

**APPROVED**  
**Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)**  
**General Public Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday, 14 January 2020**  
**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 6.22PM, welcomed over twenty-five stakeholders, twelve board members, and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.
  - A quorum was declared via the following roll call:  
Here (12) Abigail Bailes, Pamela Bolin, Lloyd Dent, Kathleen Edwards, Bill Fox, Jennifer Krowne, Gail Lapaz, Peter Lasky, Rana Sharif, Kelly Sooter, Josue Toscano, and Glen Wilson
  
2. Comments by Public Officials
  - Matt Hernandez, Public Safety Field Deputy for CD12/Councilman John Lee, 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:
    - Council has been in recess this past month, but today is the first day back in full swing.
    - Representatives of the city and county will soon meet with Governor Newsom regarding the termination of Aliso Canyon. LA's Board of Supervisors voted to shut down Aliso Canyon, and the resolution from the city has been removed.
    - Overtime funding for the LAPD has been approved and is in effect; you may see additional vehicles, especially along Wilbur Avenue.
    - Kathleen Edwards has been in touch with CD12 regarding street lighting. They are working with the city's Street Lighting Department to alter the lights to that the copper wire is not so easily stolen for recycling.
    - Gail asked how long it takes to get left turn lights active. Stakeholder Andrew Krowne mentioned that it could take more than eighteen months. An intersection of major concern is Wilbur Avenue and Rinaldi Street (with one or two accidents per month), as well as Lassen Street and Wilbur Avenue. Perhaps the lights could transition to solar, rather than copper (which is easily stolen).
    - Project Manager Asaad Alnajjar from the Bureau of Street Lighting mentioned that 780 standalone solar street light poles have been installed throughout the city, but they do not yet have authorization to install additional. The current streetlight's wire will be replaced, and a non-penetrable anti-theft wire package will be installed.
    - For an issue, please contact the city via the MyLA311 app, or call the direct line at 213-847-1400 (where five operators are always standing by). The response time is frequently within 24-hours (except street lighting).
    - Lloyd added that Councilwoman Nury Martinez is the new president of the city council.
  - Jose Galdamez from the Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) reported the following:
    - Many of the links from the emailed monthly profile were not working properly. However, the profile covered such topics as how to advocate with decision makers, including hosting public forums, town halls, etc.
    - The monthly DONE-sponsored PlanCheckNC meetings are held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of each month. The February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting, beginning at 10AM, held at the Hollenbeck Police Station, 2111 East 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Boyle Heights, will discuss land use issues.

- If the NWNC would like to modify their bylaws, changes should be agendaized, with documents and forms submitted prior to the Wednesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> deadline.
  - The Bureau of Neighborhood Councils (BONC) has the final draft for leadership orientation training, including a review of how often board members should take their mandatory training. Feedback meetings to discuss this training will be held on Friday, January 31<sup>st</sup> in South LA, and Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> in East LA.
  - Kathleen asked if Jose had any success in acquiring additional committee meeting space(s) within the NWNC boundaries. Jose contacted the Nobel Middle School; the NWNC should meet with Nobel, complete the paperwork, and agendaize this issue at a future NWNC meeting. The NWNC is welcome to choose additional meeting spaces.
  - Jason Hector from the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council (PRNC) asked if each council must approve funding for multi-council events, the response was affirmative
- Danni Wang from Assemblywoman Christy Smith mentioned a few items:
    - She thanked everyone who attended their holiday open house on Thursday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.
    - The legislative session has recently commenced, so Ms. Smith is busy commuting to Sacramento. She has already introduced AB1837, which helps mitigate the financial impact on schools in the event of a natural disaster, such as last October's Saddle Ridge Fire.
    - Over the next few months, Ms. Smith and her colleagues will work on Governor Newsom's recently presented budget proposal which pays down debt, makes California more fiscally responsible, allows for a rainy day fund, and provides additional funds for emergency management, housing, infrastructure, etc.
    - Abby asked about AB673, Danni was not familiar with that bill's status. She requested that constituents email their office so that Danni and Christy can research and reply.
    - Bill asked about SB50, which may require that the state take over local multifamily zoning. Danni mentioned that Ms. Smith always advocates for local control of zoning and will provide additional information at a future NWNC meeting.

