

Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)
 General Public Board Meeting
 Tuesday, 12 March 2019
 Northridge Christian Church (NCC)
 18901 Chatsworth Street, Northridge 91326

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

- President Pam Bolin called the meeting to order at 6.35PM, welcomed over twenty-five stakeholders, nine board members, and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

2. Comments by Public Officials

- Jose Galdamez from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) reported the following:
 - Wednesday, March 20, there will be in-person ethics training at City Hall East beginning at 6.30PM.
 - Thursday, March 28, from 6PM to 9PM will be the EmpowerLA Awards Ceremony and Dinner at City Hall. Online RSVP is available at the EmpowerLA’s website. The Bureau of Neighborhood Councils will present awards to:
 - City employees who exemplify excellence in their assignments,
 - Individuals who participated in civic engagement projects, as well as
 - One neighborhood council will receive the top honor.
 - The NWNC elections will be held on Saturday, May 4, at the Nobel Charter Middle School. Voting stakeholders must provide proof of eligibility or residency.
 - Ms. Martina Diaz (from the Sylmar Neighborhood Council) is the newest commissioner of the North Valley Planning Commission.
- Matt Hernandez from CD12 was unable to attend this evening’s NWNC meeting.

3. Comments from stakeholders on non-agenda items

- Jay Beeper, Vice President of the North Hills West Neighborhood Council (NHWNC) is running for CD12 to bring common sense solutions to the city’s problems. He worked very hard to:
 - Repair the city’s flawed red light camera program (saving the city over \$200m)
 - Led the reform of LA’s parking policies, including permitting street parking after the cleaners passed
 - Returned parking meter funds to the communities
 - Protected single-family neighborhoods from encroachment
 - Advocated enforcement of proper, natural speed limits. Wider streets with medians have a higher speed limit, whereas tree-lined streets have lower limits
- Sean Dinse is also one of the sixteen candidates running for CD12. He grew up in Northridge and now lives in West Hills. He has been fighting crime with the LAPD for over twenty years, having served these past ten years as Senior Lead Officer (SLO) for the Topanga Division. Based on his LAPD career, he has a deep understanding of homelessness, including drug addiction and mental health issues. He is also very concerned about the Aliso Canyon blowout and Sunshine Canyon landfill.

- Alejandra from CSUN's Strength United mentioned that they provide free mental health services to victims of sexual assault. They recently applied for a LA Department of Transportation (DOT) grant for the DOT's artists to paint a street mural at the intersection of Nordhoff Street and Reseda Boulevard.
- Glenn Bailey, from the Northridge East Neighborhood Council (NENC) mentioned that many CD12 candidates would attend the upcoming Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) mixer on Thursday evening, March 14, at the CBS Studios, Studio City. He urged NWNC board members to bring their banner for display.
- In the 1860s, LA was connected to San Francisco via stagecoach; in support of this, there was a trail developed between Chatsworth and Simi Valley. Sunday, March 17, the Native Daughters of the Golden West will sponsor four hikes (of various abilities) in this area to celebrate their anniversary.

4. Presidential Comments

- Pam thanked everyone for coming.
- She recently discussed Tampa Avenue tree trimming with interim Councilman Greig Smith. CD12 may fund this tree trimming in the next fiscal year.

5. Appointment by President to fill one at-large seat and/or one Community Interest Stakeholder seat and subject to NWNC Board approval for NWNC Terms ending in 2021.

- This agenda item was tabled as the NWNC cannot make such announcements within sixty-days of an election.

6. Guest Speakers are LAPD SLOs John Parker and Patti Peteque who will do updates on speed limits on Wilbur Avenue between Tampa Avenue (Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) area) and Devonshire Street (NWNC area) from 40 to 45 mph plus other topics like worst intersection, homicides and other items with Q/A.

