

Minutes of the
NORTHRIDGE WEST NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (NWNC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, March 8, 2011

at Beckford Elementary School, 19130 Tulsa St., Northridge

1. Call to Order

President Tom Johnson called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

2. Cub Scout Pack 911 flag ceremony and Pledge of Allegiance.

Cub Scouts from Pack 911 displayed the colors, saluted those who serve and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Roll Call

Board Members present: Jerry Bloom, Pamela Bolin, Ken Futernick, Robert Graf, Tom Johnson, Gerry Malais, Craig Michayluk, Freddie Rymond, Juativa Spurlock, Chris Williams and Glen Wilson.

Eleven of the 12 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting and one Board seat was 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. Don Ward arrived later. Also attending: 26 Stakeholders and guests.

4. Oath of Office: new NWNC Board Member Freddie Rymond
Mr. Johnson read and Mr. Rymond repeated aloud the Oath of Office.

5. Acceptance of Minutes

The following corrections to the February 8, 2011 General Board Meeting Minutes were requested:

Page four, Item #13. b): "At Large Representative" should read "Open At Large Representative".

Page four, Item #13. d): "MOTION (by Mr. Johnson" should read "MOTION (by Mr. Ward".

MOTION (by Mr. Futernick, seconded by Ms. Spurlock): to approve the Minutes of the NWNC February 8, 2011 General Board Meeting as corrected.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

6. Senior Lead Officer, LAPD Devonshire Division -- Ignacio Morillo
Interim Senior Lead Officer Ignacio Morillo (818-634-0495; 34879@LAPD.LACity.org) was not present and there was no report.

7. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) - Amelia Herrera-Robles
Ms. Herrera-Robles was not present and there was no report.

8. CD12 Councilman Greig Smith's Representative – Semee Park.

Ms. Park was not present and there was no report.

9. Guest Speakers: Brittny McCarthy, CSUN, Dir., Gov't & Community Relations.

Ms. McCarthy, CSUN Director of Government and Community Relations (818-677-2123; Brittny.McCarthy@csun.edu), introduced Intern Darren Hause and encouraged contacting her if you have any CSUN questions. A monthly e-mailed Newsletter is available with community events information.

Board Member Don Ward arrived at this time.

See www.CSUN.edu for art, sport and other events programs information. If you notice any traffic issues e-mail TrafficSafety@csun.edu. Improvements are being made at Nordhoff and Zelzah with new signals and lights for the Zelzah and Prairie intersection to "pull traffic off Nordhoff . . . our intention is to have as many people as possible to park on campus." Around 200 people per hour protested recently; there were "no eventful actions by the protesters; they were very well behaved . . . very, very peaceful."

10. Treasurer's, and Budget & Finance Committee Report – Bolin - Review of NWNC budget and breakdown of expenditures

Ms. Bolin reported that there's "\$36,295 available . . . a sufficient amount of funds for the rest of the year." Mr. Johnson requested clarifications of the expenditures noting the need for a breakdown of the line items. Mr. Johnson requested the board hold off on approving the Treasures Report until line items can be clarified for next Board Meeting. Ms. Bolin confirmed funding availability through the June 30th end of the fiscal year and that it's "all accounted for" year-to-date. There'll be a Budget Committee Meeting March 31st at 9:00 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce, 9401 Reseda Blvd.

11. President's and Executive Report (Reseda median - update) - Johnson

Mr. Johnson gave a March report on Tropical Creations services provided for the Reseda Blvd median south of Lassen Street. Johnson recommended that the NWNC board continue to fund the cost of \$180 per month for Tropical Creations to maintain the Reseda Blvd median until June 2011. Stating Tropical Creations is doing a good job. NWNC will seek CD12 support in having Reseda median placed on the City Wide contract with Tropical Creations for maintaining the Reseda median. Glenn Bailey reported that the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils March 10th Mixer the NWNC will be awarded a certificate for the council's ongoing Operation Clean Sweep efforts.

12. Other Public Officials

- a. Oakridge Estate Park Advisory Board (Oakie House) - Steve Harris (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, CA) Mr. Harris (SHarris45@sbcglobal.net) encouraged input and described the Park as "a passive park rather than an open recreational park."

- b. Northridge Vision - Steve Harris (Meets at Fire Station #87 at 10124 Balboa Boulevard, Granada Hills, CA)
Mr. Harris announced the monthly third Thursdays at 2:00 Meetings.

13. Discussion and possible action items

- a. **MOTION** (by Ms. Spurlock, seconded by Mr. Futernick): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$250 for the NWNC to print copies of updated NWNC Survey forms for Outreach.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Ward described other survey possibilities. There was discussion regarding the Survey intent.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote with 11 in favor and one opposed.

