

APPROVED  
 Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)  
 General Public Board Meeting  
 Tuesday, 11 December 2018  
 Northridge Christian Church  
 18901 Chatsworth Street, Northridge 91326

1. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Pledge of Allegiance

- Vice President [Administration] Greg called the meeting to order at 6.30PM, welcomed thirteen stakeholders, eight board members, and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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| Here (8)   | Lloyd Dent, Alma Fernandez, Bill Fox, Greg Kromhout, Gail Lapaz, Peter Lasky, Matt McPherson, and Glen Wilson |
| Absent (1) | Pamela Bolin  |

2. Comments by Public Officials

- Jose Galdamez from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) reported the following:
  - DONE and the Bureau of Neighborhood Council (BONC) is seeking nominations for awards. The city will present Vanguard awards to city employees who go above and beyond their job duties.
  - With many neighborhood councils planning NPGs and holiday celebrations, Jose asked that all council approval forms be accurately submitted to the city clerk’s office in a timely manner.
  - DONE is currently verifying election locations in preparation for the spring 2019 elections.
  - DONE will sponsor several upcoming election workshops for prospective neighborhood council candidates (especially women). The valley workshops will be held on Saturdays, January 19 and February 2, 1PM to 3PM. The Central and East areas of the city will host workshops on January 5 and 12 and there will be training at downtown’s city hall in March.
  - Monday evening, December 10, there was an outreach event held near city hall; they discussed neighborhood councils teaming with others to discuss potential voting locations, etc.
  - Saturday, January 12, from 10AM until noon, DONE, funding representatives, and the Reseda Neighborhood Council will sponsor a Funding Round Table (including discussing Community Improvement Projects (CIP)) at 18118 Sherman Way, Reseda.
  - Saturday, January 19, each neighborhood council should submit an election checklist, including their outreach goals, confirmation of which board seats are available, the mandatory qualifications for each available position (per the bylaws), etc.
  
- Someone from Congressman Brad Sherman’s office mentioned that they would host a town hall meeting on Saturday, January 19, at 2PM at Chatsworth Charter High School, 10027 Lurline Avenue. If anyone has any issues with the federal government (such as the Veteran’s Administration, Social Security, etc.), please contact their office. They also had combs and copies of the US Constitution available.

3. Comments from stakeholders on non-agenda items

- Mikkie Loi thanked the volunteers who serve on the NWNC, but was concerned that the NWNC has not held an executive committee for several months. Peter agreed that these meetings are very useful as the executive committee establishes the agendas, but they cannot meet within a certain time range of the meeting. As Pam is frequently very busy working past 6PM, it is often difficult for her to schedule these committee meetings.
- DONE told NWNC that the Executive Committee meetings may violate the by-laws, because they frequently have five (or more) board members in attendance.

- Matt mentioned that he and Greg could meet, and with merely the two of them, that could serve as an executive committee meeting.
- Mikkie added that the Devonshire and West Valley Divisions of the LAPD would host a Community Police Academy for eight consecutive Thursdays, beginning at 6PM on January 31 at the West Valley Station, 19020 Vanowen Street, Reseda. People are urged to register ASAP, as seats are limited for this worthwhile law enforcement training. For additional information and an application, please email the LAPD at [ovbcomm@lapd.online](mailto:ovbcomm@lapd.online).
- Someone asked about Councilman Mitchell Englander; it is unknown what will happen after his resignation becomes effective January 1. Peter will attend the CD12 breakfast on Thursday, December 13; perhaps he may learn more.
- Dr. Loraine Lundquist and Glenn Bailey from the Northridge East Neighborhood Council (NENC) mentioned an evening event on Thursday, January 17 on the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 1994 earthquake. The LADWP, SoCal Gas, Community Emergency Response Teams (CERT), and the Valley Disaster Preparedness Team and others are interested in participating in this event at the Northridge Women's Club, 18401 Lassen Street.
- Glenn also mentioned that Thursday, March 14<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6PM would be the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) mixer at the CBS Studios, 4024 Radford Street, Studio City. The NWNC already contributed to this event, and will have their name on a banner as well as within the program.
- It was recently learned that the Northridge Park's Recreation Center at 18300 Lemarsh Street would not be available for the May 4<sup>th</sup> election. Other potential locations may be the Devonshire House at 18200 Lemarsh Street and the park's Child Care Center. It is unknown if these sites have the mandatory handicapped accessibility.
- NENC board member Dr. Loraine Lundquist mentioned that she is a candidate for the city council seat vacated by Mitchell Englander. She is a community advocate, sustainability committee member, and a professor at CSUN.
- She looks forward to providing exceptional city services and making certain the streets are paved and the potholes are filled.
- She was originally an astrophysicist; since becoming a mom (and foster parent) her passion is environmental issues and homelessness solutions. In addition to her duties with the NENC, she is also a member of the West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness (WVNAH). The WVNAH will meet in Granada Hills in February, whereupon she will advocate for getting our homeless off the streets and into housing.
- Public Affairs Manager David Mesa from SoCal Gas mentioned that they would host an open house on Wednesday, December 12, beginning at 4PM at their facility at 9400 Oakdale Avenue, Chatsworth. This meeting was postponed from Wednesday, November 14 due to the fires. The engineers who operate the Aliso Canyon Gas Storage Facility will be in attendance to answer questions. David looks forward to hosting an open house at their Aliso Canyon facility. In the meantime, David will provide updates at future monthly NWNC meetings.
- Marcy Orkin, Treasurer of the Friends of the Northridge Library, 9051 Darby Avenue, mentioned that they recently received multiple Great Courses videos (covering math, physics, photography, etc.). Although valued at \$500/each, they were acquired [thanks to a generous grant from SoCal Gas, NENC, NWNC, and others] for merely \$50/each. These DVDs are not on the LAPD catalogue, but available at the library's checkout desk.