### 3. Presidential Comments

- Peter mentioned that he recently discussed tree trimming with CD12's Council Deputy Matthew Vallecilla. The money for this project is currently held in reserve. CD12 recently spend \$20k trimming trees near the Nobel Middle School after a tree fell upon a car.
- A few of this meeting's agenda items may need to be tabled. Per the agenda, this meeting could go until 9.15PM. However, these meetings should end by 8.40PM, to allow 20-minutes for clean up.
- 2019 saw 384 Community Impact Statements (CIS) filed by neighborhood councils. The NWNC has filed zero CISs these past two years; it is hoped that this trend does not continue.

### 4. Guest Speaker Carlos Amador of the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA)

- In addition to being Community Engagement Team Supervisor with LAHSA, Carlos is a board member with the Granada Hills South Neighborhood Council (GHSNC).
- Carlos told the story of a lady he met last summer while doing community engagement in the valley. She was forced from her home (that she shared with her aunt and animals) and had difficulty finding housing and a job. She considered purchasing an RV and living on the street.
- In the 1970s and 80s, many state asylums were closed with their tenants sent to the street. Now, the LA county jail system is California's largest mental health facility.
- There are currently over 60,000 homeless within LA. 23% of them are homeless for the first time. 21,631 moved into permanent housing in 2019. Sadly, many more have since lost their residences.

- If you encounter a homeless community, you may reach out to LAHSA to utilize their outreach services.
- LAHSA's annual homeless count will occur later this month:
 

Tuesday, January 21	San Gabriel and San Fernando Valleys
Wednesday, January 22	West LA, Southeast LA, and the South Bay
Thursday, January 23	Antelope Valley, Metro LA, and South LA
- Interested volunteers for this area may meet Tuesday at 7.45PM at the San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission, 8756 Canby Avenue, Northridge. Granada Hills and Chatsworth will also have deployment centers.
- Kathleen mentioned that CD12 has an Angel Program to assist those on the edge of homelessness. She also asked what could be done about the ACLU's objection to more structured housing for the mentally ill.
- Gail expressed concern about the sweeps that occur immediately before the count; this results in an inaccurate count.
- Stakeholder Randy asked about the affordable housing rate and what sort of jobs could be available. Carlos will reach back to Randy with a response.
- Peter mentioned that it takes \$64k to maintain the status quo to keep people homeless. This includes the costs of hospitals, emergency services, as well as mental health, substance, and general public assistance. Meanwhile, San Diego has big shelters for \$15k/year and LA has shelters that cost \$17k/year. Although LA has additional winter shelters, it would be advantageous for LA to have shelters throughout the year.

#### 5. Public Comments on Non-Agenda Items

- Mikkie Loi from the Devonshire Police Advisory Board mentioned the following:
  - Thursday, January 16<sup>th</sup> at 7PM will be a Neighborhood Watch meeting at the Garden Church, 20745 Nordhoff Street, Chatsworth with guest speaker LAPD officer Luis Ojeda from the Devonshire Vice Unit. Among the discussed topics will be:
    - Recent shooting at the Yard House and alcohol-related issues at local establishments
    - Prostitution and sex-trafficking at the Extended Stay America
    - Massage parlors along Devonshire Street
  - Sunday, January 19<sup>th</sup>, the Battalion Community Emergency Response Team will host a sandbagging event at the Knollwood County Club, 12040 Balboa Boulevard.
- Stakeholder (and former PRNC treasurer) Andrew Krowne urged the NWNC to listen to everyone (and move away from the restrictive executive committee model). He also urged the NWNC to move liaison reports to the beginning of the meeting so that the maximum number of people could hear them.
- Jason Hector from the PRNC mentioned the following:
  - The area near Melvin Avenue, Chatsworth Street, and the Limekiln Canyon Trail/Park has damaged trees caused by bark beetles. Perhaps the NWNC could sponsor a one-day clean up of this area?
  - The Saddleridge fire severely damaged the Aliso Canyon Park (east of Reseda Boulevard). However, the bordering Granada Hills North Neighborhood Council (GHNNC) is not contributing to the park's repair.
  - He urged the NWNC to write and file CISs. This results in unlimited time to speak at the Board of Public Works in front of Board President Kevin James, who can immediately turn to someone and request a resolution.

