

**APPROVED**

**Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)  
General Public Board Meeting  
Tuesday, 10 April 2018  
Calahan Elementary School Auditorium  
18722 Knapp Street, Northridge 91324**

1. Call to order, roll call, and pledge of allegiance
- President Peter Lasky called the meeting to order at 6.23PM, welcomed over ten stakeholders, ten board members, and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Here (10)	Pamela Bolin, Lloyd Dent, Bill Fox, Jenni Heckscher, Greg Kromhout, Gail Lapaz, Peter Lasky, Jon Manuel, Colleen Pick, and Glen Wilson
Absent (1)	Jacalyn Williams
Resigned (1)	Mikkie Loi

2. Comments by Public Officials
- Matt Hernandez, Public Safety Field Deputy for CD12, is the liaison who advocates for the stakeholder’s behalf while interfacing with the Departments of Building, Safety, Transportation, as well as the LAFD, LAPD, etc.
  - In March, the city council’s Budget and Finance Committee approved Councilman Englander’s legislation to establish a seismic retrofit loan program for at-risk wood-framed properties.
  - Colleen Pick expressed concern about wayward shopping carts. It is recommended that one contact the council office. Via text, they will communicate with those who can oftentimes remove the carts within hours.
  - Saturday, April 21 will be the 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire (SOLID) All You Can Eat Pancake Breakfast beginning at 8AM for \$9/person, and the LAPD Devonshire Division’s Annual Open House beginning at 10AM. This will be held at 10250 Etiwanda Avenue. You will get to meet your Senior Lead Officers and tour the Devonshire Station. Additional information can be found on their website at <https://www.soliddevonshire.org/>.
  - Matt had two available tickets to SOLID’s pancake breakfast, and coordinated a trivia contest. Among the questions asked were “how many sub-committees are park of the NWNC?” (too complicated) and “which neighborhood council put on an outstanding town hall on Thursday, March 29?” (too obvious). The final trivia question was “What do you fill out to address the council?” The answer was “a speaker card”.
  - Jose Galdamez from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) reported the following:
    - Sunday, April 15 is the deadline for Neighborhood Councils to amend their bylaws.
    - The funding deadlines for this fiscal year (ending Saturday, June 30) is Sunday, May 20, with Wednesday, June 20, being the last day for credit card transactions.
    - In April, DONE will host Planning 101 Project Planning workshops; this training will provide an overview of the basic elements of planning, land use, and zoning. The valley classes will be as follows:

North Valley	South Valley
Monday, April 16	Monday, April 30
6PM to 8.30PM	6PM to 8.30PM

- Neighborhood Council Budget Advocate Deirdre Greenway reported that the advocates presented their white paper to Mayor Garcetti on Friday, March 9. This report includes three pages of recommendations, followed by reports of meetings with forty city departments, input from budget day meetings in January, etc. She gave a copy of this report to Peter Lasky and mentioned that this report can be seen on the advocate's website at <http://ncbala.com/>. This website also includes a stakeholder satisfactory survey, with an extended completion day of Monday, April 30.
  - For additional information, Deirdre can be reached at her CSUN office.
3. Guest speaker Francesca Vega from CSUN
- Francesca was unable to attend the meeting, so this agenda item is tabled.
    - Stakeholder Manon Gostian would have liked to ask Francesca about Plummer Street, a parking structure, and a multi-purpose events center.
4. Comments from stakeholders on non-agenda items.
- Budget Advocate Glen Bailey from the Northridge East Neighborhood Council (NENC) mentioned that the annual budget day would be held on Saturday, June 23, at city hall.
  - He thanked the NWNC for inviting the NENC to participate in the March 29<sup>th</sup> town hall; Glen was unable to attend as he was at an Empower LA event that evening.
  - The Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) would meet on Thursday, April 12 in Sherman Oaks. Many neighborhood councils have weighed in regarding proposed legislation SB827. This would require all areas within a ½-mile of a rail/transit stop, or within a ¼-mile of a bus stop, to allow building heights of four or eight stories (far higher than what many local zoning commissions allow). SB827 would also waive any parking requirements in those areas. VANC intends to issue a negative ruling on this.
  - VANC's Trees Committee will also make a presentation regarding the drought, sustainability alliance, sidewalk repair, and the relocation of parkway trees.
  - Realtor and YMCA volunteer Matt McPherson, who has enjoyed living [with his family] in Northridge for eighteen months, expressed interest in the available NWNC at-large position.
  - CSUN student Daniel is studying sustainability and reported that the water refill stations on campus, which encourages people to bring their own water containers, is 2,000% cheaper than bottled water. New York has a very good infrastructure for public water fountains and wondered if Northridge could improve their water system.
  - Peter Wei has lived here since he was four-years-old, and grew up not throwing anything away. He hopes to encourage kids towards agriculture and knowing where their food comes from. He feels that root morality should be discussed and is trying to reconcile Christianity with rationality. He would also like a music and arts festival here in Northridge.
5. Presidential Comments
- Peter Lasky was sad to report that Mikkie Loi (a great worker) has resigned. In June, the NWNC will lose Jon Manuel and Jenni Heckscher. Jon did a great job with the town hall meeting, as well as writing an article for the Valley Voice.

