

DRAFT MINUTES
Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)
General Board Meeting (GBM)
Tuesday, 9 May 2023

- I. Call to Order and Board Roll Call
 - President Abby Bailes called the meeting to order at 6.27PM and welcomed ten board members and at least eight stakeholders.
 - A quorum was declared via the following roll call:
Here (10) Abigail Bailes, Brian Cathcart, Kathleen Edwards, Jorge Jimenez, Janis Kraft, Jennifer Krowne, Sonny Liampetchakul, Joel Lowell, Glen Wilson, and Greg Wood
Absent (1) Angelica Robinson
- II. Pledge of Allegiance
 - Jorge led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
- III. General Public Comments
 - Glenn Bailey mentioned that at the last NWNC meeting, they discussed signage coming into Northridge from all directions. He shared this discussion with the Northridge East and Northridge South Neighborhood Councils, as well as Northridge Vision. If there was interest in this signage, he would like to organize something along Northridge's major streets, such as Reseda Boulevard. Kathleen added that perhaps the signage could honor the area's veterans. A stakeholder mentioned that the street banners in Chatsworth, featuring military service members, were \$250/each and paid by the families. The twenty banners in the Northridge South community cost \$6,000.
 - Glenn added that the Valley of Alliance of Neighborhood Councils would continue to meet at 6.30PM on the 2nd Thursday of each month via Zoom. This week's guests will be Deputy Mayor of Infrastructure Randall Winston and Environmental Supervisor Christine Batikian.
 - Someone expressed concern about the blind corner near Tampa Avenue and Chatsworth Street. There should be a left-turn signal light there. Abby mentioned that the NWNC has discussed this with CD12, and this is on their wish list.
- IV. Announcements
 - a. Executive Committee Meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 6th
 - b. General Board Meeting to be held on Tuesday, June 13th
 - c. Invite all current and new board members to attend the June meeting
 - The current NWNC has the contact information for all new board members, except one. They hope to have that very soon.
 - d. All board members should please check their Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) training status; many are expiring this year. All training must be current to vote on NWNC issues. The following may expire by the end of June:
 - Ethics: Abby, Brian, Sonny, and Jennifer
 - Funding: Abby, Brian, and Sonny
 - Code of Conduct: Abby, Brian, Jorge, Jennifer, and Sonny
 - e. Update on SB411 meeting rules of neighborhood councils
 - It is unknown if the NWNC can have a remote June 6th Executive Committee meeting.
 - f. Saturday, May 20th, noon to 4PM, NWNC's Salute to Community Ice Cream Social

- One or two NWNC board members should be there by 9AM; the remainder of the board should be there by 10AM to help set-up.

V. Presidential Comments

- Abby had no comments

VI. Government Reports

a. Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division

- The non-emergency number for the LAPD is 1-877-ASK-LAPD.
- Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Sandra Zamora was working this evening; Devonshire community relations volunteer Mikkie Loi reported in her place.
- Basic car neighborhood watch meetings are usually scheduled as follows:

Lead Officer	Date	Time	Location
SLO Supervisor Torres	3 rd Saturday	11AM	Zoom
SLO Parker	2 nd Tuesday	6PM	St. Euphrasia Church 11779 Shoshone Avenue
SLO Zamora	Last Wednesday	6PM	Zoom

- Additional information on Devonshire meetings can be found on the LAPD Devonshire app, downloadable from the app store.
- The LAPD will host an operations meeting at 8AM on Wednesday, May 17th.
- Thursday, May 18th at 11AM, the LAPD SLOs will host “Coffee with a Cop” at the Pillars Coffee Shop at Shepherd of the Hills Church, 19700 Rinaldi Street.
- Tuesday, August 1st will be the annual National Night Out at the Northridge Park; further details will follow.

