

APPROVED
Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)
General Public Board Meeting
Tuesday, 13 August 2019
Northridge Christian Church
18901 Chatsworth Street, Northridge 91326

1. Meeting Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, Roll Call, and Determination of a Quorum

- President Peter Lasky called the meeting to order at 6:17 PM, welcomed stakeholders and eight board members, led us in a Pledge of Allegiance, and determined that a quorum was present via the following roll call:

Here (11)	Abigail Bailes, Pamela Bolin (6:23), Lloyd Dent (6:28), Kathleen Edwards, Alma Fernandez, Bill Fox, Jennifer Krowne, Gail Lapaz, Peter Lasky, Rana Sharif (6:25), and Glen Wilson (6:30)
Absent (2)	Kelly Sooter, Josh Toscano,

2. Comments by Public Officials

- Daniel Tamm with LA Sanitation and Environment which is an environmental agency for protecting public health and environment, clean water program for waste water, solid resources for solid waste management, and storm water spoke of the following:
 - The company, in regards to solid waste, wants to achieve zero waste and reduce landfills as well as increase recycling.
 - Water conservation and recycling has come a long way in Los Angeles already, and the mayor has set a goal to reduce 50% of purchased imported water by 2025.
 - Tamm explained that there is a tertiary cleaning system where water is cleaned 3 times then sent out 5 miles into the ocean. There are also purple pipes to reclaim the water to use it in LA as recycled water.
 - DC Tillman water recreation has been used at the Japanese gardens, and this is a model for what they want to do throughout Los Angeles for more recycled water.
 - The city imports way too much drinking water which is expensive, so their goal is to reduce imported water and increase recycled water.
 - Website is lacitysan.org to explore sustainability, and any illegal dumping can be reported as well to this organization and they will help.
 - They are also planting trees for a greater, greener Los Angeles from a state grant, they just need people to water them for three years (\$30 to water for three years).
 - Daniel.tamm@lacity.org is his email.
- Matt Hernandez, Public Safety Field Deputy for CD12/Councilman Greig Smith, who advocates for the stakeholder's behalf while interfacing with the Departments of Building, Safety, Transportation, as well as the LAFD and LAPD, spoke of the following:
 - Began by encouraging people to vote, and states that Greig Smith submitted a resolution, Smith and Wesson, to ban assault rifles and require a universal background check. The resolution also urges for improved methods for background checks, as well as ban any kits to that can convert a semiautomatic weapon into a fully automatic weapon.

- Jose Galdamez from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) reported the following:
 - Reminded board members to fill out survey and submit it for the demographics for the neighborhood council board members.
 - STIP sheet in regards to reforms: add in youth seat and change minimum voting age.
 - The Congress of Neighborhoods is happening on Sept. 28th all day at the downtown City Hall. The event allows people to meet council representatives in other city departments, and to get to know about city services and how to run meetings and outreach. It also is for stakeholders to get familiarized with city processes.
 - The RSVP is not yet up, but ncongressla.com will have the information soon.
 - Reminds everyone to inform him of the results of neighborhood council elections, and states that 500-700 mailers at random will be sent out as an opportunity for outreach.

- Field Representative Dani from Assemblywoman Christy Smith's office, spoke of the following:
 - There have been three bills signed and passed by governor into law. Bill AB 853 is a scholar share for college, Bill AB 1106 expands LA county and homeowner protections program and extension, and Bill AB 1836 is a child safety bill for license plate funds for the department of motor vehicles to prevent increase of motor vehicle deaths.
 - There are nine more bills to go and she will be back to report Sept 13th.
 - She participated in Aliso Canyon hearing to convene Porter Ranch community and the Aliso Canyon blow out in light of labor report.
 - Mailers will be out for the Wild Fire Disaster Preparedness meeting on aug 24th in light of Ridge Crest earthquake.

3. Guest Speaker: Captain Burns, Devonshire Division, LAPD

- Katie Burns is the new area commanding officer at Devonshire, which is very large division and is the second biggest in the city of Los Angeles ranging over 48 miles.
- Burns has been on the force for about 24 years and 19 of those have been spent in the valley.
- Burns explains they rate how the division is doing by judging how they did last year. They look at rapes, homicides, robberies, aggravated assaults, stolen vehicles etc, and see if the crime rates have decreased. Devonshire division is #1 in city for crime reduction, and Burns has been back to Devonshire for 5 months now.
- Burns says she is very fortunate to be fifth in city for greatest reductions, and explains that Northridge has less reduction compared to porter ranch.
- There has been 12% reductions, but the theft at Northridge mall and robberies, is a consistent problem.
- Devonshire division does not have a lot of violent crime (shootings, aggravated assaults etc).
- Burns reports that there are large volunteer groups that help the division, and they have approximately 250 volunteers but they could always use more to help. There is an application online for volunteers.
- A Stakeholder had a question about excessive speed (races around beckford) and what the best way to address was:
 - Burns says to report it and that Devonshire does their best to enforce speed laws as best they can, and that the Valley Traffic Division has special tasks for street racers. Speeding is chronic and there area lot of street racers, so make sure to report it. Burns states that while they may not make an arrest, they can break it up the street race at the very least. Due to the fact that the street race groups travel everywhere and are very impromptu, its hard to prepare for it.

