Northridge South Neighborhood Council
Minutes
October 27, 2011

1) Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance – Chris Sales called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm, and Judi Greenberg led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) Board of Directors Roll Call - Rebekah Choi, Judi Greenberg, Sher Hogan, Mark Johnson, Loneathea Jones, Margaret Landers, Sal Pelaez, Donnal Poppe, Chris Sales, Jan Scott, Diane Weston-Sulka. Absent: Nick Franchino (ex) Virginia Watts (ex).

3) Approval of minutes from previous meeting – Judi Greenberg moved to accept the minutes, 2nd by Jan Scott. Vote taken and motion passed unanimously.

4) Comments by public officials -
   a) CD12 – Semi Park – Explained how the land use process is handled. She said stakeholders would have an opportunity to speak at the hearing for the project on Canby Ave. The Planters on Reseda Blvd. had been placed there a few years ago. There is no longer anyone to maintain them. There’s a proposal that planters be formally adopted by businesses or get rid of them. Sidewalk responsibility – The city is talking about transferring the responsibility for sidewalk repairs to homeowners. Councilman Englander is not in favor homeowners becoming responsible for repairing the sidewalks in front of their property. CD12 is looking into how to keep this from happening. The City is responsible for taking care of the infrastructure. City Council has voted to increase sewer charges. If you reduce water usage, sewer charges also go down.
   Rosalba Gonzalez – As of January 1, 2012 The Mobile billboards loopholes has closed and they will be gone, due to many more restrictions. Even if the billboard is attached to a car it will be illegal. On November 16, 2011 there will be office hours with Bob Blumenfeld at the Child Development Institute on Owensmouth.
   b) Other public officials - None

5) Public comments - None

6) President’s Comments – Chris Sales reminded everyone about the food-sharing program and asked all to clean up after themselves. We have two open positions on the board. The monthly meeting for Nov. and Dec will be on the 3rd Thurs. and the committee meetings will be the first Mondays. Standing rules- Problem with excused absences, which should be looked at again. There is no rule currently other than a three-day notice.

Glen Bailey – He went to the city council election meeting for 2014. They spoke about a study on how to proceed at the next election and they may not run an election until 2014. It was actually supposed to be in 2012. The council will have to vote on some issues as a council.

7) Old Business
   a) Budget Update – Motion from Jan Scott to move money from: Operations –OFF $1000.00 –MIS $1000.00 and Outreach – EVE $1000.00 totaling $3000.00 and moved to Outreach Events. 2nd by Donnal Poppe. Vote taken. Motion passed.

8) New Business
   a) Traffic Coalition: 1405 Corridor Planning – Bart Reed discussed the parts of the transit system in the valley including trains and buses. Measure R was approved by voters for transportation projects in the County of Los Angeles. One of the items in measure R was set aside for the Sepulveda Corridor. Suggested fix is a tunnel from UCLA to Ventura or Van Nuys and Victory. The time through the tunnel would be about 10 minutes compared to 45 min to more than an hour. Use vannuys@metro.net email to give input about the kinds of transit solutions we want on the Van Nuys corridor. Sal Pelaez made a motion to
write a letter in support for this project. Donnal Poppe 2nd. Motion passed with one no vote.

b) Pat Lepresti from the Oakridge Estate gave a presentation of the Oakridge Estate on Devonshire Street and Reseda Blvd. The Estate was built for Barbara Stanwyck and later sold to Jack Oakie. Property was willed to the USC Film School, later developers wanted to build homes on the property and finally the city purchased the property. Currently the home is being restored through donations. The estate will be managed by the Dept. of Recreation and Parks. Friends of Oakridge is a 501C3. Webpage is www.theoakridgeestate.org. The property has trails and park areas.

c) ZV 2011-2314: Canby Transitional Living Home – A Mission on Canby Ave -90 bed facility. They want to combine the lots and house 90 people in a building currently on two lots. Footprint of building will not change. Kent Stockton, architect, explained that the original building was a school that went out of business. They will be converting the school building into family housing It will be a family facility, not single men or women. Rescue Mission Alliance has 5 facilities in the valley. They will be able to help 30 families for a longer time, help them with learning skills. They will provide showers to some, food at various locations that will be cooked at Canby. It will be a 24/7 facility with cameras. Donnal Poppe made a motion to support the request for a zone variance, Judi Greenberg 2nd. Sher Hogan made a motion to postpone the vote, 2nd by Mark Johnson. Motion to postpone failed with two votes in favor nine opposed. Return to the original motion to support the zone variance. Original motion passed with nine votes in favor and two votes opposed.

9) Committee Reports

Reports from committees – Transportation committee Sal Pelaez – There will be mobile radar trailer in front of Northridge MS, and several other places. We don’t know when the trailer will be placed there. The Community Garden will be handled by the Master Gardeners. There will be a walk through of the area on Chase Street where the Vallarta Market parking lots are located to improve access to the area for pedestrians, cyclists and motorized vehicles.  

Sher Hogan questioned why there was no information about the senior health fair. Several board members said the council had not voted on it and no one seemed to know anything about it. Sher said that she had asked for funding and that part of that funding would be used for the earthquake buckets for police officers to have in their vehicles for disaster and emergency. Judy Greenberg and Chris Sales said we did not vote on any funding for the kits and that Officer Sue Herald did not ask for funding. Officer Herald had said anyone who wanted an emergency bucket for themselves could buy one. Chris Sales said that any funding that someone wanted needed to be discussed at committee meetings and then brought to the full board.

b) Board member announcements - Judi Greenberg announced she was collecting toy donations for the PALS Center and people should bring the toys to the next meeting.

10) Adjournment – Sher Hogan made a motion to adjourn at 8:45 pm, 2nd by Diane Weston-Sulka. Motion carried.