b. CD12 City Council Representative

- Matt Hernandez, Public Safety Field Deputy for CD12 and liaison to FilmLA, LAPD, LAFD, etc. reported the following:
 - Saturday, May 20th, the Department of Public Works will celebrate National Public Works Week by hosting events in each district. CD12’s event will be at Mason Park, 10500 Mason Avenue. The city’s biggest event will be at Woodley Park, 6350 Woodley Avenue, where they will display clean-ups, tree trimming, etc.
 - Saturday, June 3rd, CD12 will co-host a Health, Wellness, and Fitness fair at the Police Activity League Supporters Center at 8721 Wilbur Avenue. There will be a juice bar, as well as demonstrations in their onsite fruit and vegetable gardens.
 - Earlier today, the city council approved additional financing for the “Unarmed Response Units” which dispense medical units to handle homeless crises. Currently, there are merely three of these units in the city (coordinated by the LAPD and LAFD), one in the valley (based out of Sylmar), downtown, and south LA.

c. Other Government Departments/Agencies

- No other government agencies were represented.

d. DONE

- Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Joel Gonzalez reported that the NWNC board would transition in July, with the new board members taking the oath of office on Tuesday, July 11th.

- There is a new update for Community Impact Statements; the links can be found at <https://empowerla.org/self-serve/>
 - This year's Congress of Neighborhood Councils will be held in-person at City Hall on Saturday, September 23rd. This free event is open to all board members as well as the public. If anyone has an idea for a workshop, please reply to the survey at <https://www.neighborhoodcongress.la> by Monday, May 15th.
 - Joel reviewed the upcoming deadlines:

Saturday, May 20 th	Last Day to request an event
Thursday, June 1 st	Deadline for a check request
Tuesday, June 20 th	Last Day to Use the Credit Card
 - Joel reminded everyone that a neighborhood council could purchase a plaque for a location such as the Trebek Center, or co-sponsor and/or provide food/water for an event. However, a council cannot directly donate money to such a non-profit entity.
 - Joel shared a link regarding SB411, which deals with Zoom, teleconferencing, hybrid, and in-person meetings.
- e. Budget Advocate, budgetadvocates.org, update on LA City proposed budget
- Advocate Glenn Bailey reported that the Budget Advocates April report to the neighborhood councils could be found at https://www.budgetadvocates.org/_files/ugd/f03c84_a9eb98a2f27349279a6cdf2132057959.pdf
 - The advocates are asking Neighborhood Council members and stakeholders to provide input on their issues with City services. The responses will be collated into a report that will be delivered directly to members of the City Council's Budget, Finance and Innovation Committee and will be attached to the 2023-24 budget's council file 23-0600. The deadline for submitting budget comments is Wednesday, May 17th.

Friday, May 12 th	City council will review the Chief Administrative Officer's recommendations
Wednesday, May 17 th	City council will review and start discussion of the budget
Thursday, May 25 th	City council will start deliberating
 - Saturday, June 17th will be the last virtual Budget Day; this event is open to all board members as well as the public. Mayor Bass has already confirmed her attendance. Registration is available at <http://tiny.cc/budgetday23>. Reporter Elizabeth Chou from the LA Daily News will do the keynote. This will be followed by breakout sessions by region.

VII. NWNC Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee and Government Affairs
 - Abby reported that they are working on meeting locations for the various committees.
- b. Public Safety
 - Kathleen reported that residential burglaries and street takeovers remain a concern.
 - The streetlights near Vanalden Avenue and Chatsworth Street appear not to be functioning properly.
 - She also reminded everyone of this year's in-person Congress of Neighborhood Councils to be held at City Hall on Saturday, September 23rd. Perhaps the NWNC could make a financial contribution to this annual event?

c. Planning and Land Use (PLU)

- Brian reported that a few petitions were recently filed with the PLU Committee.
- The bottom of the Limekiln Canyon Spillway is near the intersection of Tampa and Tunney Avenues. He wondered if this open space [owned by the city] could be used for water storage.

