

# NORTHRIDGE SOUTH NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL MEETING

October 22, 2009

## MINUTES

1. Meeting called to order at 07:05pm and Pledge of Allegiance recited by all attendees present.
  - a. Roll Call – For the benefit of first-time attendees, everyone was asked to introduce him or herself. Most notable was the attendance of several members of the Sherwood Forest Homeowner Association, a key stakeholder group within the proposed NSNC.
  - b. Referenced but not in attendance for this meeting: Gabi Erickson, Judi Greenberg, David Dirro (NSNC), Donnal Poppe (President, Sherwood Forest HOA), Barry Stone (DONE)
2. Acceptance of September 24, 2009 meeting minutes – a brief discussion regarding what should be the correct protocol going forward for accepting the previous month's meeting minutes. Also, a request was made for someone to take the responsibility for taking the minutes. Chris Morneau volunteered to take the minutes at least for this particular meeting.
3. Committee Reports
  - a. Application Package Committee: Chris Morneau stated that all major components of the draft NSNC application have been assembled, most notably with the recent addition of the Outreach section prepared by Chris Sales. For the benefit of new attendees, Nick Franchino provided an overview on the status and structure of the application. Further discussion focused on the need to complete the draft application. It was agreed upon that a meeting should be held within the next two weeks for this purpose (i.e., before the next general meeting).
  - b. Outreach Committee: Chris Sales reported on the successful outreach effort at the Napa Street Elementary School Open House event on Oct. 10, 2009. Also attending that event was Gabi Erickson. Chris Sales made an appeal for additional outreach input, as well as attendance at upcoming events that present outreach opportunities. Again for the benefit of first-time attendees, Nick Franchino introduced and discussed the NSNC's website. This was identified as one of the formation group's most important outreach tools.

- c. Bylaws Committee: Nick Franchino reiterated his comment from the application package discussion that the bylaws draft is essentially done. Scott Sterling focused his discussion on what needs to be stated in the bylaws regarding elections for the NSNC Board of Directors (subsequent to certification). Scott stressed that the composition of the board must be as representative as possible, thereby reflecting the diversity of the community and its various stakeholder groups.
  - d. Assign a secretary to keep notes and post minutes of meetings: Continuation of the discussion began relative to Agenda Item # 3, above. No conclusions were made at this point in the meeting, although Sher Hogan accepted the task after the meeting adjourned.
  - e. Website discussion and training: Per Nick Franchino's recommendation, it was agreed by all to reorder this item to Agenda Item # 7, below, in place of "Councilman Grieg Smith's Representative".
4. Discussion of Meetings and Possible Action Items
- a. LAPD's 17A67's Basic Car Meeting (Chris Sales and Gabi Erickson attended): Chris Sales gave a brief summary of the meeting. A general discussion followed regarding recent actions taken by the Los Angeles City Council regarding its efforts to close illegal dispensaries and enact a moratorium on the opening of new facilities.
  - b. Sherwood Forest HOA Meeting Presentation (Steve Slutzah, Vice President): At a recent meeting, the SFHOA board moved to discontinue consideration of joining Northridge East NC, but instead to accept the NSNC's outreach efforts and support the formation of the NSNC. Mr. Slutzah reported that the SFHOA board has proposed a special meeting to further discuss the NSNC. On behalf of the SFHOA, Mr. Slutzah expressed the desire to have Sherwood Forest members included as candidates for positions on the NSNC's elected board (subsequent to certification). Mr. Slutzah also invited the NSNC to submit an article of introduction for their upcoming newsletter. This submittal must be made in advance of the SFHOA's press date of Nov. 6, 2009. Angie Kasza – a SFHOA committee member, retired educator, and long-time Northridge resident – spoke enthusiastically in support of the NSNC formation, strongly encouraging everyone to "be a voice for the community."
  - c. New Vision Committee: Scott Sterling reported on a Northridge-based group that is working with a consultant and the City to plan circulation improvements and beautification projects, focusing on Reseda Blvd and Nordhoff St in the vicinity of California State University Northridge (CSUN). Scott noted that the City Council is contributing \$75,000 for this effort, and the focus area is located within the boundaries of the proposed NSNC.

- d. Northridge 100: Scott Sterling reported on plans for celebrating in 2010 the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of Northridge. Planning is underway for events, a commemorative book, sponsorships, etc. It was mentioned that CSUN's historical archives could be an important resource for documents and photos. Some of the history of Northridge was briefly discussed, with particular interest in comments made by Angie Kasza, who has lived in Northridge since 1955.
5. Treasurer's Report – Not applicable at this time (the NSNC is not yet certified and has therefore received no funding from the City through DONE). Briefly discussed was the possibility of eventually renting office space at the CSUN Matador Student Union, which could cost as little as \$100 per month. Amenities include telephone and Internet connections, and access to bookkeeping services. On a different topic, Scott Sterling noted that roughly 10 local neighborhood councils are pooling their resources to pay for NC board elections in 2010. However, the timing of NSNC's certification will preclude it from joining this consortium.
6. Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (DONE) – Barry Stone was unable to attend the meeting. NSNC forming committee members are encouraged to review Barry's recent e-mail blasts for DONE-related news and announcements.
7. Website discussion and training (replaces agenda item "Councilman Grieg Smith's Representative"): For the benefit of new attendees, Nick Franchino provided an overview of the NSNC's interim website. Since no widescreen display was available, Nick invited those who wanted a closer look to stay for a demonstration after the meeting adjourned.
8. New Business / Open Discussion
  - a. Chris Sales introduced new attendee Adolfo Martinez, who spoke about his interest and support for the NSNC. Adolfo and his family are residents of Park Parthenia, and his two children attend public schools within the proposed boundary of the NSNC. He displayed a number of certificates that he has received for having participated in and / or completed various community events and training opportunities (including learning English). Adolfo expressed his desire to help the Northridge community through involvement with the NSNC, and meanwhile set a good example for his children.
  - b. Announcement and discussion regarding the grand opening of the LAPD Devonshire Division Police Activity League Supporters (PALS) new youth center on Wilbur Ave, just north of Parthenia St. (Sunday, Oct. 25, 2009, 4:00pm). Prior to the opening of this new facility, a temporary youth center has been operating in the Park Parthenia Community Family Center.
  - c. A new design was requested for a standardized sign-up sheet for future NSNC meetings. Chris Morneau accepted the task.
9. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm. Nick Franchino demonstrated the NSNC website from a laptop computer to several individuals after adjournment.