- Asaad Alnajjar from the PRNC mentioned that he is running for CD12 as a write-in candidate during the March 3<sup>rd</sup> election. No other candidate has his thirty-years of experience and track record with the city. His key issues are Aliso Canyon and homelessness.
- Glenn Bailey from the Northridge East Neighborhood Council (NENC) and the Valley Association of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) mentioned that VANC would host a meeting on Thursday, March 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 6PM. Perhaps the NWNC would like to be a co-sponsor? If so, please agendaize for the February meeting. The city clerk has a funding limit of \$250; this will allow publicity, including showing the NWNC banner. In addition, the NWNC can self-nominate themselves for awards. There is no form to complete. The NWNC just needs to mention a special and/or unique project they accomplished.

6. Motion to Approve a Recommendation of the Joint Public Safety, Homelessness Committees Meeting of January 7 to approve a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) application for \$2,500 to support the Center for Assault Treatment Services (CATS) at Northridge Hospital. Funds will come from the NPG Budget.

- CATS Special Events Manager Maggi Espada-Hernandez stated that their mission is to provide compassionate comprehensive care to children and adult victims of domestic and sexual assault and abuse through a coordinated collaborative effort where victims can begin the healing and recovery process.
- The LAPD [after answering a call of domestic violence, sexual assault, or human trafficking] will bring the person to CATS (instead of to an emergency room). CATS has taken in victims aged 4-months to 92-years-old. CATS street address is not publicized (for security reasons) but tours are available.
- In 2019, they took care of 106 victims, which includes a medical examination (which could cost over \$1k). The Northridge Hospital provides the medical personnel.
- CATS 18<sup>th</sup> annual Victory for Victims Fundraiser, to be held Saturday, April 25<sup>th</sup> at the Woodley Park, 6350 Woodley Avenue, will include the following:
 

10k River Run	Kids Fun Run
5k Walk/Run	1-mile Dog-Friendly Run
- All the money raised goes directly to the center.
- Pam asked if Maggi had reached out to other neighborhood councils; Maggi replied that she has already reached out to all area councils, and will appear on their January or February agendas.
- Pam also suggested a team of Northridge neighborhood councils; however, the West Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils has already created a team, of which NWNC could play a part.
- Bill Fox is familiar with a similar facility in Ventura County and believes that this is an unbelievable value.
- A previously submitted NPG reflected an inaccurate number of merely \$2k; this has been superseded to reflect \$2,500.
- Rana Sharif made a motion to support this \$2,500 NPG for CATS; Bill Fox seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

7. Discussion and motion to co-sponsor and co-host along with CD12 NCs a 2020 CD12 Town Hall Meeting at Granada Hills High School's Highlander Hall. The CD12 election is to be held March 3<sup>rd</sup>. A funding line of up to \$700 will come from the Outreach Budget for snacks, printing, outreach, and other incidentals.

- Rana reported that the date might be Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup> with Tanya McRae serving as the moderator with all eight candidates in attendance. The GHSNC will serve as the host.

- Someone expressed concern about calling this event a “Town Hall”; that name came from the city.
- Asaad added that he fully supports this forum; he hopes to be there and have all candidates show their great leadership skills.
- Pam Bolin made a motion for this [up to] \$700 Outreach expenditure; Kelly Sooter seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

8. Discussion and motion to contract with 11:11, a 501c3 Art Collective or another similar vendor to project manage the artistic and creative painting of Electric Light Utility Boxes within the Northridge West Boundaries, with a budget not to exceed \$5,000. NWNC will collaborate with the PRNC, CD12, and the Department of Cultural Affairs (DCA) for the sharing up to \$8,000 in matching funds equally with NWNC. If matching funds are not obtained and equally shared by the above named parties, NWNC reserves the right to unilaterally withdraw from any contracts or agreements. Funding will come from the Community Improvement Budget.

