



Northridge South Neighborhood Council
Minutes of Regular Board Meeting
Meeting conducted via ZOOM
January 27, 2022
by Jennifer Elliott, Secretary

1) Welcoming Remarks:

- a. Call to Order and Flag Salute:** The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by James Ashjian, who led the Pledge of Allegiance.
b. Board Member Roll Call: Present: James Ashjian, Tiffany Caldwell, Brittany Carr, Ann Dorsey, Jennifer Elliott, Jack Fitzpatrick, John Hales, Kevin Kratzer, Marilynn Meyer, Steve Slutzah, Scott Wright.
Absent: Jimmie Stewart **Vacant:** Organizational stakeholder (two positions), Youth stakeholder

2) Discussion and Action:

- a. Discussion and Action on Minutes of December 16, 2021 Regular Meeting:** Motion to approve the December 16, 2021 minutes as written made by Steve Slutzah and seconded by Jack Fitzpatrick. Motion passed with eleven “yes” votes.

3) Government Reports:

a. Public Safety: LAPD Devonshire officers Leo Santizo and Sandra Zamora shared a Devonshire Area Crime Map for January 16 – January 22, 2022 and reviewed statistics. They also shared Basic CAR maps and statistics for areas 17A67, 17A81 and 17A95 for December 26, 2021 – January 22, 2022. Be alert for people jumping into the passenger seat of your car and demanding money, jewelry, etc. As soon as you get into your car, lock it. Devonshire Division resources are low due to officers being out on injury, or resigned or transferred, or retired, so please be patient. If homeless encampments are appearing, call 311 (the HOPE teams have been disbanded). LAPD can help start a Neighborhood Watch program. Empowering the public is needed. Know what resources are available and know what elected offices and ballot measures are coming up. Download the “311” and “LAPD Devonshire” and “Citizen” apps. Devonshire Division will hold an outreach event on Thursday, February 3, 2022 at the Mid-Valley Regional Library.

b. City Council Representative (CD 12): *Sharon Bronson, Field Deputy:* Councilmember Lee introduced a motion to support AB 1603, which would reduce the threshold amount for petty theft and shoplifting from \$950.00 to \$400.00. February 7, 2022 is the next Conversations with Councils. *Colin Crews, District Director:* Sanitation is being dispatched to the homeless encampment at the Reseda Boulevard/Parthenia Street railroad underpass as often as possible. CD 12 is working with the Bureau of Sanitation to increase this work. Repetition of cleaning is our best tool.

c. Representative from LAUSD – Tammy Ramirez: Ms Ramirez is the Deputy Director of School and Community Engagement, District 3. Northridge EEC (Early Education Center), Lorne Elementary, Napa Elementary, Parthenia Elementary and Northridge Middle School are now in District 3 due to redistricting. New superintendent Alberto Carvalho starts on February 14, 2022. There are policy updates to school safety. COVID-19 testing for students and staff continues regardless of vaccination status, and there is an updated mask policy. The African-American Parent Empowerment Summit will be held Saturday, February 5, 2022.

d. Government Departments/Agencies, Including Department of Neighborhood Empowerment (NEA, Lorenzo Briceno): Bylaws amendments are due April 2, 2022.

4) **General Public Comment:** *Caroline Menjivar:* Introduced herself as a candidate for the new Senate District 20. Her e-mail is caroline@carolinemenjivar.com. *Glenn Bailey:* LAPD Chief Michel Moore’s visit to VANC has been re-scheduled to the March 10, 2022 meeting. For the meeting agenda, go to LANCC.org and click on “NC Alliances” then scroll down to “Valley Alliance of Neighborhood Councils”. *Garry Fordyce:* The Budget Advocates are still meeting with city departments. They hope to have these meetings concluded in February 2022 for the upcoming White Paper. A database of City Council case files that have a fiscal impact is being developed. The City Administrative Officer (CAO) issued a financial status report, which is available at cao.lacity.org/budget/FSR.htm. Our fiscal challenges are manageable unless we overspend. We have yet to receive our second COVID-19 relief installment from the federal government. June 18, 2022 is Budget Day. The next meetings of the Advocates will be on February 7 and February 19, 2022. Go to budgetadvocates.org for information. This Saturday at 10:00 a.m. the Advocates will present a Town Hall on DONE’s Proposed 2022-23 Budget. RSVP information is available at budgetadvocates.org.

