

# SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

## MINUTES

**Board of Directors Meeting  
April 19, 2005  
Dyer Street Elementary School Auditorium  
14500 Dyer St., Sylmar, CA 91342**

President Tammy Flores called this meeting to order at 6:35 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Joe Carrasco.

Roll call by Secretary Doris Jacobs:

Present: Tammy Flores; Bonnie Bernard; Joe Carrasco; Marietta Sue Welch ; Jorge Lara; Patty Hug; Louis Perry; Erica Lopez; David Best; George Ortega; Cheri Blose; Clifford Kenney; Elizabeth Beltran; Delmarie Carver; Carole Vork; Cody Perkins.

### Quorum Confirmed

Excused Absence: Richard Yamauchi; Nicholas Krall; Veronica Arreguin; Jaunita Bankhead

Un-excused Absence: None

Ex-Officio Present: Dan Rosales (CD7)

Absent: LAPD; LAFD, and County Supervisor Yaraslavsky representative.

Pres. Flores did "housekeeping": Handout at table regarding LAPD Mission Area Police Station opening; Candidate Forms should be given Doris Jacobs, Secretary; 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Emergency Preparedness Meeting for San Fernando Valley Neighborhood Councils; Rededication of Valley Municipal Building & Ernani Bernardi Plaza April 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.. V.P. Bernard advised public may speak on any Agenda Item before Board takes action and gave procedure for submitting a "Speaker Card" or public may raise their hand during discussion of an Agenda Item and President will call on individual, with a two (2) minutes time allowed and Louis Perry is the Sergeant at Arms for time keeping.

Following discussion, Cheri Blose moved, David Best seconded to accept the 3/24/05 Minutes as published. - **14 Yes; 1 Abstention (George Ortega) - Minutes adopted.**

Steve Barr, Chairman, Small Schools Alliance who had requested being rescheduled for his presentation to this meeting is not present and did not contact the office that he would not be present. This item will be removed from future agendas.

The Land Use Committee requested removal from future agendas until further notification from the Committee, the presentation for discussion and possible Board action by the Land Use Committee regarding proposed land-swap and relocation of County Baseball fields involving Mission College and various community groups and homeowners.

The Land Use Committee requested removal from future agendas until further notification from the Committee, due to Commission Hearing Notice 5/19/05 for appeal, regarding presentation for discussion and possible Board action by Land Use Committee regarding Edison request for permission/plans to build huge self-storage business between Olive View and Polk Street.

The Land Use Committee letter to the City Planning Commission was read into the record by President Tammy Flores, requesting an Interim Control Ordinance to restrict new building/development projects to stay within the zoning requirements of the last approved Sylmar Community Plan/General Plan which included Public community input – in 1995 – until a new Sylmar Community Plan is created with public input, which was approved and adopted by the Board at the 2/22/05 meeting.

President Flores read into the record a letter of resolution for a Senior Center in Sylmar as discussed at the 2/22/05 Board meeting. Joe Carrasco moved and Erica Lopez second to approve the letter of resolution as written. **Approved unanimously**

Secretary Doris Jacobs advised the tape recording equipment was not recording. The equipment was plugged into another electrical outlet and began working properly.

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President Flores read into the record draft submitted by Elizabeth Beltran, Chair of Legislative/Civic Issues Committee an SNC letter of support/endorsement of the "General Bill of Rights for Mobilhome Residents" which had been submitted by the Senior Committee at the 3/24 Board Meeting. Bonnie Bernard requested the proper codes be inserted into the letter and advised she would provide a letter head for this letter. Elizabeth Beltran requested that the Board review the draft and provide her with any additions and/or changes by Friday 4/22. – Joe Carrasco moved, Carole Vorke seconded the letter be approved with the change requested. **14 Yes; 1 Abstention (Cheri Blose) - Motion passed**

President Flores requested the agenda item regarding discussion and scheduling of the City's Human Relations department facilitation of a Retreat, be tabled for the next meeting and suggested the Retreat scheduling be done after the June election to include the new Board members. Bonnie Bernard moved that a date be made for the Retreat now – There was no second and **Motion failed**

Louis Perry moved, Joe Carrasco seconded tabling the item regarding discussion and scheduling of the Brown Act Training for the SNC Directory by the Office of the City Attorney as DONE Project Manager was absent from the meeting. **14 Yes – Motion Approved**

President Flores requested tabling of the item regarding announcement of the grievance filed by a Stakeholder and advised that Manny Durazo (DONE) had not presented SNC with the Grievance he received or any procedures required by the SNC and DONE.

Election Committee Chair Cindy Blazer distributed DONE Approved Election Procedures and advised with the resignation of Mr. Orrasco, there are now two "At Large Category" seats open. Ms. Blazer further advised that the final approval for the Bylaws has not been received and will need translated. There has been a Walk Man distribution of the flier containing election information and dates. There will be an educational meeting on Sunday at 5:00 p.m. at the SNC office, which does not require compliance to Brown Act notification.

