

# Minutes for the July 8, 2014 Board Meeting of the Northridge West Neighborhood Council

**1. The meeting was called to order at 6:43 PM** in the auditorium of Calahan Elementary School located at 18722 Knapp St. in Northridge, CA 91324.

**2. The Pledge of Allegiance was led.**

## **3. Roll Call**

NWNC Board members present: Tom Johnson (president), Peter Lasky (VP of administration), Pamela Bolin (VP for Outreach), John Mah (secretary), Glen Wilson (treasurer), Steven Koch, Freddie Rymond, David Uranga and Matthew Vallecilla (left at 7:55 PM).

NWNC Board members not present: Pamela Gentry and Daniel Luna.

With 9 members present, there was a quorum.

## **4. Public Comments**

Stakeholder Brian Reff commented that last week 4 people participated in Operation Clean Sweep. He believes that Operation Clean Sweep needs to be reinvigorated. Mr. Reff recommended that a professional minute taker be hired because of disagreements over the accuracy of the monthly meeting minutes.

(After all agenda items were disposed of, two additional speakers made public comments. Their comments are presented here for the sake of consistency.)

Teresa Priem of the California Clean Money Campaign spoke about Senate Bill 52, sponsored by state Senators Mark Leno and Jerry Hill, which would require anonymous corporate donors to campaigns to disclose their identities. Ms. Priem seeks to have her group to give a presentation about SB 52 at the earliest monthly NWNC meeting. She was directed to contact chair Pam Gentry of the Ad Hoc Government Affairs Committee, who could place the item on the agenda of the Executive Committee.

Mark Reed, who won a place in the recent election to appear as a candidate for California's 30<sup>th</sup> congressional district against incumbent Congressman Brad Sherman in the November election, spoke about his campaign. Mr. Reed is a long-time business owner. He spoke about having the state DMV recognize veterans on their drivers' licenses. Mr. Reed also added that legislators don't compromise but

that because of his family status of having a wife, 3 children and 9 grandchildren, he can compromise. He is available to appear at the October 20, 2014 candidate forum that is being co-sponsored by NWNC.

## **5. President's Comments**

President Tom Johnson recognized several members of the NWNC board for their work.

Board member David Uranga was congratulated for his efforts in locating and photographing potholes and broken sidewalks to be included in a drawing for repair by the Bureau of Street Services. Mr. Johnson thanked John Mah for taking the monthly minutes as secretary. VP of Administration Peter Lasky was recognized for the extraordinary time he spends performing his duties. Glen Wilson was thanked for his work as treasurer and coordinator of Operation Clean Sweep.

Mr. Johnson announced that NWNC has been unsuccessful in finding someone to prepare plans for the Tampa median project.

American Landscape will be hired for an initial clean-up of the Reseda median, and will be retained for periodic clean-ups.

## **6. Announcements by Public Officials**

Jessie Levine, a field deputy to 12th District Councilman Mitch Englander, was the only public official to speak. She gave a brief update of activities in the councilman's office. The City Council is in recess during the month of July, and will resume its sessions in August. Councilman Englander has sought funding for a phased-out ambulance to be used by the community.

Ms. Levine added that fruit trees will be planted by the Bureau of Street Services subject to approval by other departments.

At upcoming Movie Nights, the films "Frozen" and "The Lego Movie" will be screened.

The city will hold a waste collection event for motor oil and electronic waste, among items to be collected, at the Winnetka Recreation Center on July 12th from 9 AM to 3 PM.

## **7. Old Business**

### **A. Approval of November, 2013 Minutes**

Because a copy of the November, 2013 minutes was not available for today's meeting, no action was taken.

### **B. Approval of May, 2014 Minutes**

**Motion and Vote:** A motion for approval by President Tom Johnson, seconded by board member Steve Koch, was unanimously passed.

## **C. Approval of June, 2014 Minutes**

**Motion and Vote:** A motion for approval by President Tom Johnson, seconded by VP for Outreach Pam Bolin, was unanimously passed.

