

APPROVED
 Northridge West Neighborhood Council (NWNC)
 General Board Meeting (GBM) via Zoom
 Tuesday, 14 February 2023

I. Call to Order and Board Roll Call

- President Abby Bailes called the meeting to order at 6.20PM and welcomed nine board members and at least nine stakeholders.
- A quorum was declared via the following roll call:
 Here (9) Abigail Bailes, Brian Cathcart, Kathleen Edwards, Janis Kraft, Sonny Liampetchakul, Joel Lowell, Angelica Robinson, Glen Wilson, and Greg Wood
 Absent (2) Jorge Jimenez and Jennifer Krowne

II. Pledge of Allegiance

- Abby led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. General Public Comments

- Glenn Bailey from the Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils (VANC) mentioned that their recent February 9th meeting was supposed to include newly elected city attorney Hyde Feldstein, Soto, but she had to cancel. VANC’s March meeting will celebrate the 20th anniversary of VANC, with special guest speakers County Supervisor Janice Hahn and Jill Banks Barad-Hopkins, one of the founders of VANC.
- He added that State Senator Anthony Portantino recently introduced senate bill 411, to amend the Brown Act concerning open meetings, teleconferences, and committee’s appointed membership(s).
- Lionel Mares reported that Sunday, February 26th, beginning at 9AM, Sherman Way would be closed to vehicular traffic between Lindley and Shoup Avenues for the annual CicLAvia. Please visit their website at <https://www.ciclavia.org> for additional information. Their website also includes information on the upcoming Ciclava events schedule for:
 - Sunday, April 16th Pico/Union to Mid-City along Venice and Washington Boulevards
 - Sunday, May 21st Watts

IV. Announcements

Agenda Item	Meeting	Date	Time
a.	NWNC Executive Committee	Tuesday, March 7 th	7PM
b.	NWNC General Board	Tuesday, March 14 th	6.15PM

- The March 14th meeting will include a presentation by Funding Representative [for the North and South Valley] Ms. Mariel Camilo from the City Clerk’s Office.

V. Presidential Comments

- As this Valentine’s Day, Abby reminded everyone to please love one another.

VI. Government Reports

- a. Public Safety LAPD Devonshire Division
 - The non-emergency number for the LAPD is 1-877-ASK-LAPD.
 - In addition to overseeing the area south of Lassen Street (to Roscoe Boulevard) and west of Tampa Avenue (to Variel Avenue), our Senior Lead Officer (SLO) Sandra Zamora is now the

interim SLO for area 17A67, which covers the area south of Lassen Street, from Tampa [eastward] to Zelzah Avenues.

- Wednesday, February 22nd at 6PM, Sandra will host her basic car meeting for both of these areas. The Zoom link for this meeting is <https://lapd.zoom.us/j/85717067885?pwd=OHoyYUxpbWg3ZzVmRFpocjJtSGNqZz09>, Meeting ID: 857 1706 7885, Passcode 38653.
 - For additional information and non-emergencies, you may reach Sandra at 818-832-0773 or email her at 35947@lapd.online.
 - Sandra showed photos of their freshly completed offices. Their trailer was acquired in 1993, and last renovated in 2015. That 2015 renovation included unsteady mis-matched furniture. Thanks to generous donations, their trailer now includes attractive and organized cubicles, a kitchenette, and lockers. In addition to thanks to Supports of Law Enforcement in Devonshire (SOLID) and multiple neighborhood councils, she also thanked Cuevas & Cuevas Construction and ARPI Mechanical (for the upgraded HVAC).
 - Tuesday, February 21st at 11AM, the LAPD will host a social event at the Mid Valley Library at 16244 Nordhoff Street, North Hills.
- LAPD Reserve Officer David Cox, Chief Operating Officer of ZOE International, addressed the NWNC.
- ZOE works to stop child sex and human trafficking in LA and around the world by protecting children from human exploitation by:
 - Educating every sector of society about human trafficking
 - Identifying and training vulnerable children and communities
 - Equipping local advocates in communities to provide protection
 - Praying, collaborating, and developing long-term solutions to end child trafficking
 - In the countries where ZOE operates (including the USA, Japan, Australia, Thailand, and Mexico), ZOE raises awareness and provides education and training about human trafficking to inform individuals and communities about the risks that can make someone vulnerable to trafficking, how traffickers exploit others, and ways to protect oneself and others.
 - In 2022, nearly 500 child victims were rescued, one as young as 7-years old. ZOE's work led to the arrest of over 28 pimps and clients.
 - They respond within 90-minutes of receiving a call. They have a special fifty-acre campus for children until they can be placed in specialized foster care.
 - There are currently a few massage parlors in the valley that are doing criminal activities.
 - We need more adults to love and look out for children throughout the community.
 - Kathleen wondered if David was familiar with a similar organization in San Bernardino; he was not.
 - Greg spoke of a video from the LAPD that may be shared.
- b. CD12 City Council Representative
- Matt Hernandez from Councilman John Lee's office mentioned that geographically, CD12 is the 2nd largest council district in the city, encompassing the area north of Roscoe Boulevard from the 405 to the Ventura County line.
 - Last week, the city council approved John Lee's motion for increase theft prevention strategies concerning street lighting (including copper wire). Another part of the motion is a request to the city attorney's office to develop a criminal action plan and report to the city council on how they could enforce this wire theft problem.
 - Councilman Lee requested that the Bureaus of Street Lighting and Engineering amend the municipal code concerning street repaving, with an eye towards safety and environmental