- Burns mentions lacrimestoppers to report anything anonymously (from homicide to illegal dumping).
- President Lasky has question about the drug murders in porter ranch:
 - Burns says there have been three people taken into custody, and that it was a cross country drug organization from Maryland.
- Board member Abigail asked what was the status on burglaries:
 - Burns says they are going down and that they have had success putting message boards on certain blocks, as well as extra patrol on main thorough fairs.
- Board member Kathleen asked how many cars patrol in the evenings:
 - Burns says at there is always at least six cars for 48 square miles but sometimes there are eight or ten.
 - Kathleen then asks how they determine where the cars go and why response time is so slow:
 - Burns says regarding Northridge, Granada Hills, and Porter Ranch that since there's a six car minimum there's at least one car per area. But she explains that if theres a gun or knife in one area, she has to pull units from elsewhere so then if theres a call in Northridge it'll take longer. Also if someone has to go to the jail a car is pulled and response time is elongated.
- A question is asked about whether Ring doorbells help with theft:
 - Burns says that with Ring theres a thing called Neighborhood and people put it on ring and get video shots of suspicious behavior to advise their neighbors. Ring has also helped because now theres video from ring and police can use it to find certain cars from it.
- Burns also reminds everyone that lots of city councils have a blog and they chat about crimes, but don't make a report so she is unaware of what's going on. She's not looking at blogs for neighborhood councils, so don't just post there but instead send an email to the senior lead officer or to her and make a report because they don't have time to read blogs.
- Burns ends her report around 7pm by informing people about the Citizen Academy beginning Sept 18th and is every Thursday for 8 weeks. People interested can go online for applications or ask Officer Delcor for an application.

4. Public Comments on non agenda items

- Mikkie Loi from the Devonshire Relations Office, gave a thank you for national night out this year. Stated there were no basic car meetings for month of aug but stay connected with Devonshire through social media. Devonshire Area's open house is Sat Aug 31st from 8am-12pm for the 100 year anniversary for Devonshire division. A flyer will be posted, and she thanks you for support.
- Glenn Bailey spoke regarding congress registration, and said not to wait too long as they fill up. There is a biannual planning forum on November 14th that is very informative and a well received event. No contributions are necessary because there is outside funding. He discussed a mutual concern for all of Northridge: sidewalk vending. He said that state legislation passed that legalized side walk vending, but there are still regulations for each city but that LA city is doing no regulations as of now and wont have them till Jan 1st. Bailey spoke of health department requirements to sell food and how LA city is not enforcing these, but that county said they will send inspectors out to enforce on that aspect. There have been numerous complaints from stakeholders about Reseda Blvd and he urges stakeholders to please communicate with him what days and times, there are vendors happening so that the health department can check

them out. He finishes by explaining the issue of canopies that block the sidewalk and prevent wheel chairs from getting by, so there's an issue of access.

- Dave Brown from the SoCal Preparedness Foundation, spoke about Dr Lucy Jones at the country club and how even though it already sold out, there can be additional seating from cancellations on Eventbrite and that people can be added to the waitlist. The event has a 7:00 PM start time. Brown also said that Congress is presenting a workshop session to present a boyar frame that has an editable template to fill in for any specific area; schools, hospitals etc, can be plugged into template. The monthly meeting is every 4th Saturday of every month this Saturday they are going to meet downtown at the emergency center and they're going to give a tour of facility.

5. Presidential Comments

- President Lasky said it is the responsibility of the presiding officer to stick to the agenda and the meeting is timed to make sure the meeting is completed. The church had previously asked Northridge West City Council to leave because they were not sticking to time limit, so now that city council is allowed back they must be out by 9pm as agreed by church.
- Senior elder Rick must stay so its rude to keep him longer, and so it necessary that everyone understands that he must keep meeting timed.
- Outreach team is doing a good job and is board supported.
- The board retreat is Aug 25th for an opportunity to discus future goals and methods of operations.
- Another accomplishment is three executive committee meetings since May and many more meetings attended by the board members and stakeholders. There have been two non official comity meetings and he is pleased with the results from these. The committees are the real work engine of council, and the committees do the work that gets brought to the board, so please join committees. He reached out about getting oak trees trimmed on Tampa and they will be contacting Urban Forest to use funds for that. Finished at 7:16PM.