- Kelly reviewed the affirmative votes that were conducted in October and December, included the two-year maintenance, review of 11:11, etc.
- Below lists the electrical box recommendation in order of priority for the Utility Box art program. The funds should cover between four (for \$5,000) and seven (for \$9,000 with city funds). First, the Department of Transportation must review and approve the utility box locations to ensure that they are not scheduled for repair or removal. As a result, more locations than needed are listed to ensure we have options.
  1. Tampa Avenue and Lassen Street (by the Nobel Middle School)
  2. Reseda Boulevard and Lassen Street (by the Fire Station)
  3. Reseda Boulevard and Devonshire Street (one of the busiest intersections within NWNC boundaries)
  4. Nordhoff Street and Corbin Avenue (to include all corners of NWNC boundary)
  5. Reseda Boulevard and Plummer Street (Near CSUN)
  6. Corbin Avenue and Devonshire Street
  7. Tampa Avenue and Plummer Street
  8. Wilbur Avenue and Chatsworth Street
- Jason Hector from the PRNC liked the list of proposed locations and recommended adding additional locations as some of the intersections may be denied. The DCA has a 30-page application that must be completed prior to commencement of this task. He has already reached out to councilman Smith and Lee, and secured \$8k. Each box will cost \$1,250, as follows:

\$1,000	To the Artist
250	Administrative Fees
\$1,250	Cost per Box

- Kathleen asked if any of the boxes are wrapped. The boxes are not wrapped, but rather painted. She asked how long they last; the response was ten years. There is an anti-graffiti coating applied (as is applied to murals), yet the box could last 25-years (dependent upon how much graffiti is applied and needs to be cleaned up). Jason added that taggers respect the art, and prefer to tag blank walls rather than the art.
- After two years, the Board of Public Works will maintain the boxes as they handle graffiti on murals.
- “Street Box LA” is a program within 11:11; it is not a separate company. Valley Arts Program is another one of their sectors.
- Rana asked if the NWNC would receive artistic oversight over 11:11; the response was affirmative.

- Gail suggested having the box outside the Nobel School be painted by students. 11:11 will work with the school. Perhaps the artist could draw and outline for the students to complete.
- Sherman Oaks has sixty-boxes, and they started their own collective to maintain their utility boxes.
- Asaad spoke in support of this project.
- Pam Bolin made a motion to support this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed  
 Aye (10) Bailes, Bolin, Fox, Krowne, Lapaz, Lasky, Sharif, Sooter, Toscano, and Wilson  
 No (2) Dent and Edwards

9. Discussion and motion to approve a letter/email sent by the Executive Committee and Officers to Deputy City Attorney Elise Rudin, Melvin Canas LA City Clerk Neighborhood Council Funding Division, and Raquel Beltran General Manager of the DONE requesting their assistance in working with Northridge Beautification Foundation (NBF) to fulfill the terms of NPGs received in 2018 and 2019 for cleaning and maintaining major thoroughfares within NWNC boundaries and maintaining and installing additional topiaries on the Tampa Medians.

- Glenn Bailey thought it was odd that the NWNC was voting to support a letter that had already been sent.
- This letter will request support to expedite processing of the Tampa Avenue topiaries, as well as the intervention of city agencies, including DONE and the LA City Clerk Neighborhood Council Funding. This will help resolve the lack of action by NBF in providing proof that approved NPGs were done, and in the case of the outstanding NPGs, will be done.
- Pam Bolin made a motion to support this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

