city's planning obligations under the California Government Code,

And whereas the excessive height and density of this project will, in the future, be improperly cited as a precedent for variances and exceptions; which by its very outsized presence enable opportunities for projects that are not presently entitled to density bonus and further deteriorating the character of the neighborhood,

And whereas the current concerns of water drought should deny additional units being built. Thus imposing a further strain on the infrastructure in the form of power outages; water shortages and rate heights should not be borne by the current residents of Los Angeles so that Developers can make tidy profits while the public shoulders the ultimate and continued burden.

And whereas the Northridge West Neighborhood Council shares these grave concerns because they are matters that affect all of us and we consider them unacceptable.

Therefore be it hereby resolved that Northridge West Neighborhood Council supports the two appeals of the Valley Village stakeholders regarding the SB1818 development located at 11933 Magnolia Boulevard Valley Village, California [DIR-2008-1178-SPP]

Be it further resolved that the Northridge West Neighborhood Council requests a revision of the SB 1818 Implementation Ordinance to incorporate one simple provision which requires the developer to share its economic pro-formas with the LA City Planning Department and with the Community as to why a given concession or incentive is needed to make a project

Futernick seconded the motion. Discussion re: the fact that the specific subject in question is out of our area. There was agreement among those who commented that there is benefit in solidarity with this proposal as we would seek to enforce

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the same restrictions as it pertains to Northridge West. The vote was unanimous. Motion passes.

- b. Motion by Neil K. Perl Motion by Neil Perl, Treasurer, to approve a request for a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) in the amount of \$4,516.40 by Nobel Middle School. The purpose of the NPG is to 1) purchase printers for the classrooms along with the necessary supplies to run them, 2) purchase an upgrade to a program used by the teachers and 3) pay for the schools web-site for another year. The *Ad Hoc* NPG Evaluation Committee for this request voted to support this request. Representatives of Nobel MS will make a short presentation discussing the need for this Grant.

Whereas the Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) application submitted by Nobel MS has been available for review and comment by the public and duly evaluated by the Northridge West Neighborhood Council Board

Therefore be it resolved that the Northridge West Neighborhood Council approves the NPG submitted by Nobel MS in the amount of \$4,516.40 for the following community benefits:

1) Approved Budget Expenses:

a) Printers	\$1,920.63
b) Supplies for Printers	\$ 378.47
c) Easy Grade Pro Program	\$ 217.30
d) Website Hosting	<u>\$2,000.00</u>
Total	\$4,516.40

2) Public Benefit Statement:

The NPG will serve the students and staff at Nobel MS as well as the residents of the area. Improving the educational opportunities of the students in the current fiscal crisis is a benefit to our community because it helps make the citizens of tomorrow better able to live fruitful lives and to benefit the community in the future.

Futernick seconded the motion. 8 ayes; 1 recusal -- Motion passes

- c. Motion by Neil Perl, Treasurer, to approve funding for Rincon Strategies to provide outreach for the Northridge West Neighborhood Council through pro active usage of social media and sending regular newsletters via e-mail to our mailing list. Adam Haverstock of Rincon Strategies presented plans for NWNC and discussed the status of the new web site.

Whereas the Northridge West Neighborhood Council needs a more proactive outreach program to inform our stakeholders of the problems facing our community, the actions taken by the board to address these problems, activities the board supports for the good of the community, etc.

And whereas there is no member of the board who has the time or the ability to maintain a high level of outreach using the latest social networking platforms available.

Therefore be it hereby resolved funding a pro active outreach program using the latest in social networking tools be funded in an amount not to exceed \$1,890.00 for the year ended June 30, 2010. The work is to be done by Rincon Strategies at a charge of \$300.00 per month (Plus a 5% credit card charge {\$15.00}, if necessary) and will include updates to the Northridge West web site.

Augello seconded the motion. 8 ayes; 1 abstention -- Motion passes

- d. Report on LA DOT/NC MOU – Steve Harris. Long discussion re: the December

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meeting in which Rita announced that LA DOT will not be entering into any MOU with the NCs due to cuts in her department and the fact that she doesn't know what her department will look like in the coming year. Sr. staffers will be let go; they cannot be replaced; they will lose much of their institutional memory, etc.