- Stakeholder Ken Ross would like to meet with someone who knows about legislation and police protocol. In an effort to improve relations between blacks, latinos, and the LAPD, he would like to change the protocol so that when a police officer draws a side arm, the officer will aim their weapon below the waist of their assailant.
- NWNC board member Gail wondered if the NWNC logo is registered; there was no resolution of this issue.

4. Acting Presidential comments

- Greg mentioned the following:
  - As a follow up from the November meeting, Lloyd drafted a letter regarding the NWNC’s request for a special election to replace Councilman Englander; this letter was sent on Thursday, December 6.
  - In addition, a letter has been drafted, requesting that the city not increase the speed limit along Wilbur Avenue.
  - Greg also expressed concern that the doors here at the Northridge Christian Church are chained; this could be a severe safety hazard. Peter offered to discuss this issue with his contact here at the church.

5. Presentation from LA Parks Foundation then discussion and motion to approve NPG for Salute to Recreation Family Festival featuring a Hawaiian Village, Senior Dinner and Dance, etc. at Northridge Park from May 31 to June 2, 2019 including Community Booth and Senior Dinner and Dance (NWNC Senior approved tonight or later) with funding to go to LA Parks Foundation of \$2,000. Funding from NPG Budget.

- LA Parks Foundation Director Jasmine mentioned that this would be the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Salute to Recreation Family Festival at the Northridge Park, attracts 25,000 to 30,000 people each year.
- Friday night, the Senior Dinner and Dance will include an award to the area’s Senior of the Year.
- In addition to Hawaiian dance presentations, the festival will include tennis and volleyball championships.
- Saturday night, the 2019 Festival will include a ten-minute fireworks show (which was omitted from the 2018 festival).
- For their support of this annual event, the NWNC will receive a booth, signage, and publicity within the program; the NENC has already committed \$2,000. The Northridge South Neighborhood Council will discuss this at their January meeting.
- Stakeholder Brian feels this is an important event, and he looks forward to the fireworks. He believes the NWNC could skip the committee process to discuss this issue.
- Peter Lasky made a motion to table this agenda item until January as this should first be discussed by the Education Committee; Lloyd Dent seconded the motion, and yet it did not pass:

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| Aye (3)    | Dent, Fernandez, and Lasky                  |
| No (5)     | Fox, Kromhout, Lapaz, McPherson, and Wilson |
| Absent (1) | Bolin                                       |

- Matt McPherson made a motion to approve up to \$2,000 for this NPG expenditure; Bill Fox seconded the motion, and it passed:

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| Aye (6)     | Fox, Kromhout, Lapaz, Lasky, McPherson, and Wilson |
| Abstain (2) | Dent and Fernandez                                 |
| Absent (1)  | Bolin  |