concerns. What can the city do to ensure that a recently paved street is not quickly re-damaged?

- CD12 provides annual funding for overtime for the LAPD's Devonshire and Valley Traffic Divisions. These overtime funds are used for intelligence gathering and patrol of organized street racing and take-overs. The LAPD has been able to stop potential street take-overs, including at the intersection of Tampa Avenue and Nordhoff Street. This data acquisition recently led to over fifty citations and a vehicular impound.
- Kathleen mentioned that the Northridge South Neighborhood Council (NSNC) received funding from CD12 for the street banners honoring our veterans. She asked who would be the contact person for such banners. Matt replied that the best person for that task would be Jonathan Coto. Matt added that the CD12 merely provided the contact information; the NSNC did most of the legwork. CD12 must be very careful. As John Lee is running for re-election this year, it could raise an ethics concern if those banners resembled any promotion for CD12.
- Greg heard from constituents who were glad that there is increased signage along the westbound 118 freeway, alerting drivers [prior to the Balboa Boulevard exit] that the Reseda Boulevard off-ramp is closed. He also recently saw people near the memorial signage along Tampa Avenue, including family members of a victim.
- Matt and Jonathan will reach out to Councilman Lee, inviting him to the May 20th pre-election outreach event and ice cream social.
- Matt and Abby will discuss [offline] possibly placing holiday lights around the Tampa Avenue medians.

c. Other Government Departments/Agencies

- Deputy City Attorney Alin Sahagian is the LAPD's Valley Bureau Neighborhood Prosecutor who works out of the Devonshire Division.
- Alin prosecutes cases for
 - Assault with a Deadly Weapon
 - Battery
 - Domestic Violence
 - Loitering for Prostitution
 - Possession of Methamphetamine
 - Vandalism (including graffiti)
- She has discovered many prostitution cases at local massage parlors. In addition, they offer prostitution diversion program, covering such topics as:
 - Why is prostitution wrong?
 - How and where can someone get help to turn their life around?
 - STD prevention, etc.
- Alin also collaborates with criminal nuisance areas alongside the city's Departments of
 - Building and Safety
 - Homeless Services
 - LAPD
 - Mental Health
 - Transportation

d. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE)

- The NWNC's Neighborhood Empowerment Advocate Joel Gonzalez reported that the Bureau of Neighborhood Commissioners (BONC) could soon vote to extend the virtual meetings for another month or two.
- Saturday, February 25th beginning at 1PM, DONE will host an information session on Empowered Virtual Governance and In-Person Meeting Special Updates.
- The NWNC's 2023 election timetable is as follows:

Candidate Filing Opened	February 10 th
Candidate Filing Closes	March 28 th

Vote-By-Mail Ballot Request Opens	April 11 th
Vote-By-Mail Ballot Request Closes	May 22 nd
Election Day	June 10 th

- Kathleen asked about ADA accommodations for in-person meeting sites. The NWNC has already been approved to host meetings at the Northridge Christian Church at 18901 Chatsworth Street. She wondered if all committee meetings must be held in public. Joel replied that there is no firm decision on the committee meetings. However, all meeting locations must meet the ADA guidelines.
- Kathleen also heard that all neighborhood council candidates must be vaccinated. She wondered how that will be overseen and who will be responsible for enforcement. She feared that the vaccination requirement could turn away potential candidates, since testing is no longer required.
- Janis asked if Joel would have one-on-one meetings with elections coordinators and outreach chairs; his response was affirmative.

e. Budget Advocate

- Glenn Bailey mentioned that several neighborhood council board members are members of the EmpowerLA Virtual Governance Hybrid Workgroup. Additional information can be found on their website at <https://empowerla.org/evg/>
- As discussed during the February 7th BONC meeting, all neighborhood council board members must be vaccinated. Although volunteers, they are considered city employees and must follow the same requirement that city employees be vaccinated.
- Saturday, February 11th, the Advocates hosted a Town Hall on EmpowerLA's Fiscal Year 2023-24 Budget Proposal. There is a link to the presentation and PowerPoint at the advocate's website at <https://www.budgetadvocates.org/town-halls>.
- Although the advocate's full report is not yet ready, they met with Mayor Bass earlier today to discuss budget issues. They also discussed pensions, neighborhood council funding, the 2028 Olympics, infrastructure, homelessness, ethics issues, emergency management, etc.
- During the first few years of the neighborhood council system, each council received \$50k, and could roll over up to \$50k every two years. Mayor Bass perked up and sounded very interested in this idea.
- Glenn suggested that the NWNC agendaize the restoration of the \$50k/annual budget per neighborhood council.
- The city council's budget file will be 23-0600. Please reference this file number when requesting input via a Community Impact Statement.
- Abby asked if there was any interest in expanding the contractor amount above \$5k. Glenn replied that the NWNC could exceed \$5k, but this triggers increased paperwork and approval from the BONC, etc. He suggested contacting the city clerk's neighborhood council program office for clarification and additional information.
- The advocate's 2023 Budget Day will be Saturday, June 17th. It is not yet known if this will be in-person at city hall, hybrid, or via Zoom. Anyone interested in volunteering for this event, or for any committee, are urged to reach out to the advocates at <https://www.budgetadvocates.org>

VII. NWNC Committee Reports

a. Executive Committee and Government Affairs

- The next Executive Committee Meeting will be Tuesday, March 7th at 7PM.

- b. Public Safety
 - Kathleen mentioned that earlier today, the city council discussed an alternative to policing, including trauma training.
- c. Planning, Land Use and Zoning (PLUZ)
 - There was no report.
- d. Elections
 - Glen had no news to report.
- e. Homelessness
 - Sonny reported that Mayor Bass seeks to use vacant city buildings to house the homeless.
 - \$685m has already been set aside to help with housing the homeless; an additional \$60m was recently approved to help with this task.
 - This year’s homeless count results may not be available until June.
- f. Beautification
 - There was no report as Jorge was absent.
- g. Budget
 - Joel has no news to report.
- h. Outreach
 - Janis has no news to report.

VIII. New Business

- a. Possible motion to approve the Revised NWNC Budget for 2022-23
 - Treasurer Joel reviewed the proposed amended budget, considering the annual budget of \$32k, plus the \$10k of rollover funds:

Office/ Operational Expenditures	Host Reseller Group (Website	\$ 20	\$12,000
	2co.com ICDSOFT (Web Service)	100	
	USPS Post Office Box Rental	220	
	Golden State Storage	1,620	
	Mailroom (Web Hosting)	3,000	
	Apple One (Minutes at Board Meetings)	2,200	
	Meeting Meals/Snacks	1,600	
	Board Retreat	500	
	Miscellaneous	740	
	Equipment to Zoom Hybrid Meetings	2,000	
Outreach	Outreach Projects	11,000	11,000
Election	Election Promotional Materials	4,000	4,000
Neighborhood Purpose Grants	NPG	11,000	11,000
Community Improvement Projects	CIP	4,000	4,000
	Totals	\$42,000	\$42,000

- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve this revised budget; Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
- b. Possible motion to consider Granada Hills Charter (GHC) High School Robotics Team NPG request for funds up to \$5,000 for materials and competition costs
- Abby recused herself as her family is involved in this activity.
 - Robodox team member Ayush Singhal explained that this \$5k would be used to help fund participation in the San Diego Regional Competition. Due to the competition’s demanding and competitive nature, GHC will need much funding for the construction of their robot. This \$5k will go towards building materials (metals, wires, etc.), electronics, pneumatics, and tools. The GHC team hopes to also compete in smaller events to sharpen their skills and show how they can improve the robot for future and larger competitions.
 - There are three upcoming national competitions, including San Diego’s Regional Competition. Winning one of those competitions automatically admits them to the world finals.
 - Last year, their robots performed so well that they represented GHC at the world finals.
 - Specifically, their robot [made of steel, aluminum arms, and components] will detect their opponent’s color and distance in front of them.
 - Brian wondered if the kids were developing the sensors or were these components/sensors off-the-shelf. Most of those sensors will be off-the-shelf, but then it requires a very skilled mechanical engineering student to put the wiring and programming together, cut the metals, design it, etc.
 - Joel asked if the GHC students receive any funding support from the LAUSD. The response was affirmative. Although they receive a substantial portion of their funding from the LAUSD, it does not cover all their required expenses, including travel, in-competition repairs, registration, etc.
 - Someone asked if any class-work was required to be a member of this team. The only pre-requisite would be a computer science course where the students learn programming.
 - Angelica asked about other funding raising efforts the students have done. Thus far, they have raised approximately \$20k, including donations from NASA, Northrop Grumman, and other companies. They are also applying for \$5k grants from each of the other area neighborhood councils, including Northridge East and South, Reseda, etc.
 - In response to Angelica’s question, the Robotics team hopes to raise \$77,628.
 - Friday, February 17th, the students will host a fundraising event at Menchie’s Frozen Yogurt at 17840 Chatsworth Street, Granada Hills.
 - Brian asked how many kids participate in this program. There are 35-students, from 9th to 12th grade, on the Robotics Team. Each of these students learn a great deal about programming, electronics, mechanical engineering, CAD, etc.
 - Greg Wood requested a video of the Robodox results. Ayush will return to an NWNC meeting with a completion report and video. They will also include the NWNC logo on their robot. He added that the Robodox’s Instagram page can be linked from the NWNC’s website.
 - Kathleen Edwards made a motion to approve this \$5k NPG; Greg Wood seconded this motion, and it passed.

Aye (8) Cathcart, Edwards, Kraft, Liampetchakul, Lowell, Robinson, Wilson, and Wood
 Recused (1) Bailes
 Absent (2) Jimenez and Krowne

- c. Possible motion to remove Jennifer Krowne from the NWNC PLUZ Committee and appoint Brian Cathcart as the new Chairman of PLUZ
 - Jennifer resigned as she lacks the time; Brian immediately volunteered.
 - Abby Bailes made a motion to approve this agenda item; Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

- d. Motion to approve up to \$54 for NWNC's additional Zoom license
 - Abby Bailes made a motion to approve this Zoom license for the remainder of FY2022-23 (through June); Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

- e. Possible motion to approve an Election Outreach Event and Ice Cream Social featuring NWNC's NPG recipients, GHC High School Jazz Ensemble and drumline, and other community groups May 20th from 12 to 4 PM and spend up to \$6,000 on vendor, outreach, permits and other costs.
 - Janis hopes to invite the NWNC's financially supported Robodex Robot, community organizations, assemblywoman Pilar Schiavo, etc.
 - Janis already has the approval from the Parks and Recreation for this event. Sonny added that we need approval from the city, as well as proof of insurance from the Al American Softie ice cream vendor.
 - Abby Bailes made a motion to approve this event and cost; Brian Cathcart seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.

