



Northridge South Neighborhood Council  
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting  
June 22, 2017

- 1) Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by James Ashjian. Sal Pelaez led the Pledge of Allegiance.
- 2) Board of Directors Roll Call: Present:** James Ashjian, Michael Bell, Valerie Collins, Jennifer Elliott, Jose Hernandez, Karen Lott, Marilyn Meyer, Sal Pelaez, Donnal Poppe, Jose Portillo  
**Absent:** C.J. Berina, Nour Chaaban, Courtney Molnar, Stephanie Schwinn, Fred Youssif
- 3) Approval of minutes from May 25, 2017 Meeting:** Motion to approve the minutes as written made by Jose Portillo and seconded by Donnal Poppe. Motion passed with ten “yes” votes.
- 4) Comments by public officials:**
  - a. CD 12:** Not present
  - b. Other public officials:** *Armine Sargsyan, Assemblymember Matthew Dababneh’s Office:* AB 1421, calling for a train noise/vibration study, passed the assembly and is in the senate. The 2017-18 state budget was passed and is awaiting the governor’s signature. The budget includes expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit, contributing to the Rainy Day Fund, and increasing K-12 school funding. Matthew Dababneh will hold office hours at the Van Nuys district office on Friday, June 23, 2017 from 12:00-2:00. The office number is 818-904-3840.
- 5) General public comment on non-agendized items:** None
- 6) President’s Comments:** None
- 7) Old Business:**
  - a. Budget Update:** None
  - b. Approval of Monthly Reconciliation Report:** The city is changing to its new accounting system on July 1, 2017, so we prepaid some expenses. In May 2017, we paid two NPGs: one for the North Valley YMCA Healthy Kids Day and one for Northridge Beautification’s sculpture park at Nordhoff Street and Zelzah Avenue. The May 2017 MER was approved with ten “yes” votes. In June 2017, we contributed \$2,000 toward the Reseda Boulevard Summer Series. The June 2017 MER was approved with ten “yes” votes.
  - c. July 2017 Meetings:** No committee or stakeholder meetings will be held due to Northridge Middle School’s closure.
  - d. Congress of Neighborhood Councils:** Register online in advance of the event. More information will be provided in the future.
  - e. Jehovah’s Witnesses Kingdom Hall at 19519 Roscoe Boulevard:** The city planning hearing was held but the request was sent back to NSNC for our input. *Patrick McIlhenney, Architect:* A proposed mitigated negative declaration was issued in the following areas:  
**Aesthetics (Light):** Outdoor lighting shall have shielding so that light cannot be seen from adjacent residential properties, public right-of-way, or from above.

Parking lot light poles shall not exceed 18 feet in height, shall use LEDs, and be used only on an as-need basis. Parking lot lighting shall not be used after 10:00 p.m.

**Habitat Modification:** Project activities should take place outside the breeding bird season (generally from March 1 to August 31)

**Tree Removal:** Prior to permit issuance, prepare plot plan indicating location, size, type and general condition of all existing trees on site and within adjacent public right(s)-of-way

**Transportation/Traffic:** Project driveway and internal drive aisle shall be reconfigured to be fully aligned with no curves within 50 feet of the property line

No traffic study was done. The number of parking spaces exceeds the code requirements. Newly-added “grasscrete” spaces in the back will accommodate 11 more cars, for a total of 60 spaces. There are 65 Jehovah’s Witnesses families in the NSNC area. A new tree report will need to be submitted due to the passage of time since the initial report. *Barbara Perle, stakeholder:* The site is zoned RA; before then, the area consisted of walnut trees. The site is too small for this project. 86 homeowners signed a petition against the project, and others sent e-mails. There will be air, noise and light pollution. The light posts are not night-sky-compliant. She lives behind the site and her property value will decline. *Unidentified stakeholder:* Wants the NSNC to order a traffic study. *Steffan Meyer, stakeholder:* The area is all residential, nothing else. *Marilynn Meyer (as board member):* The property is large and it will be sold to someone. Three McMansions could be built there, or a multi-family dwelling such as the one across the street from the site. Look to the future--worse projects could go in. The property at the corner of Roscoe Boulevard and Shirley Avenue, next to the site, is also for sale.

Donnal Poppe moved to approve the project, with the following amendment: if we approve the project, the applicant will provide a traffic study to the city, and provide a greater number (10?) of mature trees. Sal Pelaez seconded the motion. The motion failed with two “yes” votes (Ashjian, Pelaez), six “no” votes (Bell, Collins, Elliott, Meyer, Poppe, Portillo) and two abstentions (Hernandez, Lott). Our “no” vote on the project will be reported to Hannah Lee, CD 12 Chief Planning and Land Use Deputy.

## 8) New Business:

- a. **Arcade at 8943 Reseda Boulevard and Additional Outreach Projects:** Donnal Poppe moved to approve the arcade and Michael Bell seconded. Motion passed with ten “yes” votes. No action was taken regarding additional outreach projects.
- b. **Other Opportunities for Outreach Programs:** No action taken
- c. **Election of NSNC Officers:** Tabled to the August 2017 stakeholder meeting
- d. **2017-18 Annual Budget:** Michael Bell explained the budget proposal for 2017-18 and the reconfiguration from five expenditure categories to three (“General Administrative and Operations”, “Community Improvement Projects” and “Neighborhood Purpose Grants”). The budget was passed with ten “yes” votes.
- f. **Additional Street Cleanup Projects:** No action taken

## 9) Committee Reports: None

- a. **PALS Bike Repair Event:** Will be held on Saturday, July 22, 2017.
- b. **National Night Out on August 1, 2017:** Will be held at Northridge Park. Participation of NSNC board members is needed.

## 10) Board member announcements: None

**11) Adjournment:** James Ashjian moved to adjourn and Jennifer Elliott seconded. Approved with ten “yes” votes. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.