

Minutes of the
NORTHRIDGE WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (NWNC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Tuesday, February 8, 2011
at Beckford Elementary School, 19130 Tulsa St., Northridge

1. Call to Order

President Tom Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

2. Flag ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance - Cub Scout Pack 911.

There was no ceremony. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

3. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken. Board Members present: Pamela Bolin, Ken Futernick, Robert Graf, Tom Johnson, Gerry Malais, Craig Michayluk, Juativa Spurlock, Don Ward, Chris Williams and Glen Wilson. Board Members absent: Jerry Bloom.

Ten of the eleven Board Members were present and two Board seats were vacant. The NWNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is seven, so the Board could take such votes. Also attending: 42 Stakeholders and guests.

4. Oath of Office by new NWNC Board Members Bob Graf and Don Ward.

Mr. Graf and Mr. Ward read the Oath of Office aloud. Mr. Michayluk and Ms. Bolin took pictures.

5. Acceptance of Minutes

The following correction to the January 11, 2011 General Board Meeting Minutes, page three, Item #10. i. was requested and is as submitted by Ms. Spurlock.

i. Community Outreach-Spurlock. Ms. Spurlock Distributed copies of an NWNC "Operation Clean Sweep event" flier for the Saturday, January 15, 2011 Cleanup and described work with Hope Worldwide and CD12 for the event.

Ms. Spurlock noted concern from last meeting from a stakeholder that had concern for the NWNC ad and article in the North Valley News, the alternative that she looked into was the Daily News, which would charge \$475 per month for an ad/article. A stakeholder encouraged advertising in a more local news paper for about \$200. There was discussion about some alternatives, nothing definitive. Stakeholder Dick Ashnault suggested purchasing a newspaper flier insert. Ms Spurlock encouraged Stakeholders to complete a survey to help NWNC determine areas of importance to the Stakeholders.

MOTION (by Mr. Futernick, seconded by Mr. Malais): to approve the Minutes of the NWNC January 11, 2011 General Board Meeting as corrected.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

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

Officer Bennett distributed a “S.O.L.I.D. Fundraiser” flier and announced the SOLID (Supporters Of Law enforcement In Devonshire) fundraiser at Islands Restaurant at 11400 Porter Ranch Dr. They’ll give a percentage of their dinner sales on Tuesday, February 22, 2011 from 5:00 – 9:00 p.m. to the LAPD Devonshire Division. Also, Neighborhood Watch Newsletters are available. The PALS Program for at-risk youth needs suggestions for a Program location. Officer Bennett announced that she’s retiring this month. She can be reached at www.KathyBennett.com. Interim Senior Lead Officer Ignacio Morillo (818-634-0495; 34879@LAPD.LACity.org) introduced himself. He’ll bring information about “the Rolling 30’s” high-end burglary gang to next month’s General Board Meeting.

7. **Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)** – Amelia Herrera-Robles was present

8. **CD12 Councilman Greig Smith’s Representative** – Semee Park. Ms. Park was not present and there was no report.

9. **Other Public Officials**

Brittney McCarthy, Director of Government and Community Relations, CSUN, introduced herself and encouraged signing-up for their Newsletter. Community events information is at www.CSUN.edu. The Valley Performing Arts Center opened January 29th with a seating capacity of 1,700. State funding for CSUN was cut 7% and they lost a \$400,000 earmark that would’ve helped with the Metro bus transit center. Street improvements are being made on the south part of the campus, especially along Nordhoff, and along Zelzah around Prairie.

10. **Guest Speakers**

a. Dinesh Lakhanpal, City Council District 12 Candidate.

Mr. Lakhanpal introduced himself, and described some of his background, accomplishments and priorities for CD12. He also described some City budget challenges and how they affect CD12.

b. Navraj Singh, City Council District 12 Candidate.

Mr. Singh introduced himself, and described some of his background and accomplishments. He’s concerned that volunteers are having to do City services.

c. Jessica Meaney of Safe Routes to School (SRTS, 213-221-7179;

Jessica@SafeRoutesPartnership.org;

www.SafeRoutesCalifornia.files.wordpress.com/2010/10/socal_srts_platform_v3.pdf) presented about the SRTS platform and the methods to acquiring federal funding for the area schools like Nobel, Calahan and Topeka. Federal funds are out there that can improve the safety of the neighborhoods and thereby increase the safety and property values of the neighborhoods.