6. Presentation by Ariel Gutierrez in the process of applying for a Conditional Use Permit (CUP) for Beer and Wine sales in an existing restaurant at 9350 Corbin Ave. as Las Dunas Peruvian Cuisine with Q/A and NWNC discussion and motion to support the restaurant on adding beer and wine sales for CUP.
  - The NWNC asked Ariel to present to the Planning, Land Use, and Zoning Committee (PLUZC) so they could make a recommendation to the NWNC, but she has not yet appeared before the PLUZC.
  - Hence, this agenda item was tabled.
7. Break for holiday mixer and get to how your NWNC Board members plus NWNC currently has board seats open for At-Large 5 (2019), At-Large 6 (2019), At-Large 11 (2021) and Community Interest Stakeholder 2 (2021).
  - This agenda item was waived.
8. Discussion and motion to approve the November 2018 minutes
  - There was a concern regarding whether Reseda Boulevard would be included in the potential increase of the speed limit. It was agreed that this could be resolved away from the meeting.
  - Matt McPherson made a motion to approve the November minutes; Bill Fox seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
9. Discussion and motion to approve the November 2018 Monthly Expense Report (MER)
  - A copy of this MER was not available for distribution at the meeting.
  - Greg Kromhout made a motion to table this agenda item; Peter Lasky seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
10. Reports by Liaisons and NC Budget Advocate Reports
  - Saturday, November 17, Peter and Gail attended a tour of the Winnetka Village Permanent Supportive Housing Facility on Sherman Way; they were blown away by the beautiful facility which houses people over age 65.
  - A temporary housing facility in Venice recently received its approval.
  - Gail also attended a recent meeting of the WVNAAH; twenty-one facilitators (including the police) were there to answer questions.
  - CD12 will host a Homelessness Connect Day on Thursday, January 17 at the Freedom Church, 9200 Owensmouth Avenue, Chatsworth. There will be haircuts, showers, food, and the opportunity to meet with representatives of the Veteran's Administration, Social Security, DMV (for their ID cards), etc. CD12 would appreciate any and all voluntary assistance.
  - Budget Advocate Glenn Bailey mentioned that survey/report cards were distributed to neighborhood council board members and stakeholders; it is recommended that councils include these surveys on their websites (and via an email blast). A link to the survey can also be found at the budget advocates website at <http://ncbala.com>.
  - The budget advocate's meeting with Mayor Garcetti may be moved up to January (they usually meeting in March).
  - Saturday, June 29 will be the annual budget day at city hall; all neighborhood council board members and stakeholders are invited. If anyone is unavailable to attend, the meeting may be broadcast on LA's Cityview Channel 35.
11. Reports by committee chairs
  - Alma will host an education committee meeting prior to the next meeting.
  - Glen hopes to convene a meeting of the election committee prior to the January NWNC meeting.

- Matt attended the outreach event near city hall the previous evening. There was plenty of delicious food and beverages. The primary focus of the meeting was the upcoming election. Attendees received posters that may be posted throughout the area, including the library and Northridge Recreation Center.
  - Lloyd mentioned that the PLUZC is awaiting the filing of paperwork for the Las Dunas Restaurant. The committee should meet, but it is difficult to schedule during the holidays. They may meet on Thursday, January 3.
12. NWNC Election will be on Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 10AM to 2PM and the NWNC candidate's filing period is January 19 to February 19. NWNC Election Chair is Glen Wilson with any updates plus Q/A.
- The location of this election remains undecided. It could be a park or school, but the location has not yet gone through the permit process.
  - A postcard, to be sent in January, will serve as the first mailer to get people thinking about candidate registrations and the election. A few members of the NWNC expressed concern that in previous elections, the postcard was sent in December.
  - Glenn Bailey mentioned that in previous elections, one elections administrator would oversee a region; in 2019, a region may have multiple administrators who could cover different areas throughout the city.
  - Chris Garcia is in charge of the citywide neighborhood council elections; Glenn Bailey recommended cc:ing Chris on any email correspondence to the NWNC elections administrator.
13. The Bureau of Street Services scheduled a Small Asphalt Repairs (SAR) truck for the NWNC District to perform small asphalt repairs on January 24. NWNC can submit up to fifteen nominations for consideration. Please email your location(s) to Glen Wilson at [gwilson@northridgewest.org](mailto:gwilson@northridgewest.org) by January 9, to be on NWNC Small Asphalt Repairs list.
- Glen reported that the city's Bureau of Street Services would focus on small asphalt repair of streets; they may not do much regarding sidewalks and other surfaces.
14. Comments by board members on non-related issues to this meeting
- Bill suggested that perhaps the NWNC could do something nice for the Northridge Christian Church to thank them for hosting our meetings. Perhaps we could send a card signed by everyone on the NWNC? Peter added that he asked the church what they could do to thank them; the church had some ideas, but their suggestions would not be legal for the NWNC. Peter asked the church to suggest other ideas.
  - Peter also recommended that attendees thank Pam Bolin for this evening's food. In addition, Peter and Pam requested that we do a great job of cleaning the room, so we can remain here and stay in the good graces of the church. Peter also thanked Mikkie Loi for suggesting a meeting of the Executive Committee.
  - Alma reported that the LAUSD schools return from the holiday break on Monday, January 7. The teachers may strike on Wednesday, January 16. She suggested that people attend a rally and march (to be held downtown on Saturday, December 15<sup>th</sup>) to support the teachers. The teachers are advocating for reduced class size and for each school to have a nurse. If the teachers strike, the unionized substitute teachers will not cross the picket line. Kids will still go to school; each school may be granted two credentialized over-seers from the LAUSD headquarters that will monitor the kids in the auditorium.
15. Adjournment
- Greg adjourned the meeting at 8.05PM.