- Congratulations to the board for the great job everyone did at the March 29 town hall meeting.
  - The NWNC received a letter from landscape architect Robert Gutierrez addressed to the city's Office of Community Beautification; the proposed topiary has been approved.
  - Peter asked who is the most responsible element for how committees operate? President? Board? It was a trick question, as it is dependent upon the stakeholders. In accordance with the NWNC bylaws, a committee can have merely three board members, but it can have many stakeholders.
6. Discussion and motion to require all Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) Applicants to have a representative attend and speak for the proposed grant at the general board meeting where the board will vote on the grant
- Lloyd Dent mentioned that this allows for transparency, as well as the opportunity for board members and stakeholders to ask questions. He then made a motion to approve this agenda item; Jenni Heckscher seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
7. Discussion and motion to approve a recommendation by the Education Committee to approve the NPG of \$1,000 for the Oakridge Foundation for the planting of a large Oak Tree. This was approved in February but rejected by the City Clerk NC Funding Division because of an improper date
- Peter Lasky and Stakeholder Brian expressed concern about the date shown on the NPG.
  - Although there was no one from the Oakridge Foundation, Pamela Bolin requested that we vote on it anyway, as it was already approved in February.
  - Stakeholder Peter Wei asked about the source of the \$1k estimate; the Oakridge Foundation received several cost comparisons and determined that number was valid. A second presented opinion was not warranted.
  - Pamela Bolin made a motion to approve this agenda item, provided that the corrected NPG be returned to the NWNC within thirty days, by May 10; Lloyd Dent seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
8. Discussion and motion to approve a recommendation by the Education Committee of an NPG for \$3,000 for the Northridge Beautification Foundation for the purpose of cleaning and improving areas to be determined by the board such as Devonshire Street, Tampa Avenue, or other busy and highly visible through fares in our boundaries
- Don Larson would like to focus on Reseda Boulevard, from Nordhoff to Devonshire Streets.
  - Stakeholder Peter Wei asked for the budget breakdown.

Expense			Totals
Each worker receives	\$ 5.00	Breakfast	\$ 33.50
	25.00	Vons Gift Card	
	3.50	Transportation	
X		7 workers	234.50
X		Twice a week	469.00
For Six weeks			2,814.00

- After their clean-up activities, the "navigator" helps the homeless get jobs and housing.
- Don originally requested \$5k for this program. Jon Manuel added that with this \$3k, NWNC would have granted \$7k to the Clean Streets program during this fiscal year, which is nearly 17% of the annual budget.
- Colleen Pick and Bill Fox are 100% in support of this as Don is a known entity and the money stays in Northridge.

- Bill Fox made a motion to approve this NPG expenditure; Colleen Pick seconded the motion, and it passed:

Aye (7)	Dent, Fox, Kromhout, Lapaz, Lasky, Pick, and Wilson
No (2)	Heckscher and Manuel
Abstain (1)	Bolin
Absent (1)	Williams

9. Discussion and motion to approve filing a Community Interest Statement (CIS) regarding CF 11-1705 regarding the proposed recommendation by the City PLUM Committee vs. the changes requested by the City Planning Commission. This subject was discussed by Patrick Frank at the March Meeting

- Jon Manuel recused himself.
- Patrick Frank, President of the Coalition to Ban Billboard Blight, reminded everyone that B+ is the City Planning Commission’s version of this council file. This is far more regulatory than the version written by the billboard companies.
- A stakeholder mentioned that the agenda was not specific about CF11-1705.
- Lloyd Dent requested the definition of a billboard; Patrick replied that the billboard is a structure, whereas baseball fields and parks have signs. This ruling will not regulate someone’s yard sign(s).
- Bill Fox made a motion to approve this CIS; Greg Kromhout seconded the motion, and it passed.

Aye (9)	Bolin, Dent, Fox, Heckscher, Kromhout, Lapaz, Lasky, Pick, and Wilson
Recused (1)	Manuel
Absent (1)	Williams

10. Discussion and motion to appoint one or two Resiliency Liaisons; stakeholders and board members are eligible for appointment

- Glen Bailey mentioned that the resiliency team will discuss what to do in the case of a natural or manmade disaster and what the city can do to make certain that the city and its infrastructure are back up and running. The resiliency liaison(s) from each council could work alongside the emergency preparedness liaison to develop a neighborhood plan by 2019, including identification of community centers for distribution of emergency supplies.
- Deirdre Greenway and Gail Lapaz added that the homeless population has greatly expanded since the last disaster of January 1994.
- Pamela Bolin volunteered to serve as NWNC’s resiliency liaison. In addition, Stakeholder Peter Wei volunteered to serve (he may be reached at 818-395-8329 or Peterwei98@gmail.com).
- Peter Lasky made a motion for Pamela Bolin and Peter Wei to serve as NWNC’s resiliency liaisons; Bill Fox seconded the motion, and it passed.