- e. Motion by Neil Perl, Treasurer, was to be as stated below, but Perl requested that the motion and vote be tabled until February meeting.

Whereas the Northridge West Neighborhood Council has previously allocated \$12,000.00 for beautification of Reseda Boulevard of which \$5,500.00 was set aside for maintenance of the Medians and trash removal, leaving \$6,500.00 for other beautification projects.

And whereas the Northridge 100 Celebration is taking place this year,

And whereas the NE/W Vision Committee is working on a program to provide maintenance of these planters, along with volunteers to provide labor and materials

Therefore be it hereby resolved that funding in an amount not to exceed \$_____ is allocated any unforeseen costs associated with the planting. Northridge East Neighborhood Council is also providing funding for these unforeseen costs. It is anticipated that all costs related to this planting of trees, etc. along Reseda Boulevard will be covered by donations and volunteers.

No action taken at this time

- f. Motion by Dennis DeYoung, to spend up to \$200 co-sponsor (in conjunction with the Northridge East Neighborhood Council) the North Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce Monthly Networking Breakfast to be held on Tuesday, January 26th at the Porter Valley Country Club. (Date may be postponed to Tuesday, February 23rd). This is a breakfast event for community leaders and a presentation will be made to promote the upcoming NC Elections and to seek write in candidates for positions on the Council Boards.

Whereas the Northridge West Neighborhood Council has allocated \$5,000.00 for Election Outreach of which ~\$2,750 has been spent

And whereas the North Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce Monthly Networking Breakfast is an excellent opportunity to get leaders in our community to participate in the Neighborhood Council System.

And whereas the Northridge East Neighborhood Council is also supporting this event

Therefore be it hereby resolved that funding in an amount not to exceed \$200.00 is allocated from the Election Outreach budget item to sponsor, along with the Northridge East Neighborhood Council, the North Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce Monthly Networking Breakfast to be held Tuesday, January 26th at the Porter Valley Country Club at 7a.m.

Perl seconded the motion. 8 ayes; 1 abstention -- Motion passes

- g. Discussion of Accessory Dwelling Units – Neil Perl
- h. Discussion of granny flats, second stories on garages as rental properties and regulations re: size, etc. will be discussed.
- i. Discussion of possible new location for posting NWNC agendas. New location at Northridge Fashion Center is not readily available to public. To be discussed with Daniyel.

12. Report on Meetings

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- a. NE/W Vision Committee – Dennis DeYoung.
Meets the third Wednesday of each month at 2:00 at conference room at 9401 Reseda Boulevard, Northridge
- b. LA Department of Transportation MOU – Steve Harris. No report – MOU is a dead issue due to LA City Budget Problems.
- c. LA DWP MOU – Glen Wilson (supplementary report/minutes provided at the meeting)
- d. Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) – Neil Perl
Meets the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 at the Sherman Oaks Hospital
- e. Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) – Glen Wilson
Meets first Saturday of month at 10AM with location TBD (Supplemental report)
- f. Valley Vote – Glen Wilson
Meets the third Monday of each month at 6:30 at Galpin Ford

13. Board Member Comments - Comments from the Board on subject matters within the Board's jurisdiction.

- a. The next North Valley Disaster Preparedness Faire will take place at the Granada Hills Street Faire on October 2, 2010. The NVDP team will begin holding meetings to plan the event for next year. Volunteers for the committee will be needed. Neil Perl is the "treasurer" for the group and coordinates the funding and expenditures by the participating NCs. Meeting: 1/20/10, 3:30pm at Councilman Smith's office at Nordhoff and Wilbur.
- b. Volunteer program for the upcoming NC Elections.

14. Adjournment.

15. Futernick moved to adjourn at 9:02; Augello seconded. Unanimous. Meeting adjourned.

Pam Kramer, Secretary
Northridge West Neighborhood Council

Dennis DeYoung, President
Northridge West Neighborhood Council