## **8. New Business**

### **A. Approval of June Treasurer's Report**

Treasurer Glen Wilson made an effort to explain the expenditures in the June, 2014 Monthly Expenditure Report and the "July 2013 through June 2014" Transaction List. Unused funds from 2013 to 2014 were listed as \$7,838.62 in the Transaction List which conflicted with the sum of \$7,250.35 listed as "Balance of Budget" in the Monthly Expenditure Report.

There is uncertainty about expenditures because of the category of "cumulative expenditures from prior months."

\$400 was omitted from "outstanding commitments" in the Monthly Expenditure Report.

There is a discrepancy between \$7,838.62 stated as funds not used on page 9 of the Transaction List, and \$7,250.35 stated on the Monthly Expenditure Report.

Approval of the June Treasurer's report was tabled.

### **B. Approval of 2014-2015 Neighborhood Council Budget Package to be submitted to DONE.**

- 1) The Neighborhood Council Self Assessment for Fiscal Year 2013-2014 is to be updated and completed. It reflects that \$29,161.38 was spent.
- 2) Regarding the Neighborhood Council Strategic Plan for 2014-2015, everyone agreed upon it.
- 3) Everyone agreed the Neighborhood Council Outreach Survey for 2014-2015 was completed.
- 4) The proposed Neighborhood Council Budget for 2015-2015 was found to be acceptable.
- 5) The Neighborhood Council Board Vote Form was discussed.
- 6) The Inventory form was discussed.

### **C. Neighborhood Council Checking Accounting System**

A self-explanatory 3 page core user's guide for the new Neighborhood Council Checking Accounting System was distributed to the board.

## **D. Street Blitz Program and Selection of Locations to be Presented to the Bureau of Street Services**

Council member David Uranga explained how 56 potholes and sidewalks were selected and photographed. All 56 candidates for repair were in high traffic, high visibility locations. He spent 5 hours on this project.

The 56 candidates were placed on a list and assigned a number. Scraps of paper bearing numbers 1 through 56 were placed in a hat brought to tonight's meeting by Mr. Uranga. He conducted a "lottery" by circulating among the audience and some members of the NWNC asking them to draw 15 locations for submission to the city.

Mr. Uranga will prepare a list with the 15 locations drawn, and will attach photos for each of the potholes and sidewalks.

## **E. Motion for \$200 Expenditure for American Heritage Landscape to Repair the Reseda Median from Kinzie St. to Superior St.**

**Motion and Vote:** A motion for approval President Tom Johnson, seconded by board member Steve Koch, was unanimously passed.

## **9. Nomination and Election of two Budget Advocates to the Budget Advocate Committee.**

VP for Outreach Pam Bolin, who is currently a Budget Advocate, explained the demands of serving on the Budget Advocate Committee and said she enjoyed her tenure on the body.

Pam Bolin, Pam Gentry and Tom Johnson were nominated to serve as Budget Advocates. Votes were taken and Pam Bolin was elected with 8 votes and Pam Gentry with 7 votes to be the Budget Advocates. No vote was taken regarding Mr. Johnson.

## **10. Reports by Committee Chairs and Comments by Board Members**

Speaking for the Budget Committee, Glen Wilson said that all committee should make funding requests for their projects right away. With respect to the Beautification Committee Mr. Wilson advised that for two weeks Operation Clean Sweep would be spraying weeds.

David Uranga explained that the Public Safety Committee held a meeting regarding the 15 pothole and sidewalk repair locations to be submitted to the city. An emergency preparedness fair is to be held in September. In his capacity as Education chair, Mr. Uranga announced that a candidate forum will be held on October 20, 2014 featuring Sheila Kuehl and Bobby Shriver, the two candidates for the 3<sup>rd</sup> district county supervisor's seat.

John Mah, speaking for himself and Matthew Vallecilla, said that the Bylaws and Ad Hoc Standing Rules Committees were on hiatus because Mr. Mah was gone for most of June. A joint meeting of the committees will soon be held.

Steve Koch asked that all committee meeting dates and times be posted on the NWNC website. In reviewing the agendas for the committees, he found that only one committee meeting was listed for 2014.

Pam Bolin requested that stakeholders advise her of their concerns regarding the city budget.

Freddy Rymond recommended that college students be recruited to assist with Operation Clean Sweep.

## **Adjournment at 8:41 PM**

**John Mah, Secretary**

Prepared on July 9, 2014

