



Northridge South Neighborhood Council Minutes of Regular Board Meeting October 27, 2016

1) Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by James Ashjian. Sal Pelaez led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2) Board of Directors Roll Call: Present: James Ashjian, Michael Bell, Jennifer Elliott, Jose Hernandez, Courtney Molnar, Sal Pelaez, Jose Portillo, Stephanie Schwinn. Excused absence: C.J. Berina, Nour Chaaban, Marilynn Meyer. Absent: Valerie Collins, Karen Lott, Donnal Poppe, Fred Youssif.

3) Approval of minutes from previous meeting: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 22, 2016 board meeting as written made by Michael Bell and seconded by Jose Portillo. Motion passed with eight “yes” votes.

4) Comments by public officials:

a. CD 12: Jonathan Coto, Field Deputy: Federal laws protect the homeless, so it is not that the city doesn't want to help. If we need assistance with homeless issues we may contact Erich King (community liaison to LAPD) at 818-882-1212. Regarding getting blue curbs in front of residences, the City Council voted to establish a process to obtain them. All neighborhood councils were granted an additional \$5,000.00 for this fiscal year. We are trying to win a grant for the LIT program (light and music show on Reseda Boulevard). Need to vote at Challenge.LA2025.org. Voting ends on Friday, October 28, 2016. At the moment the LIT proposal is in sixth place.

b. LAPD: Efren Corral, Senior Lead Officer, Devonshire Division: In the City of Los Angeles overall, crime is down 3.7% from last year. Valley-wide it is down 6.3%. In Devonshire Division it is down 13.6%, but violent crime is up 34%. The Devonshire Division speed-measurement trailer is out of commission. Regarding car and home break-ins, take a common-sense approach: lock your doors, don't leave your keys in the ignition, use The Club on your steering wheel. Regarding homeless encampments, it is not against the law to be homeless, so the LAPD has been instructed not to enforce action against them. HOPE (Homeless Outreach and Proactive Engagement) teams go around to the encampments to offer assistance to help end homelessness. Information regarding HOPE teams are on the desk in the back.

LAUSD: Julio Anleu, Field Representative, Board District Six: If we have any questions or concerns regarding Lorne Street Elementary, please contact him at 213-241-6388 for referral to Board of Education member Scott Schmerelson. Parents may now start shopping for magnet programs.

DONE: Kathleen Quinn, Neighborhood Council Advocate: The deadline for council members to update their Code of Conduct is Tuesday, November 1, 2016. Each council has been awarded an additional \$5,000.00 for this fiscal year. Councils may appoint a liaison for homeless issues. The “LA311” app data gets aggregated by neighborhood

council. The mayor's website lists timelines for various tasks. If we have any troubles or questions, let her know at 818-374-9893.

5) General public comment on non-agendized items: *Don Larson, Northridge Sparkle:*

The landscaping on the median on Reseda Boulevard is "zero-scape". The dedication of the flagpole will be in December 2016 and will be open to the public. He has been working hard on Northridge's homeless problem by putting homeless people through an eight-week program that teaches them how to paint, landscape, etc., which will prepare them for employment. Northridge is the first area in the city to do this. A Clean Streets grant is pending, and \$6,000.00 for the program has been raised via GoFundMe in twelve days. *Iris Petrisca:* Lives across the street from the Coptic Church on Roscoe Boulevard. People have been parking across from her house, taking pictures of her house and making threats. She does not feel safe in her house anymore. Can we get "no parking" signs? James Ashjian said he would contact the neighborhood prosecutor. Kathleen Quinn suggested contacting LADOT for "permit" parking, as opposed to "no" parking. *Glenn Bailey, President of Northridge East Neighborhood Council:* The Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils Planning Forum will be on Thursday, November 10, 2016. The registration deadline is next week.