- SLO Peteque has been with the LAPD for 25-years and SLO Parker has been with the LAPD for 17-years. They distributed a map and flyer referencing statistics, neighborhood watch meetings, and social media access points (including the new Devonshire LAPD app).
- Three people were recently victims of a Porter Ranch homicide. This was not a random act; it was an isolated incident whereupon the individuals probably knew their killer. The robbery/homicide division [out of downtown] is handling this crime, and the Devonshire LAPD cannot disclose any additional information for fear of compromising the investigation.
- The LAPD is concerned about the speed limit increase along Wilbur and Tampa Avenues. A traffic flow survey was conducted; it determined that 85% of the drivers in this 40-mph zone were driving in excess of 47-mph. This resulted in an increase to 45-mph. A stakeholder expressed disappointment that the speeders broke the law and yet the LAPD let them get away with this. Officers Parker and Peteque agreed with the stakeholder. Gail Lapaz reminded everyone that the NWNC wrote a Community Impact Statement in November opposing the increase of the Wilbur Avenue speed limit.
- Glenn Bailey added that seven years ago, he was involved in the similar speed limit issue along Zelzah Avenue, when it was increased from 35 to 40-mph. Although this is next to multiple schools, churches, and the university, this has now increased to 45-mph. When Zelzah Avenue's speed limit increased, the LAPD promised more patrol. However, this area continues to have insufficient patrol. This 85% regulation is a state rule, often applying to small towns. However, Glenn does not feel this 85% rule is appropriate for LA and should be altered.
- As the LAPD's resources are very stretched, a volunteer patrol is radar-trained. These volunteers photograph the license plates, determine the owner and their address, and then the LAPD may visit the drivers.
- It was discussed that folks making left turns against oncoming traffic cause the most traffic accidents.

- Stakeholder Andrew Krowne expressed concern about the corner of Wilbur Avenue and Rinaldi Street.
 - Peter Lasky congratulated Patti on her recent Pioneer Woman of the Year award and urged the LAPD to attend more NWNC meetings. Patti said that she would very much like to attend more NWNC meetings, but the LAPD is already stretched very thin, especially with multiple retirees.
 - Patti added that Captain Katie Burns would be the new commanding officer of the LAPD/Devonshire.
 - Wednesday, March 27, beginning at 6PM, the LAPD will host a Community Town Hall at the AGBU Manoogian Demirdjian School, 6844 Oakdale Avenue. Topics will include:
 - Crime trends and prevention,
 - Homelessness,
 - Quality of life issues, and
 - Community engagement
 - Officer Parker mentioned that the intersection of Devonshire Street and Reseda Boulevard is one of the most dangerous intersections in the USA. This report took into consideration the multiple shopping centers are this corner.
 - Lloyd Dent told the story of a friend who stays at home due to fear of crime; SLO Sean from Topanga expressed concern for Lloyd's friend.
7. Discussion and motion to approve a Neighborhood Purposes Grant (NPG) to Southern California Preparedness Foundation for up to \$1,000 in support of the 12th Annual Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair to be held on Saturday, October 12
- SLO Sean reminded everyone to prepare for the big earthquake. Pam urged people to have their gas tanks 50% full and have cash and shoes nearby.
 - Bill Fox made a motion to approve this expenditure; Matt McPherson seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
8. Discussion and motion for NWNC be on West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness (WVNAH) with speaker Stephanie Mills from NENC.
- The WVNAH hosted an information fair for the public at the Granada Hills Charter High School on Saturday, February 16. A similar event will be at Chatsworth High School on Saturday, March 30 from 1PM to 3PM.
 - Gail Lapaz thought the NWNC was already a member of the WVNAH, however membership will require a vote.
 - Peter Lasky made a motion to approve WVNAH membership; Rana Sharif seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
9. Discussion and presentation by Dave Brown from NHWNC to set up a sound system for our consideration for future board meetings. He would also like to speak to our needs and budget
- Mr. Brown was unable to attend this evening's meeting and this agenda item was tabled.
10. Discussion and motion to approve up to \$800 for the purchase of Outdoor Signs to place on the Tampa Median. The signs will be 36" x 24" similar to the ones previously purchased for the drip system. The signs might say something like: Topiary Provided by NWNC and contain our logo and website. The purpose of the signs is to notify the community that NWNC paid for the design and installation of the topiary. The previous signs proved helpful in publicizing the council and are seen by approximately 50,000 cars a day.
- Bill Fox showed the March 1st edition of the Daily News that an article (on page 3) of this topiary. The Community Newsletter also featured a cover article.
 - When Peter Lasky first came to the NWNC, he knocked on over 200 doors and spoke with fifty people, yet merely three residents were familiar with the NWNC (and they were former NWNC board members). After installing this signage referencing the topiary and drip system, this has

brought additional potential board members to the NWNC meetings. Peter introduced three prospective candidates for the upcoming NWNC elections.

