



Northridge South Neighborhood Council Minutes

August 27, 2015

1) Call to Order & Pledge of Allegiance – Chris Sales called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM and led us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) Board of Directors Roll Call – Present: James Ashjian, Margaret Landers, Patty Ferman, Sal Pelaez, Donnal Poppe, Jose Portillo, Chris Sales, Virginia Watts, Dagmar Abarghoel, Michael Bell, Diane Weston-Sulka, Fred Youssif, Marilynn Meyer and Jennifer Elliott. No absences.

3) Approval of minutes from previous meeting – Jim Ashjian made a motion to accept the minutes from the previous meeting, June 25, 2015. 2nd by Fred Youssif. Motion passed with 14 votes. Sal Pelaez made a motion to accept the corrected minutes from the July 6, 2015 Emergency Meeting. 2nd by Donnal Poppe. Motion passed with yes 14 votes.

4) Comments by public officials

a) CD12 – Jonathan Coto – August 2015 updates. Councilman Englander along with Councilman Bonin presented a motion asking LADOT and Fire Department to report back on recommendations to enhance the City's ability to enforce safe travel speeds and effective speed enforcement. Councilman Englander partnered with Council President Herb Wesson to bring laws aimed at regulating drones in the City of Los Angeles. July 31, 2105 a Revisit Reseda event. There was the first art walk and scavenger hunt. Awarded a grant fund from IOBY, a crowd resourcing platform-connecting projects with funding support to make our neighborhoods better. Fred Youssif asked about fixing sidewalks, an on going issue. Public Works is working on the project. Sal Pelaez reminded Jonathan that October 7, 2105 is National Walk to School Day. On September 9, 2015 Conversation with Councils will be held at the new San Fernando Valley Rescue Mission in Northridge, CA. Per Donnal Poppe it is legal for beekeeper's to keep bees in the city of Los Angeles. Ankur Patel introduced himself as the new School & Community Coordinator. His job is to help the community with school issues.

b) Other public officials – Raj Dhillon District Representative for Senator Robert Herzberg introduced himself. The Senator is in Sacramento and will be back in October and would like to come to a NSNC meeting. Max Reyes Assistant Director of Government & Community relations at CSUN spoke of Matadors Day of Service on August 29, 2015. NSNC, NWNC, CD12 and CSUN students to clean up campus. Chris Sales said this is now a semi annual event. There will be a barbeque after the clean up.

5) Public comments – Elaine Langdon spoke of a needed clean up on the Roscoe Bl. median across from the Coptic church at Roscoe Bl. Louise Ave., 30% of the trees are dead. Chris Sales said that NSNC did a clean up some years ago. He suggested that NSNC would like to invest money in the clean up and then the neighbors would have to take responsibility after that for the maintenance. Chris Sales will talk with Don Larson regarding a clean up. There is also the ongoing issue with parking in that area from the services and events at the Coptic Church. Church could help with the clean up was Chris's thought. Glenn Bailey reported that the City Council approved an additional \$5,000 for the Neighborhood Councils for a total of \$42,000. Official notice will be forth coming. The Congress of Neighborhoods meeting is September 26, 2015 at Los Angeles City Hall. There will be a new large sign for neighborhood watch, aluminum and reflective. Budget Advocates need to form their budget requests now. Will be finished by Oct and sent out to NC's for comments. Glen Bailey, is asking for \$500 from each NC to support the new flag project. Irene Boyd spoke of VPAC's first performance on September 19, 2015. World-class dance company Diavolo will perform. She encouraged all of the community to attend along with Chris Sales.

6) President's Comments – none at this time

7) Old Business

- **a) 2015/2016 Fiscal Year Priorities Presentation** – Margaret Landers reported on the monies spent and the issues that we had with new procedures and forms. We left a balance of \$6,000.

- **b) June/July Budget Recap** – Margaret Landers gave the budget reports describing how funds were spent. Ending budget \$6,000.K in account that we were unable to make use of.
- **c) Approval of Monthly Reconciliation Report** – Margaret Landers made a motion to accept the Monthly Reconciliation Report for June 25, 2015. 2nd by Jose Portillo. The motion passed with 14 yes votes. There was no meeting in July 2015. Margaret Landers made a motion to approve the MER for July 2015. 2nd by Donnal Poppe. Motion passed with 14 yes votes.

8) New Business

- **a) Motion of the Executive Committee to request a full environmental/noise and vibration report on the Raymer to Bernson Double Track Project prior to any final project vote** – Briana Guardino gave an overview of the wording for the motion and brief overview of their position on the double tracks. No need for the double track. No issue with improvements to Northridge Station and safety upgrades for crossings. She cited that passenger trains are mostly empty. She spoke of safety issues for homes on or near the double track addition. Also emergency vehicles will have issues. She contends that by giving Union Pacific their own track, the area will have a problem with highly explosive oil tankers. The blast radius is one mile. Property values will be decreased. Chris Sales commented that the area where the tracks cross over could be very problematic. Briana asked for NSNC to vote no on the project. Chris Sales answered we cannot say no at this time and we will vote on a later date. Chris Sales made a motion to ask Metro to provide a full environmental impact report by an impartial third-party agency. 2nd by Margaret Landers. The motion passed with 14 yes votes.
- **b) LA Deputy City Attorney Alin Sahagian Community Update** – Alin spoke of her position with the Police Dept.- Devonshire Division. Currently working on 3 safety projects, homeless problem without prosecution. City agencies need to do more outreach. There is quality of life issue within L.A. city parks, need to give the parks back to the community. Outreach event days at local parks with tables for outreach organizations to provide info to the homeless. She will prosecute cases that are breaking laws. Second project, is the Roscoe Bl./Nordhoff St. off ramp encampments. There was an outreach event. Third project at the Nordhoff St. & Reseda Bl. shopping center where crimes are occurring. Chris Sales commented that the homeless have a lot of mental issues. Discussion occurred on how to handle the homeless situation as they occur. Alin answered that if not presenting danger or a tent up, they have the right to use services. Camping at parks is a violation of the law. Donnal Poppe asked what a citizen should do. Alin said care packages are good, but not always used in a positive way. Chris asked about the recycling center behind the I Hop Restaurant without a market presence, she is working on that issue. A discussion occurred regarding second houses on lots in Sherwood Forest, people living and renting out RV's on their lots. Cars left on street within a 72-hour period can be cited. RV's, no restriction on living in on the street. Board Member Virginia Watts left the meeting after this discussion.
- **c) Presentation by the Central District of California US Bankruptcy Courts on online self help bankruptcy resources** – Samuel Moore made presentation working with bankruptcy court. Services for bankruptcy, cannot provide legal help but can point in right direction. Programs are free for people that cannot afford attorneys. Agency partners with pro bona licensed attorneys to give advice. The closest office is in Woodland Hills. Chris will have information put on NS website. Contact info 855-460-9641. Link on website www.cacb.uscourts.gov. Terry Kinsley, associate of Samuel Moore works at the Woodland Hills office.
- **d) Planning Item ZA - 2014-4883 (CU) Wells Fargo Signage – Nordhoff/Reseda - discussion and vote** - there was discussion amongst the board members regarding the size of the sign. Donnal Poppe made a motion to submit a letter to the City Planning Board requesting a reduction in the size of the sign. 2nd by Margaret Landers. Motion passed with 9 yes votes, 3 opposed votes and 1 abstention vote.

9) **Committee Reports** - none.

10) **Board member announcements** - none

11) **Adjournment** – meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.