Ms. Meaney introduced herself and described resources for “walkable, bikable safe routs around schools . . . [it’s] about supporting a culture of walking and bicycling . . . the more people . . . walking and bicycling the safer it gets . . . each school can apply for up to \$500,000” and schools can “band together.” State Bill 375 is addressing this.

11. **Treasurer’s Report and Budget & Finance Committee Report -- Review of NWNC**

Budget and breakdown of expenditures (Bolin).

Ms. Bolin distributed and reviewed the “[NWNC] Treasurer’s Report – 3rd Quarter – FY 2010-2011” and “[NWNC] Budget for the Fiscal Year 2010-2011.”

Ms. Bolin reported that, this fiscal year beginning July 1, 2010, the NWNC has spent \$23,000 and has approximately \$47,000 left through June 30, 2011. The Kiwanis Club has not followed up or provided a business tax license though she has “called and called” them. She presented a draft simplified Year to Date Budget format reflecting amount of funds approved, Funds spent Year to Date, Balance as requested during the January NWNC Board meeting. Discussion of forming a Budget Committee with Stakeholder Steve Harris as a member was discussed. There was discussion regarding expenditures in the first two quarters [July-September and October-December] of this fiscal year. Ms. Bolin explained the Treasurer’s Report and the Budget and reminded that all expenditures are available for anyone to see on the DONE website [<http://done.lacity.org/onlinefunding/ncfunding.aspx>, select “Northridge West”].

MOTION (by Mr. Futernick, seconded by Mr. Michayluk): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council approves the “[NWNC] Treasurer’s Report -- 3rd Quarter – FY 2010-2011.”

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

12. President’s Report and Executive Meeting Report – Johnson

Mr. Johnson reported that the Executive Board met and discussed streamlining the Agenda. Operation Clean Sweep on January 15th “was very successful . . . close to 110 people” participated and he thanked the Board and Stakeholders for their efforts and support that made the event possible.

13. Discussion and possible action items.

a. Discussion and possible action to evaluate and determine the services of the Recording Secretary at NWNC functions.

Mr. Johnson requested that the NWNC Board be able to use any of the four DONE approved agency as needed at any time. It was noted that all Neighborhood Councils have always already had this option.

MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Futernick): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council has the option to select from any of the four temporary staffing service providers that the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment has approved for Neighborhood Council work.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Johnson explained the need for the Council to have the latitude to chose amongst the four temporary staffing service providers that the L.A. Dept. of Neighborhood Empowerment has approved for Neighborhood Council work referencing discrepancies in November and December 2010 billings. Meeting Minute Writer David Levin stated the billing procedure and the fact that the agency made billing mistakes in November and December 2010 claiming they were explained at the January 11th General Board Meeting, stating that the Minutes Writer has nothing to do with and no control over the billing. Mr. Levin stated that at least four options to confirm the billing have always been available: the NWNC Treasurer, the Minutes Writer, DONE and the agency. None of those options were used and all of the

timecards showing the correct amounts of time that should have been billed are and have always been available for all to see. Ms. Bolin added that there's "more than enough [funds] to do the work" for the rest of the fiscal year through June 2011. Mr. Levin

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

b. Discussion and possible action [see below Motion].

MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Michayluk): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council appoints Freddie Rymond to the NWNC's vacant Open At Large Representative position.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Rymond introduced himself and supports the community cleanups.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

c. Discussion and possible action [see below Motion].

MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Michayluk): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council designates an official second signatory as required by the Neighborhood Council Funding Program to be the Neighborhood Council president. If in the event the Neighborhood Council president become incapacitated that the Neighborhood Council Vice President will serve as the second signatory as required by the Neighborhood Council Funding Program

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

d. [See below Motion.]

MOTION (by Mr. Ward, seconded by Ms. Spurlock): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council will discuss NWNC Board support of a crosswalk at Mayall St./Wilbur Ave. coinciding with the re-striping of Wilbur Ave. 185 people have signed petitions asking for a safe crosswalk at this intersection. If it coincides with the re-striping of Wilbur Ave. installation could happen at no extra cost to the City.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ward displayed a diagram and described potential Wilbur Ave. configurations. There was extensive discussion regarding crosswalk logistics, location, statistics and safety. Stakeholders expressed concern regarding Wilbur Ave. traffic, saying "the road diet has greatly improved the safety of that area . . . it's much safer . . . no drag racing in the middle of the night."