- b. **Motion:** The Northridge West Neighborhood Council will obtain three estimates for purchases over \$400 and the approval of all Board Members prior to the purchase of any outreach equipment, tools or supplies. This will take place only if other suppliers manufacturer or sell the same product with a possible price variance. (Bolin)

DISCUSSION: There was very extensive discussion regarding how many estimates to get and whether to get more than one estimate. Mr. Malais suggested applying the Motion to “any item, not . . . limited to outreach.” Mr. Graf suggested raising the applicable minimum purchase amount to \$500 and requiring two bids. Ms. Williams suggested that the Motion be applicable to “tangible items.” It was agreed to TABLE the discussion.

- c. I am 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)

Ms. Bolin requested and it was agreed to WITHDRAW this Agenda Item.

- d. **Motion:** (by Ms. Bolin, seconded by Mr. Futernick): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council corrects an allocation amount statement: 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 allocated an additional \$1,500 at the December 14, 2010 Meeting. The total amount allocated was \$2,800, not \$2,700 as stated at the December 14, 2010 Meeting. (Bolin)

DISCUSSION: Ms. Bolin explained the above.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

- e. **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 we if 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 \$4800 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 to clarify with DONE if council funds can be used to maintain Tampa Avenue parkways. He agreed with Mr. Harris' idea to forward this to the Beautification Committee to report at the next General Board Meeting.

- f. **Motion:** Fund up to \$2,000 for banners and signs for NWNC Outreach events: Possible examples "Another NWNC project completed", "Another NWNC project funded with your tax dollars", "Come & join us improve Northridge", "NWNC at Work", "Volunteers Welcome", Volunteer your time & join the fun NWNC" (Spurlock)
- a. Portion of the above funds are to be used for materials and supplies to make signs such as Scottish Terrace & Baton Rouge Estates (Examples) identifying the various developments within NWNC boundaries (Johnson)

MOTION (by Ms. Spurlock, seconded by Ms. Williams): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$2,000 for banners and signs for NWNC Outreach events.

DISCUSSION: There was discussion regarding splitting the \$2,000 funds (\$1,000 for Outreach & \$1,000 for Beautification signage) between Outreach and Beautification.

AMENDED MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Michayluk and accepted by Ms. Spurlock): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$1,000 for banners and signs for NWNC Outreach events and a \$1,000 will be allocated to Beautification for signage.

AMENDED MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

MOTION (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Futernick): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council authorizes \$1,000 of the above allocated \$2,000 to be used for materials and supplies to make signs such as Scottish Terrace and Baton Rouge Estates (examples) identifying the various developments within NWNC boundaries.

DISCUSSION: Ms. Williams described the inventory she's taken and restoration efforts. There was extensive discussion in which concerns were expressed regarding why one community and not another would be chosen.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote with nine in favor and two opposed.

- g. **MOTION** (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Mr. Michayluk): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$950 to purchase

approximately 2,000 “NWNC Did You Know Flyers” and NWNC T-Shirts. Flyers will be placed amongst local businesses such as restaurants, coffee shops, AAA, etc. facilities in an effort to inform stakeholders about NWNC while the T-shirts will be used for NWNC Outreach Events. Note spent \$408.27 on 9/30/2010 for 48 NWNC T-Shirts. Reallocate funds from Outreach to cover T-Shirts.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Johnson explained that three bids were received. Concern was expressed regarding the importance of investing in and receiving bids from within the community.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote with 11 in favor and one opposed.

- h. **MOTION** (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Bolin): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$800 for a joint NWNC/PRNC Town Hall Meeting at Noble Middle School, 9950 Tampa Ave., Northridge on March 15, 2011 (pending LADOT/LAUSD availability/approval), 6:30-8:30 p.m. to review and vote on the LADOT Wilbur Ave. road diet re-striping plan.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Johnson explained that NWNC and PRNC Committees have been meeting. The NWNC is funding the entire Meeting amount. Ms. Bolin explained expenses. There was very extensive and passionate discussion; concerns were expressed regarding that March 15th is only one week from now, a very short amount of time for outreach. Also, regarding the plan to keep the individual vote’s secret until after the Meeting.

MOTION SPLIT with six in favor and six opposed.

FURTHER DISCUSSION: regarding the intent and wording of the Motion.

MOTION PASSED with seven in favor and five opposed.

- i. **MOTION** (by Mr. Johnson, seconded by Ms. Spurlock): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council authorizes the expenditure of up to \$2,500 for tools, equipment (edger, trimmer, rakes, shovels, brooms, etc.), materials for repairing signs, and/or repairing equipment, etc. that are essential to the needs of NWNC Thursday and Saturday Operation Clean Sweeps efforts.

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote with 11 in favor and one abstained.

- j. **MOTION** (by Ms. Bolin, seconded by Mr. Johnson): The Northridge West Neighborhood Council will assign each Board Member to doing the Board resolutions past and present. The Board resolutions will be assigned in alphabetical order and rotated amongst the Board Members starting with Robert Graf, Craig Michayluk, Freddie Rymond, Juativa Spurlock, Don Ward and Chris Williams. With six Board Members doing the Board resolutions, this would calculate to twice a year per Board Member. A template will be sent out for everyone’s convenience. (Bolin)

DISCUSSION: Ms. Bolin explained that this is to word the Resolutions.