10. Guest speaker Board Member Scott M. Schmerelson, LAUSD, District Three

- Scott and Tara Vahdani (school engagement and data specialist) oversee 110 schools in District Three, from Studio City to Chatsworth.
- The LAUSD has been very proactive in passing sensible gun safety regulations.
- Their next target is tobacco-free and vaping-free schools. Vaping has become a very serious issue, as students have vaping equipment within their clothing, including within the strings of their hoodies. Vaping can come in unique flavors that appeal to kids, such as crab legs, strawberry, and waffles.
- Scott and the LAUSD have developed Beyond the Bell programs to reduce and eliminate youth vaping. Additional information can be found at their website <http://www.btb.lausd.net/vaping>
- Scott also leads a Student Advisory Council (the only one in the city) with representatives of 35 area high schools. They meet once a month. Then, the kids go back to their schools and help solve issues such as college awareness. This week's meeting will discuss voter registration, with special guest, California's Secretary of State Alex Padilla. After this meeting, the kids will return to their schools and discuss the importance of voter registration with their peers.
- Scott also advocates for a Continuation High School, which gives kids a "second chance" after they drop out due to work, illness, or other personal reason(s). Bill mentioned that his grandson was in this Continuation High School program, and was very grateful for the experience.
- The LAUSD's weekly board meetings are often held at their headquarters at 333 South Beaudry Avenue. However, they frequently also have meetings at facilities throughout the city, including the Van Nuys Courthouse. These meetings are broadcast to view online or via KLCS-TV.
- 320 schools throughout California were recently honored as California Distinguished Schools. 29 of these schools are within the LAUSD, with the highest percentage in District Three, including Northridge's Beckford Avenue Elementary and Topeka Drive Elementary.

- Thursday, January 23<sup>rd</sup> will be the annual Science Night at the Calahan Community Charter School.
  - Tuesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup> will be Coffee with the Superintendent at either the Northridge Academy High School at 9601 Zelzah Avenue or the Valley Academy of Arts and Sciences at 10445 Balboa Boulevard.
  - Lloyd mentions that he has volunteered with the academic decathlon for several years and they always need additional volunteers to assist the teams.
  - Stakeholder Kaitlan asked about bullying; Scott replied that there are several ways to stop bullying. The key is that no one should ever be alone. Leadership kids should approach them and make friends. If kids feel threatened, students and parents should let the school know.
  - Andrew Krowne, the father of five children, mentioned that the way bullying is handled in elementary school is very different from how it is handled at the middle school level. When his daughter transferred from Topeka to Nobel, the bullying was addressed on the first day.
  - Andrew also asked how the board affects the school superintendents. Scott replied that they immediately make alliances; to get anything done, one must have other team members [and their votes] as the superintendent reports to the LAUSD board.
  - There was also concern regarding the morning traffic near the Nobel Middle School (especially along Lassen Street) and the Balboa Magnet Elementary School at 17020 Labrador Street. Someone mentioned that the parents could be videotaped as they drop their child off at the school. Parents may be cited if they are witnessed doing driving recklessly.
  - For additional information, Tara had a clipboard to sign people up for their mailing list.
11. Discussion and motion to approve adding Dave Brown to the Public Safety Committee
- Rana Sharif made a motion to support this agenda item; Kathleen Edwards seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
12. Report by Dave Brown on the condition of a ham radio purchased by the board for emergency use and not used for many years [if ever]
- This agenda item was tabled.
13. Discussion and motion by the Outreach Committee to present a NWNC Community Service Award on a monthly or periodic basis to recognize meritorious community service
- This agenda item was tabled.
14. Discussion and Motion from the Sex-Ed Town Hall Ad Hoc Committee to approve a Town Hall on the new State/LAUSD Sex-Ed Healthy Child Curriculum for grades K-12, with a budget not to exceed \$1,000. Funds to come from the Outreach Budget. Funding will be used for venue, snacks, water and printed materials.
- Abby reported that this Ad Hoc Committee met several times and reached out to multiple San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Councils. This Town Hall will be Saturday, February 29<sup>th</sup> at the Sam's Café, 15725 Parthenia Street, North Hills. The purpose of the Town Hall is to create transparency and serve as an informational meeting for parents who have children within the LAUSD.
  - Abby mentioned that the Ad Hoc Committee has been in touch with parent advisory groups and PTSAs. The PTSAs are invited to participate (as all the public are invited) but they are not involved in organizing this Town Hall.
  - Here is a summary of the area neighborhood councils who will co-host this Town Hall alongside the NWNC:
    - The PRNC will vote on this Town Hall on Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>
    - The Granada Hills South has approved this event