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a voice vote.

e. Presentation by Principal, Dr. Liane Jacob along with Barbara Blakley Kindergarten Teacher for Calahan Elementary School. Dr. Liane Jacob and Kindergarten Teacher Barbara Blakley described the School's need for computer-connected projectors and Stakeholders expressed support for it. The document readers allow teachers to project any written material onto the whiteboard for large presentation and allow

student interaction when they are able to write directly on the projected maps as art and/or written words.

MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Futernick): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council fund \$3,000 for Calahan Elementary School to purchase two document readers with two projectors to place in classrooms for all students to have equal access to the curriculum.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

- f. Motion: to request that three estimates be obtained for purchases over \$400 and the approval of all the Board Members prior to the purchase of any outreach equipment, tools or supplies. This will take place only if there is other suppliers that manufacturer or sell the same product with a possible price variance. (Bolin)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- g. Motion: to requesting that we review the expenditure of R. Kellogg receiving \$45 to attend our meeting and to write articles totaling \$130 a month. I believe that Mr. Johnson's outreach articles are comparable to Ms. Kellogg's. There is no fee for Mr. Johnson's outreach articles. (Bolin)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- h. Motion: to revise what was said at the December 14, 2010 General Board Meeting. According to the Budget approved at the September 5, 2010 General Board Meeting the Board voted to allocate \$1,300 for a Minutes Writer, then an additional \$1,500 at the December 14, 2010 General Board Meeting. The total amount allocated was \$2,800, not the \$2,700 stated at the December 14, 2010 Meeting. (Bolin)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- i. Motion: Discussion and update on low bidder for mowing Tampa from Plummer to Lassen was about \$400 per month for once a month service, and the Council approved that funding a couple of months ago. Note for analysis at the General Meeting from original 3-bids or if Bailey's give permission to mow there so if we want to expand the area to Devonshire on west side. In addition, I would like to discuss alternative ideas such as more long-term goals. It would cost the Stakeholders \$400 once a month to fund cleaning Tampa, to equal \$4,800 a year. After 5 years this would total \$24,000. I would like to invest in long-term projects, such as pavers. Invest \$7,000 to \$10,000 a year, after 5 years we could fund another project. We would not have to continue investing \$400 a month for an endless project. The mowing of Tampa could be a temporary fix until we fund a long-term fix. (Bolin)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- j. Motion: To fund up to four NWNC Board Members at \$25 each which is \$100 to go to Complete Streets for Los Angeles Conference Friday, February 25, 2011 from 8:00 am - 7:00 pm at Japanese American National Museum 369 East 1st Street Los Angeles, California 90012. Registration and ticket price is \$25, this includes continental breakfast, lunch, admission to all sessions, in and out privileges throughout the day, takeaway materials, and post-conference access to an online conference directory. (Wilson)

Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

k. Motion: Banners for NWNC Outreach events with funding up to \$750. (Spurlock)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

l. Motion: To fund NWNC Outreach T-Shirts up to \$1,200 for NWNC Outreach events.
Note spend \$408.27 on 9/30/2010 for 48 NWNC T-Shirts. (Johnson/Spurlock)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

m. Motion to fund and secure a date/time/location for an official NWNC Board Member Re-Treat with DONE for training NWNC Board Members with funding up to \$500.
(Johnson)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

n. **MOTION** (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Malais): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council supports having Northridge Christian Church and adjacent neighbors discuss the proposed installation of a third cell tower at the Church on corner of Chatsworth St. and Wilbur Ave.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Johnson said that this Motion is “to reopen discussion” on an issue the Board voted on in 2010. Steve Cook of the Northridge Christian Church said the Church is “absolutely” in favor of the cell tower and there are already two cell towers there. There was discussion regarding the design and concerns about the tower. Stakeholder Candace lives near the existing cell towers owned by Verizon and T-Mobile and was concerned that “there’s nothing stopping . . . the installation of more cell towers . . . on a small piece of property in a residential neighborhood . . . that’s not residential, it’s industrial . . . we were only given six days notice” of a Zoning Hearing. At least 10 days’ notice is required and she believed that the NWNC “made the decision [to support the cell towers] based on a lack of information.”