6. Discussion and Motion to approve the purchase of a sound and speaker system from Dave Brown in the amount of \$1,550

- Pamela Bolin_ made a motion to approve this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed.

Aye (10)	Bailes, Bolin, Edwards, Fernandez, Fox, Krowne, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, and Wilson
Abstain (1)	Dent
Absent (2)	Sooter and Toscano

7. Presentation by Joe Kozul of the Save the San Fernando Valley Group regarding the proposed Bus Rapid Transit Plan

8. Discussion and Motion to approve an increase in the Board Retreat budget from \$400 to \$600. The money will come the Office/Operational Expenditures Category and will lower the Office Expenses by \$200. The board retreat allocation is within the same category.

- Rana Sharif made a motion to approve this agenda item; Alma Fernandez seconded this motion and it passed.
 - Money is for food expenditures and would be nice for drinks

Aye (9)	Bailes, Edwards, Fernandez, Fox, Krowne, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, and Wilson
Abstain (2)	Bolin and Dent
Absent (2)	Sooter and Toscano

9. Presentation by Kimco Realty, McCormick Compliance Consulting, et al, regarding Case No ZA- 2017-5228-ZV requesting Zoning and Parking Variances for the Plaza Di Northridge Shopping Center at 19500 Plummer Street, Northridge
 - Presenters: Jacob Glaze, Mark Wendel (Kimco Realty), Sophie Tolomiczenko (McCormick Compliance Consulting), Tony Elias (Kimco Realty)
 - Wendel is owner of shopping center and is here with his development staff to answer questions, and thanks everyone for being able to present.
 - The vacant space is proposed to be a gym (Blink Fitness), so far the city does not allow a gym here with zoning so they are applying for that to change.
 - There will need to be an increase in parking, and so far there are no concerns regarding sound.
 - From 2013-2017 it was marketed as double occupancy but that hasn't worked out, so now its being marketed as 2 different floors.
 - Monkey Space is now taking over first floor, and Crunch Fitness originally approached for the second floor but fell out bc of zoning.
 - Blink fitness is coming out from east coast, and a there is a request for a zoning variance for a destination use to have people go there specifically for that use. The gym will draw people to the shopping center and have them use 2nd floor parking lot because the gym is only accessible from the second floor.
 - They had to do a traffic assessment to not impact intersections in a red category and received approval from LADOT. The parking analysis shows that gyms have a huge peak in beginning of the year and in the morning whereas DSW is more prominent in the evening so the analysis has been accepted.
 - First floor parking has restraints but the second floor is underutilized so signage will help draw people to the second floor.
 - Blink is a middle class area of gyms, not high end with classes or a bunch of trainers, \$15-\$20 a month for a different alternative for less money for gym use.
 - Marcy clarified that the entrance to the gym is only on second floor hence making the 2nd floor parking lot more utilized, since currently not many people actually use it.

10. Presentation by Public Land Use and Zoning Chair Lloyd Dent, in requesting the board to support the application of the above mentioned applications for Zoning Variances
 - PLUZ committee met to consider this case, the space sought by blink is accessible directly from upper parking, but this parking is not well known and is obviously underutilized.
 - There have been many complaints of inadequate parking in Super King area, so there were concerns about parking.
 - The additional signage will help and patrons of gym will be encouraged to use the second floor, so based on reassurances about parking, noise, and signage, peter asked the question, and there was a unanimous vote to approve the parking.

11. Consent Agenda to approve agenda items 12-15 The Consent Agenda allows multiple items to be voted upon with one vote without discussion.
 - Rana Sharif made a motion to approve this agenda item; Bill Fox seconded this motion and it passed.

Aye (11)	Bailes, Bolin, Dent, Edwards, Fernandez, Fox, Krowne, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, and Wilson
Absent (2)	Sooter and Toscano

