

APPROVED
 Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)
 General Board Meeting (GBM) via Zoom
 Tuesday, 13 September 2022

I. Call to Order and Board Roll Call

- President Abby Bailes called the meeting to order at 6.18PM and welcomed eleven board members and at least three stakeholders.
- A quorum was declared via the following roll call:
 Here (11) Abigail Bailes, Brian Cathcart, Kathleen Edwards, Jorge Jimenez, Janis Kraft, Jennifer Krowne, Sonny Liampetchakul, Joel Lowell, Angelica Robinson, Glen Wilson, and Greg Wood

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- Abby led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. General Public Comments

- No one had any comments.

IV. Announcements

Agenda Item	Event	Date	Time	Notes
a.	NWNC Executive Committee Meeting	Tuesday, October 4 th	7PM	Via Zoom
b.	NWNC General Board Meeting	Tuesday, October 11 th	6.15PM	Via Zoom
c.	NWNC Ice Cream Social	Saturday, September 17 th	10.30AM to 2.30PM	At the Oakridge Park; this will include a historic designation at the Oakridge Estate House
d.	2022 LA Congress of Neighborhood Councils	Saturday, September 24	Via Zoom	This is open to board members as well as stakeholders

- Abby anticipates hundreds of people attending Saturday’s ice cream social; she hoped all NWNC board members could also attend.
- Set-up will start at 9AM, with the ice cream being served beginning at 10.30AM.
- The small adjacent parking area will be reserved for loading, unloading, and the LAPD.
- Joel will bring water and ice (three 20 to 25 lbs. bags) at approximately 9AM.
- Abby will bring her cooler; other board members are also encouraged to bring coolers.

V. Swearing in of new NWNC Board Member Greg Wood by Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) Official

- In the absence of a DONE representative, Greg recited the Neighborhood Council Board Oath and was met with a round of applause.

VI. Presidential Comments

- Abby expressed disappointment in how DONE handled Greg’s on-boarding, including training, acquisition of log-in credentials, etc.

VII. Government Reports

a. Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division

- Officer Sandra Zamora reported that she would host a basic car meeting next week.
- There was a recent homicide in Northridge at a banquet hall near the intersection of Parthenia Street and Corbin Avenue. This was an isolated incident between family members at an engagement party.
- Eight French bulldog puppies were recently stolen from an apartment at 9400 Corbin Avenue. Please alert Sandra If you see any postings for someone attempting to sell these valuable dogs.
- Wednesday, September 14th there will be a grand reopening and ribbon-cutting at the WalMart at 19821 Rinaldi Street between 8AM and 11.30AM; SLO Zamora will be joined by other public safety officials and CD12 representatives.
- Saturday, September 24 will be the 2nd annual 25-mile Val Martinez Memorial Bike Ride starting at 7AM at the LAPD's Mission Station at 11121 Sepulveda Boulevard. They will stop at the Devonshire Station at approximately 11.30AM for a tribute to fallen officers.
- Tuesday, October 11th at 11AM, Sandra will co-host "Coffee with Cop" at the Starbucks at 19759 Rinaldi Street.
- Friday, October 7th will be the 25th Annual "All You Can Eat" Pasta Dinner in support of the Supporters of Law Enforcement in Devonshire. This will be held at St. Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church at the corner of Balboa Boulevard and Plummer Street. Proceeds will be used to
 - Purchase "non city" supplied equipment for the officers,
 - Better serve our community, and
 - Promote community policing
- The trailer renovations (which were partially financially supported by the NWNC) are undergoing.
 - Tuesday, September 27th Electronics and telephones may be disconnected
 - Wednesday, September 28th Furniture will be relocated
- For additional information, please email Sandra at 35947@lapd.online

b. CD 12 City Council Representative

- Public Safety Deputy Matt Hernandez from CD12 reported the following:
 - Beginning Sunday, October 9th, a suggestion box program will open to solicit improvement ideas for the city. Previous suggestion programs capped at twelve projects per council district. There is now a maximum of 25-projects per council district.
 - In December, the city council's housing committee will discuss ending the city's eviction moratorium. This issue will then be discussed by the full city council. All accrued rent may be due by December 2023.
 - Stakeholder Michelle Hales mentioned that on Tuesday, September 6th she reported that a box truck was on fire along Reseda Boulevard. Once the fire was extinguished, she reached out to 311 for the truck's remains to be cleared away. However, the unsafe skeleton of the truck remains. Matt replied that it could take a month to tow away this truck. There is currently merely one heavy-duty tow truck for the entire city.
 - Kathleen asked when the turn signs at Tampa Avenue and Chatsworth Street, as well as Chatsworth Street and Vanalden Avenue, could be installed. Matt is awaiting a list of approved projects from the city's Department of Transportation.