- Bill Fox made a motion to approve this expenditure; Rana Sharif seconded the motion, and it passed:

Aye (7)	Bolin, Dent, Fox, Lasky, McPherson, Sharif, and Wilson
Abstain (1)	Lapaz
Absent (1)	Fernandez

11. Discussion, presentation and motion to approve NPG for \$2,500 to Northridge Hospital Foundation (NHF) for Center for Assault Treatment Services (CATS) on 16th Annual Victory for Victims Walk/Fun 2019.

- This agenda item was tabled, as no one from the NHF was present.
- Glenn Bailey mentioned that the NHF submitted NPGs to multiple neighborhood councils. He noticed that question 7 on the application is incomplete, and urged the NWNC to watch out for this form.

12. Presentation by Sarah Chang, discussion and motion to support Crosswalk Mural Traffic Safety Initiative "The Mary Project", which I am super, excited to partner up with Arts Bridging The Gap for traffic Safety Workshops, for the LADOT's People Street Initiative, and share our enthusiasm for the pre-approval of the intersection Reseda and Devonshire in your district by LADOT.

- Artist Sarah mentioned that this project [which will include geometric shapes] is competing with CSUN's Strength United for mural funds.
- A stakeholder mentioned that they did similar painting in Mar Vista, but they wore off in three days. Sarah replied that the DOT's only currently supported crosswalk is in front of the Broad Museum, downtown and the city provides maintenance for a year.
- Glenn Bailey mentioned that this would be on all four sides of the intersection of Reseda Boulevard and Devonshire Street. Hence, this mural will also be addressed by the NENC.
- Gail Lapaz made a motion to approve this expenditure; Matt McPherson seconded the motion, and it passed:

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

13. Discussion and motion to approve the February 2019 minutes

- Rana mentioned a correction in agenda item 3. It was mentioned that she had a recent "position"; she actually had an "affiliation".
- Rana Sharif made a motion to approve the February minutes; Gail Lapaz seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

14. Discussion and motion to approve the February 2019 Monthly Expense Report (MER)

- The following General Operations Expenditures were incurred in February:

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
January 28	C&M Printing	NWNC Postcard Mailers	\$4,433.45
February 9	Western Bagel	Meeting Food	114.00
February 19	Moore Business Results	Communications Services	200.00
		Total	<u>\$4,747.45</u>

- PRNC treasurer Andrew Krowne mentioned that there appeared to be a great deal of money leftover and wondered if there were any anticipated expenditures for the remainder of the fiscal year. The reply was negative, as nothing had yet been approved by the NWNC.
- Bill Fox made a motion to approve the February MER; Pam Bolin seconded the motion, and it passed.

Aye (7)	Bolin, Dent, Fox, Lapaz, Lasky, McPherson, and Wilson
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Ineligible (1)	Sharif
Absent (1)	Fernandez

15. The NWNC is looking to have a retreat after the May 4th election. We were planning on perhaps Saturday in late May or early June 2019 with funding up to \$300.

- Saturday, June 8, may be the most convenient date for Jose Galdamez from DONE to attend this retreat.
- Bill Fox made a motion to hold the NWNC retreat on Saturday, June 8, or as close to that date as practical; Peter Lasky seconded the motion, and it passed.