- North Hills West will pay for the Sam’s Café venue and is expected to fully support this Town Hall
- Arleta will advance this issue to their full board on Tuesday, January 21<sup>st</sup>
- A draft timeline agenda was provided:
  - Introduction to Event by Local Leader – possibly Assemblywoman Christy Smith, LAUSD Supervisor Scott Schmerelson, and/or LAUSD Supervisor Austin Beutner
  - Moderator Introduction of Speaker by Tanya McRae of Spectrum TV
  - Panelists Presentation (ten to twenty minutes per speaker) for up to an hour
  - Q&A led by moderator from questions submitted by the public in advance to include responses from whole panel
  - Q&A open microphone public comment and questions (one or two minutes per person)
  - Event Closure
- The Ad Hoc Committee discussed and is in the process of vetting a broad range of speakers who are experts in their fields and who can offer multiple perspectives on the new California Sex Ed programs. The speakers will focus on their area of expertise and present to the community as part of a balanced, informative panel. Most of the speakers have already agreed to speak at the Town Hall. The Ad Hoc Committee included multiple speakers in each category; however (due to time constraints at the event), only one speaker from each of the focus areas will be confirmed. The speakers will be confirmed once the plan is approved and the date is set. Each speaker will be given an allotted time to present and then participate in Q&A guided by the moderator and open public comments. The ultimate goal of this Town Hall is for parents to leave with more information than when they arrive.
- The following is a list of focus areas and [potential] speakers:
  - LAUSD Division of Instruction
    - Tim Kordic, LAUSD Health Education Programs, HIV/AIDS Prevention Unit
    - Adriana Valenzuela, LAUSD Division of Coordinator Health Social Emotion Learning and Physical Education Programs
  - Parent Representative/Advocate
    - Michelle New, Alliance to Protect Children (<http://www.alliancetpc.org>)
    - Gracey Van Der Mark, Informed Parents of California (<http://informedparents.org>)
  - Legal Experts on California Law and Parental Rights
    - Attorney David Llewellyn
    - Attorney Nada N. Higuera
    - Attorney Greg Burt
  - Law Enforcement/Public Safety Comments
    - Shari Gabourel, Retired Federal Investigator, Department of Social Services
    - Seymour Amster, Director of Teen Court/LAPD Diversion Program
    - The Ad Hoc Committee is also in contact with the LAPD Devonshire Division to work with an officer in Sex Crimes for possible comment(s)
  - Curriculum Alternatives that Comply with California Law
    - Skip Hellewell, United Parents and Editor of “Heart Curriculum”
  - Medical Expert and Experts in Sociology to Speak to Medical Accuracy and Age Appropriateness
    - Ariel Ferninald, Sociologist and Professor at Biola University, Department of Communications
    - Dr. Avani Gupta, GO, MS Diplomat, Family Medicine
    - Dr. Judy Chaisson, Human Relations, Diversity and Equity/Bullying Resources
- Rana mentioned that these speakers have not been fully reviewed by the full NWNC. Not all speakers are interested, and some may not be permitted.