d. Elections

- Glen reported that there were merely seven candidates and seven seats on the board. Hence, the election has been cancelled and all candidates were named to the NWNC via affirmation. The current board has no say in this action.
- This affirmation situation happened for nearly 39 of the 99 neighborhood councils of LA. Eighteen of the 34 valley neighborhood councils (53%) were via affirmation.
- Glenn Bailey added that board affirmation has been in the system forever. However, the paragraph regarding board affirmation is not clear; several neighborhood councils have this affirmation process spelled out in their by-laws.

e. Homelessness

- Sonny reported that Mayor Bass’s 2023-24 budget is seeking \$1.3b for homeless programs, including \$250m to keep the “Inside Safe” program running.
- The Biden administration has already sent the city and county more than \$250m for homeless programs.
- The Skid Row Housing Trust hopes to acquire additional funds to repair hotels in their area.
- Metro is removing approximately 500 unhoused people every evening from their trains. They have added the following to their budgetary wish list:

Outreach	\$13.5m
Mental health counseling	10.0m
Short term shelters	1.8m
Patrol from the LAPD, LASD, and Long Beach Police	6.0m
Full-time custodians for clean-up	23.6m
Total	<u>\$54.9m</u>

f. Beautification

- After the NWNC’s April 11th meeting and presentation by the Urban Forestry Department (UFD), the Northridge West community was to receive fifty trees. Jorge informed representatives from the city’s UFD that the NWNC had the budget to plant these trees. They replied that it is not the right time of year to plant and requested that the NWNC return in the autumn. Jorge then requested that the UFD provide tree trimming, particularly along Chatsworth Street, but they also replied that trimming is not appropriate during this time of year, and the NWNC should reach back in the autumn.
- A stakeholder mentioned that he coordinated the acquisition of a hundred trees from the LADWP, and they have all thrived.
- Your Way Tree Service could provide maintenance and tree trimming between the 118 freeway and Chatsworth Street (including trimming the topiaries) for \$950/month.
- Kathleen added that the UFD has drastically reduced funding for contractors; they want to do most work in-house.

g. Budget

- Joel will further discuss the 2022-23 and the 2023-24 budgets in agenda items VIII.a and VIII.c.

h. Outreach

- Janis mentioned that all NWNC board members should be at the Oakridge Estate Park before 10AM on Saturday, May 20th to help set-up for the “A Salute to the Community” Ice Cream Social, which starts at noon.
- Earlier today, she ordered six trays of sandwiches and other food items for the event.
- There is a banner advertising this event at the NWNC website, a postcard was sent to all stakeholders, and there is a banner in the park. Perhaps someone could reach out to the North Valley News and the Patch online portal for additional publicity?
- Jorge may work at the booth and distribute bracelets, which were very popular at a previous outreach event.
- It is estimated that ten to fifteen booths will be on display, including the Robodox Robotics Team (with their award-winning robot) from the Granada Hills Charter High School (GHCHS) and Enrich LA, who provide gardening training to area schools. They will show how they assemble their gardens.
- Entertainment will be provided by the GHCHS’s four bands, plus their drum line.
- The police cadets will be unavailable as they are going on a trip that day. The Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts may not be available to help. Joel will reach out to someone who may have a connection to these youth groups.

VIII. New Business

a. Possible motions to move existing/remaining funds to new categories in the NWNC 2022-23 Budget

- Joel reported that the NWNC has approximately \$26,500 available in the treasury, as follows:

Outreach	\$9,500
Neighborhood Purpose Grants (NPG)	7,000
Community Improvement Projects (CIP)	4,000
General Office	6,000
Total	<u>\$26,500</u>

- Jorge may be able to use \$9,500 for Your Way Tree Service; perhaps we could transfer \$5,000 or \$6,000? Joel replied that each credit card transaction is limited to \$1,000. Glenn mentioned that the city clerk’s funding department would reject such an action. An invoice and Board Action Certification would be required. Alternatively, the NWNC has another board meeting prior to the June 20th funding deadline to further discuss this issue. Your Way Tree Service must invoice the NWNC by Thursday, June 1st.
- Transferring \$1,000 from NPG to CIP could help
- Funding support to the Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire (SOLID) or a domestic violence non-profit at the Dignity Health Center at the Northridge Hospital could be either a CIP or an NPG. Someone reminded the board that the plaque purchased for the Trebek Center was classified as Outreach.
- Joel Lowell made a motion to move \$7,000 from the NPG account to the CIP account; Brian Cathcart seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