- Jennifer mentioned that families use the marked crosswalk at Wilbur Avenue and Superior Street near the Topeka School, yet few drivers stop. Perhaps the city could install a speed bump or flashing light to capture the driver's attention?
 - Board members mentioned that there seems to be a problem at the CD12 offices. Voice mail messages are rarely returned. Matt requested that when one writes to a CD12 employee, please cc: Matt on the email so that he can help reach out to his co-worker.
- c. Other Government Departments/Agencies
- No other government representatives were available.
- d. DONE
- Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Joel Gonzalez from DONE was not available.
- e. Budget Advocate
- Glenn Bailey mentioned that the advocates met with the city's administrative officer on Monday, August 29th to discuss revenue sources. Part 2 of this discussion [covering expenditures] will be held on Monday, October 3rd at 6PM.
 - The advocates meeting of Saturday, September 17th will include a discussion on the various city departments.
 - Please visit the advocates website at <https://www.budgetadvocates.org> for additional information.

VIII. NWNC Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee
- Other than her previous Announcements (agenda item IV) and Presidential Comments (agenda item VI), Abby had no news to report.
- b. Public Safety
- Kathleen mentioned that the Porter Ranch Neighborhood Council would meet on Wednesday, September 14th; a discussion on the closed Reseda Boulevard exit from the westbound 118 freeway is on their agenda. A CalTrans representative may also attend this meeting.
 - There is also concern about dying foliage near the 118 freeway; this could result in fires in that area.
- c. Planning and Land Use
- Jennifer mentioned that they do not have any current issues.
 - The committee may meet on Friday, September 23rd.
 - She heard that CalTrans might not start their work on the sinkhole at the Reseda Boulevard exit from the westbound 118 freeway until November.
 - Granada Hills may acquire another freeway exit from the 118. However, the Granada Hills Neighborhood Councils have opposed this freeway exit since the councils were founded in 1999.
- d. Elections
- Glenn Bailey mentioned that the city clerk has released their elections handbook, which can be found at https://clkrep.lacity.org/election/2023_NC_Election_Handbook.pdf

- He added that the election chairs of six of the eight neighborhood councils in region 2 (which covers the northwest valley) could host a joint meeting.

e. Homelessness

- Sonny reported that the city is now working on acquiring mobile homes.
- In addition, hotels that have empty rooms after 2PM may notify the city, and the city will then reach out to the homeless coordinators. However, there is a concern about what would happen when a traveler [without a reservation] arrives at 4PM, willing to spend money at gift shops and restaurants, yet is unable to acquire a room. There is a fear that many travelers will not stay in LA; instead, they will get a room in the nearby communities, such as Pasadena or Glendale. There is also a concern about who would be financially responsible for any excessive repair costs.
- Kathleen added that this issue might appear on the March 2023 or 2024 ballot.
- Abby added that the NWNC sent a “cease and desist” letter to the West Valley Neighborhood Alliance on Homelessness; there has not yet been any reply.

f. Government Affairs

- Other than her previous Announcements (agenda item IV) and Presidential Comments (agenda item VI), Abby had no news to report.

g. Beautification

- Jorge shared Abby’s frustrations with DONE and CD12. He hopes to have folks from Councilman Lee’s office participate in the NWNC’s Beautification meetings and clean-up efforts.
- In addition, there is no update on the Tampa Avenue topiaries.

h. Budget

- Joel’s specific reports will be covered in the upcoming MER review (agenda item IX.f).

i. Outreach

- After the September 17th Ice Cream Social, Janis hopes to plan a board retreat.