- Abby was not comfortable in discussing the sexuality of someone who may be on this list.
- Peter asked if any of these speakers were controversial and could reflect poorly on the councils. This would all depend upon someone prospective. Peter mentioned that Gracey Van Der Mark might be a concern due to her previous anti-Semitic, anti-Islamic, and racist comments. She is a holocaust denier who has been ousted from two Orange County School District panels after serving merely a month. Abby offered to withdraw Gracey Van Der Mark's ability to speak.
- Controversial documentation was left on the back table during the December NWNC meeting, which mentioned a comparison between minorities and airplane peanuts, and stating that the LGBTQ community was receiving more favorable treatment than parents. However, this documentation was unauthorized. Per DONE, stakeholders are not allowed to distribute such literature at council meetings.
- Scott Schmerelson mentioned that he very strongly supports a parent's right to opt out of this training.
- Rana added that parents could not opt out of training on LGBTA and HIV/AIDS discussions.
- Pam departed the meeting at 8.55PM.
- Esther Chung has been an LAUSD teacher for thirteen years and mentioned that this training curriculum will include contraceptives and abortion.
- Victoria from the Ad Hoc Committee was told that she could not opt out and could not see the curriculum material that her daughter would be taught. She feels this is urgent, as friends and parents called and told her how upset they were about what their children were taught.
- Grace Jimenez from the Ad Hoc Committee requested to review the curriculum, yet was told that it was not available to her and that [as a parent] she could not opt her children out of this program.
- Norma Wong supports the Town Hall and is very concerned about her 7<sup>th</sup> grade daughter. As a parent, she feels that she should decide what her child it taught; yet the school will not provide any information. Norma feels that schools should stick to just teaching the basics.
- Burton Hunter from the Arleta Neighborhood Council stated the following:
  - My comments are in support of principles set-forth in proposed SB673 and in support of the upcoming Town Hall Meeting - the aim of which is to give the LAUSD school system an opportunity to be open and address the general public with details and information about the new sex education material in LAUSD schools.
  - I believe that it is imperative that parents have the opportunity to be fully engaged with their children in their education process. The learning process is not just the acquisition of information. Good values and ethics must also be instilled with that information in order for the student to correctly apply it within society. The family dynamic needs to be a part of this process. The parent must be given every opportunity to interact with their own child throughout their education. Therefore the school system needs to be fully-transparent in its structure, in a way that allows a parent every opportunity do fully engage with their own child in the midst of their learning process. There should be no need for anything to be "secret" about classes in our public schools.
  - To the individuals here: Please support the principles of SB673 - which calls for transparency of school curriculum programs for parents of school children. This bill also called for compliance to the California Department of Education's own website on the Health Initiative that states that the law created by AB329 requires that school districts allow parents the opportunity to opt their child from sexual education instruction which they consider inappropriate for their own child.
  - To the Neighborhood Council: I urge you to support the upcoming Town Hall meeting that will give the opportunity to look into the details of the Sex Education program that is making its way to our LAUSD public schools implementation.

- Stakeholder Esperanza is the mom of four students with learning disabilities and she wants what is best for the children.
- Jason from the PRNC commended the NWNC for taking on this controversial topic and asked how this Town Hall will bring in the other neighborhood councils. As the dad of a seven-year-old girl, Jason stated the councils must be very careful about how we do things. Although the PRNC and NWNC have a great collaboration with the utility boxes, tree trimming, and other issues, councils must stay neutral.
- Jasmine has a ten-year-old daughter and felt that parents must be able to fully access the material. She likes that this Town Hall will provide access to the material and have a discussion with the school district.
- Stakeholder Isabel Duran has an eleven-year-old daughter and was the president of her child's school's PTSA. Although she reads a great deal, she just learned of this sex education curriculum issue from friends. Many parents are unaware of the new legislation that is now law.
- Gail taught sex ed in LAUSD for 38-years. Most of those who opted out were boys. She never had girls opt out. The curriculum was available to the parents. She hates that some folks are calling this curriculum pornography. There were a lot of children who were naïve to sexuality. A few of her A-students thought they could get pregnant from a toilet seat or from oral sex or could not figure out how gays had sex.
- Rana asked that we narrow the conversation to curriculum and parental rights, rather than trying to cover everything in two hours.
- Someone from the mayor's office reached out to Rana, asking if this Town Hall will be about anti-gay rights. Rana replied that nothing could be further from the truth.
- Peter reminded everyone that the NWNC gave the Ad Hoc Committee a unanimous mandate. However, he would like to see someone reach out to the LGBTQ community to address this Town Hall. In addition, perhaps additional state legislators could be involved.
- Abby Bailes made a motion to support this agenda item [up to] \$1,000 expenditure; Lloyd Dent seconded this motion, yet it was amended prior to a vote.
- Rana Sharif made a motion for the NWNC to support this Town Hall to reflect the new California/LAUSD sex education curriculum's specific topics, as well as parental rights; Lloyd Dent seconded this motion yet there was no vote.
- Rana Sharif made a motion for the NWNC to approve the previously stated amendment; Lloyd Dent seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.
- Rana Sharif made a motion from the Sex-Ed Town Hall Ad Hoc Committee to approve a Town Hall on the new State/LAUSD Sex-Ed Healthy Child Curriculum specific to the curriculum and parent rights for grades K-12, with a budget not to exceed \$1,000. Funds to come from the Outreach Budget Funding will be used for venue, snacks, water, and printed materials. Lloyd Dent seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