6) President's Comments: None

7) Old Business:

a. Budget Update: At the moment we have about \$4,500.00 in the bank account.

b. Approval of Monthly Reconciliation Reports for August and September 2016: Expenditures were primarily operational items. At the end of September 2016 we had about \$7,000.00 in the bank account. The August 2016 MER was approved with eight "yes" votes. The September 2016 MER was approved with eight "yes" votes.

c. Development at 8400 North Balboa Boulevard: This is the Harman International campus site. No representative for the project was present and no action was taken.

d. Development at 8350-8430 Reseda Boulevard: This is the former Rydell Cadillac/Oldsmobile dealership site. Noel Fleming, Liner LLP's representative (representing the developer), gave a presentation and distributed updated project specifications. The site is presently zoned commercial and parking, and the developer wants to make the entire site commercial. There is no height change to the buildings facing Canby Avenue. No affordable or Section 8 housing is included. The project will provide better emergency vehicle access to Canby Avenue than exists now. The City Planning Commission hearing is November 17, 2016 at Van Nuys City Hall. Stakeholder *Marvin Harris* asked how long the project construction would be, and Noel Fleming said 18 months. She also said that there would be no impact on traffic. Marvin Harris asked what the impact of the trucks and traffic would be on air quality, and Noel Fleming said that there would be no significant impact, per the study. A copy of the study is on the City Planning website. Stephanie Schwinn asked what the radius of the traffic study was, and what time of day was it done. Kyndra Casper, another Liner LLP representative, said it was a mile radius, but a radius can be smaller or larger. The traffic count is done during peak travel hours: weekdays from 7:00 – 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. Stakeholder *Chris Conger* spoke against the project. He brought a Daily News article, "Building Projects Cause Backlash", and said that we are not alone with buildings that are built out of code, and that zoning variances should not be granted just because a developer wants it. Stakeholder *William Lowe* spoke against the project. He said the developer is asking for "spot zoning", which is a no-no, and that the project is short on parking by about 50 spots. The intersection of Reseda Boulevard and Chase Street was supposed to have been widened, which was never done, and he wants that done before this project starts. Stakeholder *Cassie Schneider* spoke against the project. She said the project is too big,

larger than it needs to be. Why cut into the Canby Avenue/Darby Avenue community, causing congestion? The residents put a lot into their community and want to maintain its integrity. Are we becoming Manhattan? The project has too many units. Why do the homeowners have to give so much? It is good to improve Reseda Boulevard, but not to encroach on the community. Have a complex, but a reasonable one. James Ashjian suggested that she go to the hearing on November 17, 2016. Stakeholder *Don Larson* spoke in favor of the project, suggesting that the project be seen as an opportunity, that it will be the best thing on Reseda Boulevard. Regarding street widening, make the promises the city made come to fore.

8) New Business:

a. Sustainability Alliance Mission Statement and NSNC Representatives:

Glenn Bailey, of the Neighborhood Council Sustainability Alliance, said there are two motions: one for joining the Alliance and one to appoint representatives. Sal Pelaez moved to have the NSNC become a member of the Alliance, and Michael Bell seconded. Motion passed with eight “yes” votes. James Ashjian moved that Sal Pelaez, C.J. Berina and Jose Portillo be appointed as representatives to the Alliance, and Michael Bell seconded. Motion passed with eight “yes” votes. No action was taken on approving the mission statement.

b. Statement by Food and Water Watch Regarding Aliso Canyon: No representative was present and no action was taken.

c. Presentation by Community Alliance Church Regarding New Facilities:

Peter Elias, representative for Community Christian Church, gave a presentation. The church is located at 18827 Roscoe Boulevard. In about a month or so they will re-file plans filed ten years ago to add new recreational facilities and 106 parking spaces. No zoning variances are being sought. They want to increase membership capacity to 350. The church purchased two adjacent residential lots, which will be used for the new facilities. When the corner lot at Roscoe Boulevard and Wilbur Avenue becomes available they want to purchase it for additional parking. James Ashjian said the concept was okay but suggested going to CD 12 and Northridge Vision to get their input. We will defer action pending the results of these consultations and further discussion.

d. PALS Neighborhood Purpose Grant: Tabled to the November 2016 meeting.

9) Committee Reports: None

10) Board member announcements:

Jose Portillo announced that Park Parthenia will hold free flu shots on Friday, December 2, 2016.

James Ashjian announced that the next agenda meeting will be on Monday, November 7, 2016 and the board meeting will be on Thursday, November 17, 2016.

11) Adjournment: Michael Bell moved to adjourn and Sal Pelaez seconded. Approved with eight “yes” votes. Meeting adjourned at 9:10 p.m.