Aye (6)	Bolin, Dent, Fox, Lapaz, Lasky, and Wilson
Abstain (1)	McPherson
Ineligible (1)	Sharif
Absent (1)	Fernandez

16. Discussion and motion to approve on having second NWNC Election mailer (may cost up to \$5,000) with added amount up to \$1,500 added to NWNC Election fund it from other(s) NWNC Budget allotments from current NWNC Budget

- The first mailer alerted people of the upcoming election.
- This second postcard will notify the stakeholders of the eight candidates for six board seats, and that the Nobel School will serve as the voting location.
- Andrew Krowne urged the NWNC not to do these expensive postcards. Pam felt it was effective as there were currently three stakeholders in attendance due to the first round of postcards.
- Peter Lasky made a motion to spend up to \$5,000 for these election postcards; Pam Bolin seconded the motion, and it passed.

Aye (5)	Bolin, Dent, Fox, Lasky, and Wilson
Abstain (1)	Lapaz
Ineligible (1)	Sharif
No (1)	McPherson
Absent (1)	Fernandez

17. Discussion and motion to change NWNC 2018-19 Budget allotment of NWNC Budget items because of funding items above

- This agenda item may not be necessary, as office expenditures [include elections and outreach] are in one category.
- Andrew Krowne suggested taking this from the NPG account, as that category has excessive funds.
- Peter Lasky made a motion to move \$1,500 from the NPG portion of the budget to Elections; Bill Fox seconded the motion, and it passed.

Aye (6)	Bolin, Dent, Fox, Lapaz, Lasky, and Wilson
Abstain (1)	McPherson
Ineligible (1)	Sharif
Absent (1)	Fernandez

18. Reports by Liaisons and NC Budget Advocate Reports

- Gail reported that beginning at 10AM on Saturday, March 30, there would be a tour of Winnetka's Supportive Housing Facility along Sherman Way. Many of the folks residing in that community are disabled and/or veterans aged 55+. SLO Sean urged the attendees to discuss potential criminal activity in that community.

- Earlier this month, Gail attended the forum of the WVNAH as a follow-up to their February 16th Public meeting at Granada Hills Charter High School.
- Gail also expressed concern that the Beautification Committee is not adequately funded with rakes, brooms, trashcans, etc. Pam urged Gail to write a funding request.
- Matt mentioned that he coordinated nametags for the NWNC.
- Peter mentioned that the beautification efforts along Tampa Avenue, including the new metal statuettes, colorful mulch, and landscaping, might be further discussed at the NWNC's April meeting.
- Glen reported that the Finance Committee might meet in the next month.
- Lloyd mentioned that [following Greg Kromhout's resignation] he needs another member of the Land Use and Zoning Committee.
- Budget Advocate Glenn Bailey is one of three advocates for region two.
- Thursday, March 14, they are scheduled to have a one-hour meeting with Mayor Garcetti. Regretfully, this hour will be insufficient time for an in-depth discussion of the submitted white paper. After that meeting, this white paper report will be released online, as well as a paper copy given to each neighborhood council.
- Saturday, April 20, Mayor Garcetti will release his budget.
- The city's annual Budget Day will be Saturday, June 29, at downtown's city hall. Neighborhood council board members and stakeholders are welcome. Each neighborhood council must elect two budget representatives by that date; these representatives may be chosen during the June 8th retreat. Otherwise, the default budget representatives will be the president and treasurer.

19. Reports by committee chairs

- Last week, Gail Lapaz had dinner with State Senator Scott Wiener [who represents the bay area]; they had a very worthwhile discussion about San Francisco, where the homelessness crisis exceeds LA's.

20. NWNC Election will be on May 4 from 10AM to 2PM with Glen Wilson on updates plus Q/A. Go to <https://empowerla.org/elections/> for NWNC Election, location and other information

- Pam mentioned that the May 4th Election would be held at the Nobel Charter Middle School, at the northeast corner of Lassen Street and Tampa Avenue. Additional information can be found at the empowerla.com website.

21. Comments by board members on non-related issues to this meeting

- Pam mentioned that the fiscal year would end on Sunday, June 30. In addition, upcoming NWNC meetings may extend later into the evenings.

22. Note that CSUN will be discontinuing Its Lime Bike-Share Program on March 19, 2019

- This agenda item was merely for everyone's information.

23. Adjournment

- Pam adjourned the meeting at 8.50PM.