5) Committee Reports:

1. Planning and Land Use Committee

a. **SB 9 Resolution:** No action taken

b. **Discussion and Decision Regarding 18355 Roscoe Boulevard (Magnolia Science Academy 7), Case Numbers ZA 2021-9534-CU and ZA-2021-9536-ZV:** Meagan Wittek (Principal), Patrick Ontiveros (Director of Facilities) and Veronica Becerra (Rebuild Commercial Services) gave a follow-up presentation. Letters from the Academy to the neighborhood sent out on December 11, 2021, with the City Planning letter yet to be sent. A hearing date has not been set, though they anticipate the end of March 2022. The Academy is conducting a traffic study even though it is not required by the Los Angeles Department of Transportation. The Academy leases the property and is in “constant communication” with the property owner. The Academy asked for the elimination of the “Sunset Clause” contained in the original CUP, though there is no such clause. This request was made to avoid the required CUP re-approval process due to the time and cost involved. Motion to support both the CUP and monument sign made by James Ashjian and seconded by Ann Dorsey. Motion failed with three “yes” votes (Ashjian, Fitzpatrick, Hales [*should have recused*]) and eight “no” votes (Caldwell, Carr, Dorsey, Elliott, Kratzer, Meyer, Slutzah, Wright). After this vote, Veronica Becerra agreed to a letter of compliance after five years. A motion for NSNC to write a letter of support of the CUP and monument sign, provided that the board’s requests for an on-site traffic management program and a letter of compliance after five years are added to the CUP application, made by Tiffany Caldwell and seconded by Steve Slutzah. Motion passed with ten “yes” votes (Ashjian, Caldwell, Carr, Dorsey, Elliott, Fitzpatrick, Kratzer, Meyer, Slutzah, Wright) and one recusal (Hales).

c. **Discussion and Decision Regarding Request for CUP for 8440 Balboa Boulevard:** Representative(s) will make a presentation at the February 2022 meeting.

2. **Budget and Finance Committee: Increase in Rate for Storage Unit:** Motion to approve an increase to our Public Storage unit rate from \$163.00/month to \$194.00/month made by Steve Slutzah and seconded by Ann Dorsey. Motion passed with eleven “yes” votes.

6) Old Business:

a. **Military Service Recognition Banners:** Banners can be for both currently serving and veterans. We will ask Matthew Vallecilla (CD 12 Field Deputy) to make a presentation.

b. **Letter to Councilmember John Lee:** No action taken.

c. **Request from Stakeholder in the Panhandle:** No action taken.

7) New Business:

a. **Approval of Monthly Expenditure Report (MER) for December 2021:** Motion to approve made by Ann Dorsey and seconded by Scott Wright. Motion passed with eleven “yes” votes.

b. **Comments to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners Regarding Proposed Digital Communications Policy for Neighborhood Councils:** The policy draft has changed since the first release. We can file a CIS with BONC, and can make comments until February 21, 2022. Discussion and possible action postponed to February 2022 meeting.

c. **NPG Application for a Non-Profit:** ONEGeneration does not need food, but will submit an NPG in support of their annual Senior Symposium. Tiffany Caldwell suggested reaching out to Hope of the Valley and California State University, Northridge.

d. **Bylaws Committee Recommendation to Amend Article V, Section 5:** Lorenzo Briceno said the concern regards individuals who speak on behalf of their board without board approval. This offers guidance to NCs that need it. No action taken.

e. **NSNC Inventory:** Postponed to February 2022 meeting.

8) Board Member Announcements or Comments:

a. **Committee Involvement and Expectations from Board Members:** James Ashjian said that everyone should decide what committee(s) on which to serve. Each committee is responsible for submitting agenda items.

James Ashjian re-appointed John Hales to the Planning and Land Use Management Committee (he was previously appointed as a stakeholder). Mrs. Hales, Michele, a stakeholder, also wants to be appointed to this committee. No action was taken.

Glenn Bailey offered that the best luck in updating board member certifications is by submitting documentation directly to Rosters@empowerla.org [versus automatic updates through Cornerstone].

Regarding committee #6, “Budget Advocate”, Glenn Bailey suggested that it read “Budget Representatives” instead.

8) **Future Agenda Items and Other Calendar Events:** The next agenda-setting meeting is Monday, February 14, 2022 and the next regular meeting is Thursday, February 24, 2022.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Tiffany Caldwell and seconded by Scott Wright. Meeting adjourned at 10:05 p.m. without a vote.