- f. Possible motion to approve participation in the Neighborhood Council - Department of Water and Power (LADWP) Memorandum of Understanding (MOU). This is a formal information and transparency agreement between Neighborhood Councils and the LADWP.
 - Kathleen mentioned that the LADWP is the only entity with which the NWNC has an MOU.
 - She has recently attended LADWP meetings and urged other NWNC board members to also attend.
 - The city previously had a contract with Mono Lake. However, many people in that community would like to cut back on their relationship with LA.
 - Brian stated that he is very much in favor of this partnership with the LADWP. He is working with people who are doing the tree inventory here in Northridge. They came up with innovative ways to increase the tree population and the water these trees will require.
 - Glenn Bailey added that the LADWP Commissioners recently approved this five-year MOU in January.
 - He also mentioned that the LADWP meetings are open to the general public. They recommend having a primary and an alternate representative of the neighborhood councils attend these meetings. These LADWP meetings are held on the 1st Saturday of every other month; the LADWP Advocacy Group meets on the 1st Saturday of the alternate month.
 - Abby Bailes made a motion for the NWNC to participate in the Neighborhood Council/LADWP MOU, and for Greg Wood to serve as the primary representative, with Kathleen Edwards and Brian Cathcart to serve as alternates; Brian Cathcart seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
 - Glenn Bailey added that this action would also require a Board Action Certification.

- g. Motion to approve Nobel Middle School as our Neighborhood Council Polling Place and spend up to \$150 to cover costs. The quote is \$300; the City can cover \$150 and the NWNC is responsible for other \$150.

- The NWNC does not need to have a representative there. The city clerk will take care of volunteer recruitment and staffing. This will prevent candidates from attending and campaigning too close to the polls.
 - Someone urged all potential volunteers to visit the city clerk’s website at <https://clerk.lacity.gov/clerk-services/elections/nc-elections/2023-nc-election-resources>.
 - Abby Bailes made a motion to approve Nobel School being the polling site and \$150 to cover the costs; Kathleen Edwards and Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
- h. Updates, recommendations, and possible motions for NC Election Outreach for Region 2 including advertising, rotary clubs, chambers, HOAs, non-profits, bench ads, etc.
- Janis and Angelica are the only board members who did not receive the postcard in the mail. Janis will work to resolve this to make certain that their addresses are correctly registered.
 - With the 2023 election less than four months away, the NWNC no longer has sufficient time to produce the bench ads.
- i. Discussion and possible motion regarding city sponsored PSA streetlight pole banners, as introduced to City Council by Councilman Lee, to be used for Outreach to inform stakeholders about the upcoming Neighborhood Council Elections
- Kathleen will reach out to Matt Hernandez from CD12 to further discuss this agenda item.
 - John Hales from the NSNC mentioned that they spent six-months assembling their banner project and offered his assistance to Kathleen. He added that CD12 had almost zero input; they merely approved the banners.

j. Approval of the Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) from January 2023

Date	Vendor	Description	Amount
December 15	EnrichLA	NPG for Topeka Elementary	\$1,000.00
January 2	Golden State Storage	Storage Facility	135.50
January 11	Apple One	Meeting Minutes	115.20
January 17	Apple One	Meeting Minutes	115.20
January 17	Kristina Smith/The Mail Room	Monthly Web Service, December	250.00
January 24	C&M Printing	Outreach Items	385.64
January 24	C&M Printing	Print and Mail Election Postcard	3,012.94
		Total	<u>\$5,014.48</u>

- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve the January MER; Angelica Robinson seconded this motion, and it passed unanimously.
- k. Approval of Monthly GBM Minutes for December 2022 and January 2023 NWNC Meetings.
- Abby Bailes made a motion to approve the December 2022 and January 2023 minutes; Joel Lowell seconded this motion, and it passed.
- Aye (7) Bailes, Kraft, Liampetchakul, Lowell, Robinson, Wilson, and Wood
 Abstain (2) Cathcart and Edwards
 Absent (2) Jimenez and Krowne

IX. Adjournment

- Abby adjourned the meeting at 8.25PM.