Aye (8)	Bolin, Dent, Fox, Heckscher, Kromhout, Lasky, Manuel, and Wilson
Abstain (1)	Lapaz
No (1)	Pick
Absent (1)	Williams

11. Discussion and motion to approve a recommendation of the Executive Committee of \$500 for the funding of the Empower LA Awards

- Pamela Bolin made a motion to approve this expenditure for a catered dinner at city hall; Bill Fox seconded the motion, and it passed.

Aye (7)	Bolin, Fox, Heckscher, Kromhout, Lapaz, Lasky, and Wilson
No (3)	Dent, Manuel, and Pick

Absent (1)	Williams
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- 12. Discussion and motion from the NWNC Public Land Use and Zoning (PLUZ) Committee for approval of the LA City Department of City Planning Case ZA 2017-4907-CUP: Application for Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for the off-site sale of beer and wine within the existing building at 18855 Nordhoff Street, Northridge 91324. The building is an Arco gas station and mini-mart on the corner of Wilbur Avenue. The request is for an extension of hours for the sale of alcoholic beverages
  - Arco’s current hours are via a CUP that has been in place for a number of years; this will extend their sale of alcohol until midnight. Arco provided a letter from the LAPD approving this CUP.
  - Gail Lapaz made a motion to approve this CUP application; Lloyd Dent seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

- 13. Treasurer’s Report and approval of the March Monthly Expenditure Report (MER)
  - Hard copies of the paperwork were unavailable; hence this agenda item was tabled.

- 14. Discussion and motion to approve the February MER
  - Treasurer Jenni Heckscher reported that the remaining NWNC budget is just over \$17k. NWNC’s pending NPGs (which have not yet been received) are as follows:

<b>Potential Recipient</b>	<b>Approximately Amount</b>
Disaster Preparedness Fair	\$850
Senior Dance	\$500
Calahan School	\$2,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<u><u>\$3,350</u></u>

- Bill Fox made a motion to approve this MER; Pamela Bolin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- 15. Committee re-assignments and additions of people to committees
  - This agenda item was tabled, pending asking Mikkie Loi if she could serve as a non-board member of a committee.
- 16. Discussion and motion to approve the minutes from the March Meeting
  - Jon Manuel made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes (pending corrections to the special meeting minutes); Greg Kromhout seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
- 17. Reports by Liaisons and Budget Representatives
  - The most recent Northridge Vision meeting discussed the following:
    - Dealing with Lime Bike
    - Trash Busters has received funding to work at the library
    - Saturday, May 12, at 6.30PM will be the unveiling of Roger Dolin’s Stampede Mural, highlighting the history of Northridge, at the Catalina Paint Store, 8814 Reseda Boulevard.
- 18. Reports by Committee Chairs
  - Homeless Liaison Gail Lapaz thanked everyone who volunteered for Councilman Englander’s April 4 Homeless Connect event. She is also working alongside the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) for the Northridge Sparkle clean up tasks.

- Jon Manuel from the Outreach Committee was very pleased with the March 29 town hall event. Saturday, April 14, the NWNC's Outreach Committee will join the PRNC for a clean-up event. The community Earth Day Celebration at the Holleigh Bernson Memorial Park, 20500 Sesnon Boulevard, will follow this. Saturday, April 21, NWNC's Outreach Committee will join the North Valley YMCA for clean-up activities at the Limekiln Park. Volunteers are welcome to join them at 8.30AM at the In Christ Community Church, 19514 Rinaldi Street.
- Lloyd Dent mentioned that there would not be a Land Use meeting in April; their May meeting will include discussion regarding the Monkey Sports Gym at 19500 Plummer Street.
- Glen Wilson reported that the Beautification Committee has nothing scheduled.
- Pam Bolin reported that the Education Committee would meet on Tuesday, April 24 (the same evening as the Executive Committee meeting).

19. Comments by Board Members on non-related issues to this meeting

- Peter Lasky reported that in June, DONE will run the NWNC Executive Committee elections for their five officers. President Peter, Vice President Jon Manuel, and Treasurer Jenni Heckscher will not run for re-election. Colleen Pick may not run for secretary.
- Lloyd reported that a draft proposal from a CSUN student, discussing solar generating panels upon public buildings (such as libraries and schools), was distributed. However this is on hold, as it was merely a draft proposal and a May meeting speaker had already been chosen.

20. Adjournment

- Peter Lasky made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8.15PM; Pamela Bolin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.