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

o. Motion: Purchase total of 11 new trash cans. Ten of new trash cans to be put on Tampa Ave. from the 118 Freeway to Plummer Street. Purchase one new trash can for Devonshire at Vanalden NE corner. “Jo Ann Phillips will agree to dispose of contents and insert a new bag once a month. I would like it to match the green can that is a block east of there by Belcourt community. The existing plastic can that somebody put there many years ago is about to fall completely apart. I believe the green can at Belcourt is heavy enough, it doesn't need attachment to the pavement; it is too heavy to steal.” Plus discussion on type of new trash cans, color of trash cans and cost of trash cans. (Futernick)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

p. **MOTION** (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Spurlock): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council proposes funding up to \$400 for sponsoring a joint meeting with the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council and L.A. City Council District 12 to review and discuss LADOT revised road diet footprint along Wilbur Ave.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Johnson explained the Motion. The joint PRNC/NWNC meeting is

scheduled to be held Tuesday, March 1st at 7:00 p.m. at Shepherd of the Hills Church in Porter Ranch. There was extensive and passionate discussion regarding the meeting location and date and whether to have a joint meeting. There was extensive discussion regarding the wording and intent of the Motion. Ms. Herrera-Robles recommended establishing an ad hoc Committee to determine the date, time, venue and cost and encouraged inviting the PRNC.

AMENDED MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Malais): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council will create an exploratory ad hoc Committee to determine the date, time, venue, cost and voting process of a joint meeting with the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council and L.A. City Council District 12 to review and discuss the LADOT revised road diet footprint along Wilbur Ave.

AMENDED MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

14. Public Comments

There were no Public Comments.

15. Committee and Meetings Reports

Committee Reports

- a. Ad hoc Wilbur Avenue Committee – Proposed town hall meeting tentatively set for March 1, 2011. (Johnson/Ward)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- b. Planning / Land Use / Zoning – Johnson
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- c. Education – Update on Invent for Life at NWNC March 8, 2011 meeting. (Futernick)
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- d. Elections – No report
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- e. Grievance – No Report
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- f. Community Outreach – Spurlock - Update on EZ-Up Tent, table and two chairs.
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- g. Beautification – Williams - housing tract signs
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.
- h. Bylaws – Wilson – NWNC Bylaws Table of Contents
Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

Meetings Reports

- a. Oakridge Estate Park Advisory Board - Steve Harris on Board and Glen Wilson is on Oakridge Estate Outreach Committee. Meets the fourth Thursday of every other

month. Next meeting will be Thursday, March 24, 2011 @ 3 p.m. at Fire Station #87 at 10124 Balboa Boulevard, Granada Hills.

Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

b. NE/W Vision Committee – Steve Harris/Glen Wilson. Meets the third Wednesday each month at 1:30 p.m. at Fire Station #87, 10124 Balboa Boulevard, Granada Hills. Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

c. LA DWP MOU and/or DWP Committee – Glen Wilson. Meets the first Saturday of month at 8:45 a.m. at Hollywood Community Center 6501 Fountain Avenue, Los Angeles, 90028.

Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

d. Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Coalition (LANCC) – Glen Wilson. Meets the first Saturday of month at 10:00 a.m. at Hollywood Community Center 6501 Fountain Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90028.

Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

e. Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) – Glen Wilson. Meets the second Thursday each month at 6:30 p.m. at Sherman Oaks Hospital.

Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

f. Valley Vote – Glen Wilson. Meets the third Monday each month at 6:30 p.m. at Galpin Ford.

Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

g. BONC Meetings- Glen Wilson – All about NCs and DONE. See NWNC website for date/time/location on BONC meetings.

Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

h. Northridge Festival outreach meetings update for Northridge Festival June 2011 event. Glen Wilson

Mr. Johnson declared this Item to be **TABLED**.

16. Board Member Comments

There were no Board Member Comments.

17. Adjournment

Mr. Johnson **ADJOURNED** the Meeting without any objections at 9:43 p.m.

18. Upcoming Events [the second Item #17 on the Agenda]

VANC 8th Anniversary Party Thursday, March 10, 2011 5:30 p.m. at CBS Studios, Studio City. Reservations are required.

This Agenda Item was not addressed.