

“Unity in Our Community”



Northridge West Neighborhood Council Joint Beautification Committee and Whole NWNC Board Meeting Minutes

Monday Aug. 26, 2019 from 6:30PM to 8:30PM
Craft Room - Northridge Recreation Center
18300 Lemarsh St, Northridge CA 91324

Executive Officers

Peter Lasky, President

Alma Fernandez, VP of Administration

Rana Sharif, VP of Outreach & Communication

Kelly Sooter, Secretary

Glen Wilson, Treasurer

Board Members

Pamela Bolin, Gail Lapaz

Lloyd Dent, Bill Fox

Jennifer Krowne, Josue Toscano

Kathleen Edwards, Abigail Bailes

This meeting is noticed as Joint Board Meeting out of an abundance of caution with the Brown Act. The purpose is for these committees to meet and make recommendation to the full Board.

LEGALLY REQUIRED OFFICIAL POSTING: Please do not remove until AFTER above date and time.

PUBLIC INPUT AT NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETINGS: The public is requested to fill out a “Speaker Card” to address the Board on any item of the agenda prior to the Board taking action on an item. Comments from the public on Agenda items will be heard only when the respective item is being considered. Comments from the public on other matters not appearing on the Agenda that is within the Board’s subject matter jurisdiction will be heard during the Public Comment period. Public comment is limited to 2 minutes per speaker, unless waived or additionally restricted by the presiding officer of the Board.

The NWNC Agenda is posted for public review at, 9401 Reseda Blvd, in the clear box, to the left of the gate adjacent to the parking lot & posted on NWNC website www.northridgewest.org

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In compliance with Government Code section 54957.5, non-exempt writings that are distributed to a majority or all of the board in advance of a meeting may be viewed, at our website by clicking on the following link: www.northridgewest.org or at the scheduled meeting. If you need a copy of any record related to an item on the agenda, please contact Peter Lasky (via) email plasky@northridgewest.org

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1. Meeting Call to Order - Glen Wilson the Chair of NWNC Beautification Committee. Meeting called to order at 6:31. Meeting attendees included Board Members Glen Wilson, Peter Lasky, Kelly Sooter, Bill Fox, and Gail Lapaz, Committee Member Andrea Alvarado, and Stakeholder Randy Sanchez.
2. Introduction of Committee Members: Introduced new Beautification Board Members Kelly Sooter and Bill Fox.
3. Public Comments on non-agenda items: None
4. Brief recap of 2018-2019 Activity
 - Peter Lasky briefed the committee on past activity including a status of the Tampa median (drip system in the top 4 medians, wood chips, and horse topiary) as well as Operation Clean Sweep. Peter said that this is the first Beautification Committee meeting in past 15 months.
5. Current Project Status
 - Tampa median & Topiaries
 - Don Larson (NBF) is making enhancements to the current horse topiaries including:
 - Manes and tails are temporary and will be replaced with wire mesh that will allow the plants to fill in the shapes
 - Legs are left open so that the plant can grow. As it grows the legs will be shaped to allow for better skeletal definition
 - The topiaries are anchored in cement to allow for stability to withstand high winds.
 - The black container at the base of the legs are water pipes to allow for watering, (not the plant containers)
 - The ears are a little oversized to allow for growth. It will be less evident once the plant begins to adhere to the wire
 - Moving forward, adjustments to the nose and ears will be made to give more definition to the facial characteristics
 - Routine cleaning of the area such as removal of the yellow tape to keep it looking nice.
 - ⇒ Don Larson to provide status of the above enhancements
 - NWNC Operation Clean Ups

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- Chris Williams continues to manage this effort which takes place the last Thursday of every month.
 - Other projects
 - The Board requested an update from Don Larson (NBF) regarding the two NPGs he has received for Clean Streets, Clean Starts. Peter Lasky to follow up on status. (2017-2018 NPG for \$3k and 2019-2020 NPG for \$5k)
6. Tampa Median Discussion
- The Committee discussed potential new topiary structures. Additional ideas included adding various landscape around the horse topiaries as well as down the medians. Kelly Sooter referenced Canoga Ave as an example of rock and drought-resistant plants.
 - ⇒ Peter Lasky to follow up on potential landscaping ideas.
7. Potential New Projects or/and updates
- Gail Lopez presented a flyer to be distributed to stakeholders regarding LA Municipal Code 56.08 Ordinance No 182,778 stating that homeowners are responsible for keeping sidewalks and parkways clear of debris. The Committee provided feedback on the flyer and asked to hold and include as a part of a bigger Clean Streets plan being drafted
 - Kelly Sooter asked about on-going efforts to clean the major streets in NW boundary given the tremendous over-growth and lack of LA City support. Peter Lasky mentioned West Valley Alliance as a resource as well as the fact that previous funds from CD 12 had been set aside but went away when John Lee left office. Next Steps:
 - Kelly Sooter to work on Clean Streets plan to include potential options of how to maintain major streets and sidewalks year-round. This will include Gail's "Did You Know" flyer regarding Municipal Code 56.08, as well as key asks for John Lee.
 - Randy Sanchez suggested an "Adopt A Highway" type program that could encourage business / stakeholders to have a vested interest in the routine cleaning of sidewalks. Kelly will incorporate this idea into the plan recommendation.

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- Kelly Sooter mentioned the idea of creating a stakeholder friendly hiking and bike path extending Limekiln Canyon Trail south from Rinaldi to Devonshire behind the DWP building and wash basin. This could be a combination walking-bike path, picnic and recreation area. The tunnels that run under the freeway connecting to the upper Canyon Trail could be Murals from neighborhood artists.
 - Historical Site Signs: Pat LoPresti forwarded information regarding Historic Cultural Monument Site signs for the Oakridge Estates. The Beautification Committee agreed that this might be a consideration once the Estate construction and improvements were complete.
8. Committee Priorities
- The Committee agreed to move forward with investigating landscape ideas for the Tampa median as well as create a plan for Clean Streets.
9. Discussion and recommends for Beautification items to be on NWNC Sept. 10, 2019 general agenda: No items required for September General Board Meeting
10. Beautification Committee agreed to meet the last Monday in September at the same time: Monday, September 30th 6:30 – 8:00pm at Northridge Park Arts & Crafts room.
- *Need to confirm room availability*
11. Adjournment at 8:20