- b. Motion to approve spending up to \$5,000 for beautification
 - Abby Bailes made a motion to approve spending \$5,000 [to Your Way Tree Service] for beautification; Jennifer Krowne and Greg Wood seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

- c. Motion to approve the proposed NWNC 2023-24 Budget

- Treasurer Joel reviewed the proposed budget:

Office/ Operational Expenditures	Host Reseller Group (Website	\$ 20	\$12,500
	2co.com ICDSOFT (Web Service)	100	
	USPS Post Office Box Rental	220	
	Golden State Storage	1,900	
	Mailroom (Web Hosting)	3,000	
	Apple One (Minutes at Board Meetings)	2,200	
	Meeting Meals/Snacks	4,000	
	Board Retreat	500	
	Miscellaneous	560	
Outreach	Outreach Projects	3,500	3,500
NPG	NPG	7,000	7,000
CIP	CIP	9,000	9,000
	Totals	\$32,000	\$32,000

- The next NWNC board could move the funds at their discretion.
 - There may also be \$10,000 of rollover funds from FY 2022-23; this may go towards Outreach (such as Ice Cream Socials and promotional items) and NPGs. Additional funds are allocated for meeting meals/snacks, approximately \$333/month.
 - Although Joel worked on this budget prior to the May 2023 form becoming available, Glenn urged Joel to use the form referencing 0523 (May 2023) rather than the 0521 (May 2021), as shown in the footer.
 - Joel Lowell made a motion to approve this proposed 2023-24 budget; Greg Wood seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
- d. Update on the Neighborhood Council Elections affirmation process
 - This agenda item was skipped as the seven candidates were already chosen by board affirmation.
 - e. Possible motion to invite candidates to June GBM
 - Janis will reach out to the seven new NWNC board members.
 - f. Discussion about parents picking up students at Nobel and the flow of traffic
 - Complaints about this traffic situation near the Nobel Charter Middle School are very common. Parents often triple park along Mayall Street and Tampa Avenue, especially during the morning drop-off and when they pick their kids up at around 3.20PM. There have been several accidents, including one whereupon Greg was t-boned.
 - Jennifer’s children have been enrolled at Nobel for five years. This seems to be an issue for the school police, who blame the principal. Perhaps the LAUSD should have a crossing guard

or traffic officer there? Abby added that she has seen crossing guards near other schools. Someone suggested the PTA staff this area, yet they lack sufficient volunteers.

- Mikkie suggested bringing this up with the LAPD’s Valley Traffic Division who met via Zoom at 6.30PM on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.
- It was also suggested that the LAPD could make money if they ticketed people for jaywalking, but jaywalking was recently decriminalized in California.

g. Approval of the Monthly Expenditure Reports (MER) from April 2023

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
April 2	Golden State Storage	Storage Facility	\$135.50
April 10	Stonefire Grill	Refreshments	34.85
April 11	Porto’s Bakery	Refreshments	312.44
April 11	Smart and Final	Refreshments	12.25
April 14	4Imprint	Outreach Items	326.98
April 18	Apple One	Meeting Minutes	96.00
		Total	\$918.02

- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve the April MER; Jennifer Krowne seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

h. Approval of Monthly GBM Minutes for April 2023 NWNC Meeting

- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve the April minutes; Jennifer Krowne seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (6) Bailes, Cathcart, Jimenez, Kraft, Liampetchakul, and Lowell
 Abstain (4) Edwards, Krowne, Wilson, and Wood
 Absent (1) Robinson

IX. Adjournment

- Abby adjourned the meeting at 8.37PM.