It was agreed to **TABLE** this Motion.

- k. Motion and discussion: Fund up to \$6,000 to purchase, secure permits, install, service (including first month service of \$500 per month – serviced once a week) up to 10 new galvanized trash cans. The new trash cans will be installed along Tampa Ave south of the #118 Freeway to Plummer Street plus one new trash can to be installed along Devonshire Street at Vanalden Street NE corner (Johnson) Mr. Johnson recommended and it was agreed to **TABLE** this Motion.
- l. Motion to approve the revised NWNC Bylaws in accordance with the BONC Bylaws Template (Mandatory Bylaws Table of Contents). (Wilson and Chair of NWNC Bylaws Committee).
Mr. Wilson distributed a “Proposed Updated Revised NWNC Bylaws Draft as of March 8, 2011.” Ms. Spurlock encouraged assisting her and Mr. Wilson. They’ll create a time extension letter for Mr. Johnson to send to DONE. No Motion was made.
- m. Motion to amend the current NWNC Bylaws to make changes and/or add to update on revised NWNC Bylaws in accordance with the BONC Bylaws Template which NWNC Bylaws does not for BONC Bylaws Template have on current NWNC Bylaws.

Current NWNC Amending Bylaws are: “ARTICLE X AMENDING BYLAWS

One of the Council Members or a stakeholder may propose amendments to these Bylaws during the public comment period of a Council meeting.

1. A proposal to amend these bylaws must be formalized in writing and submitted to the Secretary, or person responsible for preparing the agenda for the next regular meeting.
 2. The proposed amendment will be noticed on the agenda for public discussion and a vote at the next Council meeting.
 3. Any amendment or adjustment to these Bylaws requires a 2/3 vote of the Council Members present. Thereafter, and within 14 days after a vote recommending amendment or adjustment to amend the Bylaws, an Application to Change or Adjust Bylaws shall be submitted to DONE along with a copy of the existing Bylaws for review and approval by DONE all in accordance with Article V (3) of the Plan. No amendment shall be valid, final, or effective until approved by DONE.” (Wilson).
- n. Discuss the possibility of the NWNC making an amendment to the February 2010 meeting in which the Board approved the installation of the proposed cell tower at the church on Wilbur & Chatsworth; presentation by Patti & Candice.
Stakeholder Patti believed that the Board didn’t have complete information when it voted in February 2010. Mr. Malais would like to see the Minutes of that Meeting.
Stakeholder Candace indicated that the Church deliberately presented inaccurate

information at that Meeting; she “would like the record to show . . . three cell towers [were] put on the property,” not one. There was very extensive discussion regarding whether the Board can reconsider an Item past the time allowed for reconsideration (which is at the same or next General Board Meeting, according to the NWNC Bylaws). No Motion was made.

- o. Secure NWNC preference of a date/time/location for an official NWNC Board Member Re-Treat with DONE for training NWNC Board Members with funding of up to \$800. Note Board Retreat/Training is on NWNC 2010/2011 Budget for \$800. Mr. Johnson recommended and it was agreed to **TABLE** this Item until the next [April 12, 2011] General Board Meeting.
- p. Who to nominate for (Name) to be the NWNC Senior of the Year whose formal recognition will be at the Senior Diner Dance? (Wilson)
Mr. Johnson recommended and it was agreed to **TABLE** this Item until the next [April 12, 2011] General Board Meeting.

14. Public Comments

There were no public comments at this time.

15. Committee and Meetings Reports

Mr. Johnson recommended and it was agreed to **TABLE** everything in this Item until the next [April 12, 2011] General Board Meeting.

- a. Ad hoc Wilbur Avenue Committee – Phillips/Ward
- b. Update on NWNC CPR/1st. Aid events – Johnson – March 26, 2011 @ Calahan Elementary School 18722 Knapp Street Northridge, CA 91324
- c. Planning / Land Use / Zoning – Johnson
- d. Education – Ken Futernick – Update on Invent for Life
- e. Elections – No report
- f. Grievance – No Report
- g. Community Outreach – Spurlock
- h. Beautification – Williams - housing tract signs
- i. Bylaws – Wilson – see motions on NWNC Bylaws Table of Contents

Meetings:

- a. 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
- b. 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

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

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

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

f. Valley Heritage Festival (Northridge Hawaiian Festival) Outreach meetings with
updates for Valley Heritage Festival on June 4 & 5, 2011. - Glen Wilson

g. North Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair Committee – Glen Wilson
Next meeting is March 16, 2011 at 4-6 p.m. at Fire Station #8

16. Board Member Comments

There were no Board Member comments at this time.

17. Request for items to be placed on the agenda must be made in writing to the
NWNC President president@northridgewest.org and a copy to NWNC VP of Admin.
vadmin@northridgewest.org prior to the first of the month of next NWNC meeting.

18. Adjournment

Mr. Johnson declared and it was agreed to **ADJOURN** the Meeting at 10:04 p.m.

19. Upcoming Events

No upcoming events were mentioned