15. Discussion and Motion to approve the December 2019 Minutes

- Rana Sharif made a motion to support this agenda item; Kelly Sooter seconded this motion and it passed  

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

16. Discussion and motion to approve the December 2020 Monthly Expense Report

- Bill Fox made a motion to support this agenda item; Rana Sharif seconded this motion and it passed unanimously.

17. Report by Budget Advocate

- Glenn Bailey reported that the white paper from the budget advocates has not yet been released. They hope to have this out by early February. Glenn requested that the NWNC agenda Council File 20-0600 [from the budget advocates] for the February meeting.
- Saturday, June 20<sup>th</sup> will be the annual Budget Day at City Hall. This event is open to all. Budget representatives are strongly encouraged to attend.

#### 18. Committee Reports

- Abby reported that the Government Affairs Committee cancelled their Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- Kathleen Edwards mentioned that the Public Safety Committee has recently met, the Neighborhood Watch signs have been installed throughout the community, and she welcomes Dave Brown to the committee as he will be a great asset regarding emergency preparedness
- Rana reported that the Outreach Committee would meet at 8.30AM on Wednesday, January 15<sup>th</sup> at the Starbucks at 19301 Nordhoff Street. She is working with Tara Vahdani to get a band to perform at the Oakridge Park Plaque Unveiling on Sunday, January 26<sup>th</sup>.
- Jennifer reported that the Education and Public Affairs Committees would have a joint meeting. The Education Committee anticipates an NPG from the Nobel Middle School to support their annual Tovey Run, scheduled for Thursday, April 2<sup>nd</sup>.
- Glen Wilson is working on scheduling meetings of the Beautification Committee as well as the Bylaws Committee.
- Kelly reported that the updated standing rules should be approved during the February meeting.
- Lloyd reported that the Land Use Committee would like to meet, but there is a problem with a venue. It is hoped this could be agenda'd in February. The Northridge Park restricts meetings to 90-minutes (which is insufficient) and there is a concern regarding background noise. The outdoor patios at restaurants may be possibilities, but there is a problem with noise. Lloyd hoped that Jose from DONE could provide something in writing for meeting procedures and locations. Rana offered to help; the Nobel is difficult as it must go through the LAUSD, and that adds another layer of bureaucracy. The Northridge Public Library is difficult at they must go through the LA Public Library system.
- Kelly reached out to the Northridge Fashion Center, which has a small conference room. But it was too small and inadequate for the August retreat.

#### 19. Reports by Liaisons

- As Homelessness Liaison, Gail reported that the Museum of Social Justice is sponsoring a photo display [photographed by the homeless] at the Paseo de la Plaza, CSUN.
- The job fair for the homeless, to be held Saturday, January 19<sup>th</sup> at the Freedom Church at 9200 Owensmouth Avenue, has been postponed.
- CD12 is sponsoring a Connect Day for the Homeless, tentatively scheduled for Thursday, February 20<sup>th</sup>. Additional information will be presented at the February meeting.
- Councilman Bob Blumenfield as started a safe parking program from 6PM until 8AM within his CD3.

#### 20. Comments by board members

- Jennifer departed at 9.50PM.

#### 21. Adjournment

- Bill Fox made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9.52PM; Kelly Sooter seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.