IX. New Business

- a. Discussion and possible motion to fund a Neighborhood Purpose Grant (NPG) from the North Valley YMCA for Annual Thanksgiving Baskets up to \$2,500. Passed unanimously by NWNC Executive Committee.
- David Hartmire, executive director of the North Valley Family YMCA, reported that they work with every school in the valley. The schools identify the neediest families, and the YMCA provides the families with a Thanksgiving basket. These gift baskets are assembled the weekend of November 12th and 13th, and distributed to the schools on Monday, November 14th.
 - David added that on Thursdays, the YMCA distributes fresh produce to over sixty families.
 - Stakeholder John Hales mentioned that the YMCA used to host a fundraising scholastic book fair; he wondered if the YMCA would do that again. David replied that a book fair is not planned for the near future. Since COVID, their staff has been reduced from twelve managers down to two, so they are doing significantly less activities.
 - Last year, the NWNC approved a \$2k NPG for the YMCA’s Thanksgiving baskets.

- Kathleen Edwards made a motion to approve this \$2,500 NPG; Janis Kraft seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously
 - Along with the basket full of healthy and delicious food, recipients will also receive a flyer from the NWNC. These flyers should be provided to the YMCA by Thursday, November 3rd.
- b. Discussion and possible motion to fund up to \$1,000 for NPG from Friends of West Los Angeles for costs related to Annual Greater LA Safety and Preparedness Fair, Sunday, November 13th at the Green Lot, Exposition Park. Passed unanimously by NWNC Executive Committee.
- Cynthia Saffir is the lead organizer, and one of four volunteers, coordinating the 4th annual Greater LA Safety and Preparedness Fair.
 - Regretfully, they will be unable to give away emergency supplies.
 - Their last fair attracted approximately 800 attendees.
 - This fair will include over a hundred booths staffed by seismologists, LAPD, CHP, and many others providing information on bicycle safety, first aid (human as well as for pets), how to use a fire extinguisher, 15-minute hands-only CPR (on mannequins), etc. This CPR training will not include respiration, and will not qualify one for certification.
 - Angelica wondered if gun safety would be discussed; Cynthia replied in the negative, yet the LAPD may discuss this important topic at their booth.
 - Stakeholder Joy added that the LAPD already has several online workshops on first aid, gun safety, etc.
 - Exposition Park was chosen, as it is centrally located and most convenient for everyone via easily accessible public transportation. Currently, the fair’s organizers are unable to waive the state’s parking lot fee, which could cost \$15/vehicle. Kathleen and other NWNC board members hoped this could be take care of.
 - Joel, Jennifer, and stakeholder John Hales expressed hesitation that many from Northridge may not want to deal with traffic and parking by driving all the way down to Expo Park. Angelica and Jorge added that they go over the hill on a regular basis and did not consider that a deterrent.
 - In response to someone’s question, Cynthia reported that several neighborhood councils have donated from \$500 (including the North Hills Neighborhood Council) to \$4,000 for this event.
 - Abby asked if they would have pre-registration. Cynthia replied in the affirmative; this pre-registration will also request zip codes so that attendance quantity can be reported back to the NWNC.
 - Kathleen reminded everyone that the Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair, what was previously held in the west valley, has been discontinued since the organizer, Mr. Bill Hopkins passed in early 2020. It is unlikely that could start up again. In the interim, this may be the only safety and preparedness fair available this year or next year.
 - Glenn Bailey reminded everyone that the West Valley Disaster Preparedness Fair was formed by an alliance of west valley neighborhood councils and run by volunteers with funding from the councils. The first few events were held at LAFD Station #87 at 10124 Balboa Boulevard. Then, Bill Hopkins formed the 503c3 Southern California Preparedness Foundation to submit NPGs, handle costs, acquire donations, etc.
 - Joel Lowell made a motion to reduce this NPG’s amount from \$1k to \$500; Jennifer Krowne seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (6)	Bailes, Kraft, Krowne, Liampetchakul, Lowell, and Robinson
No (3)	Cathcart, Edwards, and Jimenez
Ineligible (1)	Wood