12. Discussion and Motion to approve the following committee changes, move Bill Fox to the Beautification Committee, move Kathleen Edwards from the Beautification Committee to be Chair of the Public Safety Committee, place Abigail Bailes on the Education Committee to replace Rana Sharif, per Article VII, Section 3: B and 3:C.
13. Discussion and Motion to approve Jacob Fernandez as a stakeholder member of the Homeless Committee
14. Motion to Approve the July 9th Minutes
15. Discussion and motion to approve the July Monthly Expense Report
16. Report by Budget Advocate
 - Glen Bailey made the following report:
 - Bailey sent out detailed report July 23rd to board, and he is waiting for channel 35 coverage of budget day and powerpoints from Ron Galpin and mayors office.
 - Bailey gave the links to powerpoints and video so please go look at message. He sent this message before meeting with Mayor Garcetti, but the results can't be released as he is waiting for official talking points. They will then be emailed out and cover topics from the mayor to budget advocates, and five budget books.
 - They did have their budget advocates retreat and things are the same format in terms of meetings, 1st Monday in city hall and 3rd Saturday in West LA.
 - They are in the process of being assigned to different departments, each get 3-5 departments to work with. He put in a request for street services, recreation and parks, and police department but it hasn't been confirmed yet. He will let you know what each budget advocate actually gets once it's decided.
 - By Sept 15th they will have the schedule of all their meetings which will happen until beginning of November.
 - Rana asked what is the best way to communicate and Bailey said that the email that was sent out was collaborative between 3 advocates and wanted to make sure budget reps and presidents received it first, there are also minutes of their meetings and they are posted on website ncbala.com. Finished at 7:55.
17. Discussion and Motion to Approve \$750 for the Congress of Neighborhood Councils
 - Rana Sharif made a motion to approve this agenda item; Abigail Bailes seconded this motion and it passed.
 - Jennifer asked what it is and Peter Lasky states that the Congress of Neighborhood councils is a meeting on the save the date that has 99-100 councils meeting downtown for educational program for 3 sessions with a variety of different topics on how to be a more effective board member.
 - Anyone can attend and budget is to cover the event, there is one workshop before lunch and two in the afternoon. About \$500 per neighborhood council is requested so this contribution is generous, and the program book has the neighborhood council with larger contributions in a larger font.
 - Registration at 7:30am and begins at 8:30, funds go to special account for the congress and is only used for NC Congress and for the public.

Aye (9)	Bailes, Bolin, Edwards, Fox, Krowne, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, and Wilson
Abstain (1)	Dent

Absent (3)	Fernandez, Sooter, and Toscano
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18. Report regarding CD12 Candidate Forum and National Night Out

- Report made by Rana Sharif:
 - Really fantastic opportunity. Voted for \$750 for funds but only spent \$74. Great collaborative effort.
 - National Night Out: a lot of people came and it was great and collected 65 or more names that they are utilizing.

19. Discussion and motion to approve the purchase of an electronic meeting recorder to help with recording actions taken by the Council

- Tabled for next month

20. Report on the upcoming Board Retreat Rana

- It will be held Aug 25th from 1-4pm at Macaroni Grill and board and stakeholders are welcome. Just please notify if planning to attend for food accommodations. It is an opportunity to work on processes and procedures, as well as small group exercises. Website will be updated with content, and reach out to Rana or Peter about retreat.

21. Committee Reports

- PLUZ: Lloyd planned a meeting but there is no date for PLUZ committee to go through procedures. He had a question about new Norms on border between Northridge East and West and said it might be of interest for stakeholders in Northridge West to perhaps have a joint Northridge East and West meeting. Glen expedited application for operating 24 hours and will go to board at Sept meeting on Wed Aug 28th from 7-9pm.
- Outreach: Rana said they did not meet, focus was on retreat.
- Kathleen: tabled her report.
- Jennifer: committee has changed meeting.
- Beautification: Glen said there is a meeting Aug 26th at 6:30pm on Monday night for beautification at Northridge park in the arts and crafts room.

22. Motion to Approve the June 20th Special Meeting Minutes

- Peter Lasky made a motion to approve this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed.

Aye (5)	Fox, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, and Wilson
Abstain (4)	Bailes, Dent, Edwards, and Krowne,
Absent (4)	Bolin, Fernandez, Sooter, and Toscano

23. Reports by Liaisons

- Gail stated that HOPE of valley had a meeting, and West Valley Neighborhood Alliance meeting was Sunday with Glen and it proposed for 70 beds to be at Canoga and Saticoy.
- On Oct 5th they're having a homeless service day for the public; food trucks, games for kids, bands, professionals, and Mayor will be there.
- There is a Looking for a Job Fair for the homeless in October and one generation is called weekend of end homelessness. Flyers should be out soon, and Peter was also at the meeting and he brought up that there was an editorial in the times by Steinberg, about mayor of Sacramento who has identified 1091 state properties suitable for homeless housing. Peter met

with Danny Wang from Cathy Smith's office for a list of available houses, and contacted a possible land site to see if it would be available and has yet to hear back.

24. Comments by board members on non-agenda items

- There will be no more comments only announcements, comments cannot be about something that has not been agendaized.
- Rana asked how that is different from being said as an announcement, and Jose says announcements are mostly about upcoming events within neighborhood council. Whereas comments are a discussion back and forth, and comments are opinionated. Announcements are just to inform about a meeting or workshop or other calendar items, and to discuss something that you want before the board you should meet with executives. Jose says they can talk about it more for clarification.
- Bill said thank you for the national night out.
- Abigail wants to initiate discussions about billboard regulations, explicit billboards such as a strip club billboard near a high school.

25. Adjournment

- Peter adjourned the meeting at 8:23 PM.
- Peter made the motion to adjourn the meeting and Rana seconded it.