

Minutes for the November 12, 2014 Board Meeting of the Northridge West Neighborhood Council

Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 6:37 PM in the auditorium of Calahan Elementary School located at 18722 Knapp St. in Northridge, CA 91324.

The pledge of Allegiance was led.

Roll Call

NWNC Board members present: **Peter Lasky** (VP of administration), **John Mah** (secretary), **Glen Wilson** (treasurer), **Alex Orozco**, **Debbie Penman**, **Colleen Pick** and **David Uranga**.

NWNC Board members not present: **Tom Johnson** (president), **Pamela Gentry**, **Steven Koch**, **Freddie Rymond** and **Daniel Luna**.

With 7 members present, there was a quorum. Because President Tom Johnson was unable to appear, Vice President of Administration **Peter Lasky** presided over the meeting.

President's Comments

It was announced that David Uranga's resignation as chair of the Education Committee will be effective December 1, 2014.

Board members were asked to provide dates on which they will be available to attend training by the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment.

Reports by Public Officials

Jonathan Coto, a field representative for 12th District Councilman Mitch Englander gave a brief legislative update which included among the topics, status of the speed bump program and the City Council's review of its "mansionization" policy.

Guest Speaker

Jane Stanton, the executive director of the North Valley YMCA was the guest speaker. She spoke about the North Valley YMCA's Thanksgiving food basket program which is in its 8th year and has grown to 3,300 baskets. The YMCA works with 35 school principals to distribute the baskets at elementary, middle and high schools in the North Valley region. Ms. Stanton requested a \$1,000 contribution from the NWNC for the program.

The North Valley YMCA has been in existence since 1945 and has programs involving child care services, healthy eating and classes. There is also a health club.

Stakeholders Mike Orkin and his wife, Marcy, presented to Ms. Stanton a \$35 check to pay for a single food basket.

Public Comments

Mayur Patel spoke on behalf of his son, Ankur Patel, who is a candidate for the District 3 seat on the Los Angeles Unified School (LAUSD) Board of Education. Mayur Patel sought signatures for Ankur's candidacy.

Stakeholder Mike Orkin stated that the "consent calendar" on our agenda should have been listed as "consent *agenda*." He asserted that a consent agenda is not allowed under the NWNC Bylaws or the non-existent standing rules. Mr. Orkin distributed a 2 page sheet entitled "Using a Consent Agenda" written Collette Collier Trohan, who described herself as a "Certified Professional Parliamentarian-Teacher" and "Professional Registered Parliamentarian."

Council Member Debbie Penman countered that her husband, who has 40 years of experience in municipal government, said that consent calendars are a common practice.

Nicole Petersen appeared on behalf of her husband, Carl Petersen, who is also a candidate for the District 3 seat on the LAUSD Board of Education.

Glenn Bailey, who is a member of the Northridge East Neighborhood Council and a city budget advocate gave a brief budget advocate report, and distributed a "Budget Summary" booklet. Mr. Bailey also announced that he is a candidate for a seat on the Los Angeles Community College District Board of Trustees and is seeking signatures for his candidacy.

Consent Calendar

Items A and B were removed from the Consent Calendar based on the concerns of Glen Wilson.

Motion and Vote: Item C, a motion by John Mah and seconded by David Uranga to approve a funding line of \$200 for NWNC business cards for new board members: Alex Orozco, Debbie Penman, and Colleen Pick, was voted upon as an individual item and **passed** with 7 yeses.

Treasurer's Report and Apple One \$778.68 Invoice

Treasurer Glen Wilson explained the Monthly Expense Report (MER). However there was a discrepancy in his figures.

Motion and Vote: A motion to table the MER due to the discrepancy made by John Mah and seconded by Debbie Penman **passed** with 7 yeases.

Motion and Vote: A motion by Debbie Penman and seconded by David Uranga to approve the \$778.68 invoice from Apple One for assisting Treasurer Glen Wilson in his accounting duties **passed** with 7 yeases.

Motion to Retain Janet Richmond with a funding line of \$200

Motion and Vote: A motion by David Uranga and seconded by Debbie Penman to retain Janet Richmond for a one time funding limit of \$200 to provide assistance to Treasurer Glen Wilson **passed** with 7 yeases.

Motion to Approve \$1,000 NPG to North Valley YMCA

Motion and Vote: A motion by David Uranga and seconded by Alex Orozco to approve a \$1,000 Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) to the North Valley YMCA for Thanksgiving food baskets for needy families within the NWNC boundaries, with the baskets to contain an inserted letter notifying the recipients of the contributions of the NWNC, **passed** with 7 yeases.

Motion for a funding line of \$600 for a Holiday Party to be held at the December 9, 2014 General meeting with an awards ceremony

Motion and Vote: A motion by David Uranga and seconded by Debbie Penman to approve a funding line of \$600 from the Outreach budget for a holiday party to be held at the December 9, 2014 general meeting in conjunction with an award ceremony to honor the winner of the Tampa Median Design Contest **passed** with 7 yeases.

Stakeholder's Petition to Remove Daniel Luna

At today's meeting, stakeholder Brian Reff affirmed that on October 13, 2014 he submitted an electronic petition to remove Daniel Luna from the NWNC board pursuant to Article V, Section 9 of the NWNC Bylaws. Mr. Reff attached his petition to an email he sent to President Tom Johnson and Secretary John Mah. Mr. Reff further affirmed that on October 25, 2014 he amended his petition to include the fact that Mr. Luna did not attend the regularly scheduled October 14, 2014 board meeting, and submitted the amended electronic petition in an email to Tom Johnson and John Mah in an email on the same date.

Motion and Vote: A motion by David Uranga and seconded by Debbie Penman to place stakeholder Brian Reff's petition to remove Daniel Luna from the NWNC board pursuant to Article V, Section 9 of the NWNC Bylaws for a hearing at the January 13, 2005 general meeting with the full board to vote on Mr. Luna's removal, and that a notice be sent to Mr. Luna

advising him of his right to speak to the board and defend himself at the meeting, **passed** with 7 yeses.

Motion to approve a funding line of \$450 to remove dried and crushed fruit debris on public sidewalks on NWNC streets

Motion and Vote: Due to concerns over ownership and responsibility for city sidewalks, the motion to approve a funding line of \$450 to remove dried and crushed fruit debris on public sidewalks on NWNC streets such as Corbin and Plummer was **tabled** by a motion by John Mah and seconded by David Uranga, with 7 yeses.

Motion to approve signing of a Maintenance Agreement for three public benches on Reseda Blvd. within NWNC boundaries

During the discussion regarding this matter there was a debate over the NWNC's responsibility and liability under the maintenance agreement with the City for the three public benches on the western side of Reseda Blvd.

Motion and Vote: A motion by John Mah and seconded by Debbie Penman to table the motion failed with 4 noes.

Motion and Vote: A motion by Glen Wilson and seconded by Alex Orozco to approve the signing of a Maintenance Agreement for three public benches on Reseda Blvd. within NWNC boundaries passed with 6 yeses and 1 no vote by John Mah.

Comments by Committee Chairs

In his capacity as outgoing chair of the Education Committee, David Uranga made general remarks regarding that committee's support of the North Valley YMCA's Thanksgiving basket program. He also gave his views on future activities of the Planning/Land/Zoning Use Committee which he will be chairing.

Adjournment at 8:10 PM

John Mah, Secretary

Prepared on November 13, 2014