Absent (1) Wilson

- Kathleen Edwards made a motion to approve this NPG for \$500, and requested follow-up regarding the attendee quantity from the Northridge West community; Brian Cathcart seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
- c. Discussion and update on Digital Social Media Policy and AB 992, effective 4 October 2022.
- Abby mentioned that there is a recording of this training available online.
 - Kathleen added that if a known board member posted a comment or merely a “thumbs up” on a private social media account, and this issue came before the NWNC, someone could file a grievance against the NWNC.
 - The proposed digital social media policy has gone through the neighborhood councils for several years and was recently signed off by Governor Newsom.
 - Glenn Bailey added that the seven Bureau of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) approved this via a four/three vote. However, a board member later changed her mind, when two of the BONC members were absent.
 - For additional information, please visit the following:
 - Proposed Resolution by the BONC Digital Communications Policy for the Neighborhood Councils (as of 1 March 2022) https://northridgewest.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Policy-as-adopted-_unmarked-version-Digital-Communications-Policy.pdf
 - State Legislative Update: Proposed Changes to the Brown Act <https://northridgewest.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/8.15.22-State-Legislative-Update-for-BONC-Brown-Act.pdf>
- d. Update on NWNC Board Member elections website with information available from EmpowerLA
- Janis and Glen had no update on this issue. However, additional information may be found at <https://clerk.lacity.org/clerk-services/elections/nc-elections>
- e. Update on meeting locations, online platforms, and ADA review.
- Kathleen has not yet heard anything regarding this review of the Northridge Christian Church facility nor the by-laws.
 - However, the results of surveys concerning in-person meetings; willingness, readiness, and barriers can be found at <https://northridgewest.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/IN-Person-Meeting-info-Region-2-Results-2022.pdf>

f. Approval of the Monthly Expenditure Reports (MERs) for July and August 2022 NWNC.

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
July 2	Golden State Storage	Storage Facility	\$135.50
July 11	2CO.com ICDSOFT	Web Hosting	96.00
July 14	Foreign Transaction Fee	Web Hosting Fee	.86
July 29	Amazon Marketplace	General Operations	33.88
		Total	<u>\$266.24</u>

- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve the July MER; Jennifer Krowne seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
August 1	Amazon Marketplace	Refund for Undelivered Item	\$ (33.88)
August 2	Golden State Storage	Storage Facility	135.50
August 2	Apple One	Minute Taking	307.20

August 3	All American Softie	Deposit via PayPal	100.00
August 8	Apple One	Minute Taking	185.60
August 10	USPS	PO Box Rental	276.00
August 11	Deluxe	Outreach Items	900.00
August 11	Kristina Smith/The Mail Room	Monthly Web Service	250.00
August 11	Kristina Smith/The Mail Room	Monthly Web Service	250.00
August 11	Kristina Smith/The Mail Room	Monthly Web Service	250.00
August 12	Deluxe	Refund for Outreach Items	(900.00)
August 15	4Imprint	Outreach Items	486.83
August 15	4Imprint	Outreach Items	246.37
August 15	4Imprint	Outreach Items	441.54
August 15	4Imprint	Outreach Items	301.21
August 15	Amazon Marketplace	Toner	33.88
August 18	4Imprint	Refund for Outreach Items	(246.37)
		Total	<u>\$2,983.88</u>

- Many of these August expenses were outreach items for distribution at the upcoming ice cream social, however:
 - There was an error by Deluxe Promotional Products resulting in a \$900 charge, followed by a \$900 credit
 - There were some crayons that had a horrible odor. These have since been aired out in Janis’s garage and are now usable
 - Toner was purchased and shipped from Amazon, but it was returned. Therefore, it had to be repurchased and redelivered
- Joel Lowell made a motion to approve the August MER; Kathleen Edwards seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
- Brian, Kathleen and Abby discussed the previous year’s FY2021-22 budget, whereupon projects were not approved in time for expenditure in that fiscal year. This fiscal year, the NWNC will keep a closer eye on those potential expenditures. Any excessive funds (greater than \$10k) must be returned to the city’s general fund.

g. Approval of Monthly GBM Minutes for August 2022 NWNC Meeting Minutes.

- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve the August minutes; Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (9) Bailes, Cathcart, Jimenez, Kraft, Krowne, Liampetchakul, Lowell, Robinson, and Wood
Abstain (1) Edwards
Absent (1) Wilson

X. Adjournment

- Abby adjourned the meeting at 8.14PM.