**Recess 7:30 p.m. Meeting resumed 7:40 p.**

President Flores tabled the agenda item regarding each Director reporting on research for ideas to improve community outreach for the next meeting to allow more time.

President Flores introduced Jim Elger from Northridge West & DWP Task Force who elaborated on the Memorandum of Understanding between Certified Neighborhood Councils and the DWP, which was provided to the Board for review prior to the meeting. Neighborhood Councils have the right to file impact statements regarding issues involving the local and state government. DWP must notify Neighborhood Councils 90 days prior to bring any rate action before the commissions. President Flores advised that Board Member, George Ortega, was the first to introduce the Neighborhood Council to the DWP Task Force. Marietta Welch has been assigned as Liaison between SNC & DWP by Pres. Flores Force. A Stakeholder commended George Ortega on his efforts and questioned if SNC has a Committee to attend other NC's to exchange information. Pres. Flores advised she has not assigned a Committee but attends the other NC's meeting and relays information to SNC committees. Marietta Welch moved, Erica Lopez seconded that SNC adopt the Memorandum of Understand (MOU) – between the Sylmar Neighborhood Council and the Los Angeles Department of Water & Power - **Approved unanimously** President thanked George Ortega for introducing SNC to this great opportunity. President Flores advised the date would be revised to read 4/19/2005 and made official appointment of Marietta Sue Welch as the SNC Delegate.

President Flores advised that Secretary Doris Jacobs had made contacts with L.A. Mission College and Senator Alarcon's office in an effort to obtain a suitable translation program for SNC and contacts referred by Senator Alarcon's office have been made. President Flores reported a meeting of the Ad Hoc Translation Committee will be had in three weeks. Election Chair, Cindy Blazer, requested a translator for the Nominating Nights - President Flores and Elizabeth Beltran have volunteered.

**Treasurer Report:** Treasurer Richard Yamauchi was absent but President Flores advised each Committee must provide the Treasurer with a budget request for the next fiscal year, beginning June 30, 2005, to be discussed by the Budget Committee.

**Secretary Report:** Secretary Doris Jacobs reported no correspondence and requested President's permission to address each committee with the need for their Minutes and Committee Members: Beautification Minutes 11/23/04; 1/19/05;4/16/05 – List of Members; Election Committee: List of Members; Emergency Preparedness & Public Safety: Public Safety 12/9/04 Minutes

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– List of combined committee's Members; Outreach: 1/11/04; 1/26/04; 2/16/05; 3/2/05; 4/13/05; 4/16/05 Minutes – List of Committee Members; School Issues: List of Committee Members; Senior Issues: 1/27/05 Minutes – List of Members; Special Events: 4/5/05 Minutes – List of Members; Budget: 2/17/05; 4/8/05 Minutes – List of Members.

**Public Service Committee:** Chair Louis Perry reported the committee has been receiving many compliments. One of the upcoming goals is the Sylmar Cleanup Day targeting business and various City organizations to participate along with SNC Outreach and Beautification Committees. This should be scheduled as a yearly event. Board Member Cheri Blose reported on the efficiency of the Committee to resolve a problem in her neighborhood. Chair complimented other Board Members for all the great work being done by all the committees.

**Beautification Committee:** Co-Chair Joe Carrasco reported on the plans to clean up the Pioneer Cemetery prior to the Memorial Day event. Elizabeth Beltran reported on LA Commons Project. President Flores acknowledged George Ortega for his design of the Pioneer Cemetery. May 7 & 8 will be the weekends scheduled for cleanup prior to the Pioneer Cemetery event, which will be 5/30/05 from 11:30 to 12:30 p.m., with the flag raising at noon. Stakeholder Charlotte Bedard suggested that in the design of a medallion, the incorporation of the hang-gliders be included.

**Public Safety Committee/Emergency Preparedness:** Chair David Best deferred to Dan Rozalas (CD 7) reported on the dedication of the new LAPD station on 5/1 and the correction of street lighting Hubbard to Polk. Stakeholder Charlotte Bedard suggested the attendance of the Block Captain's meeting participants at the Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness meetings. In addition, Dan Rozalas complimented individuals involved in the Education Committee and the support that is being given to the Land Use Committee projects.

**Land Use Committee:** Chair Patty Hug reported on numerous properties to be discussed at the 4/25 meeting. It was requested two items be put on the 5/19 Agenda: Committee recommendation that an appeal be supported regarding MWH Development of a residential project at 14400-14486 Foothill Blvd.; Committee recommendation to support the construction of 19 homes, as a compromise instead of 23 condos, on the property at 13159 Glenoaks, between Tyler & Polk Street. Next meeting 4/25/05. Meetings are the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of each month. President Lopez advised that individuals interested in specific projects should attend the Land Use meetings as only a report is to be presented at the Board meetings.

**Outreach Committee:** Chair George Ortega reported next meeting has not been scheduled and Jorge Lara is studying up on Power Point for presentations.

**Faith Based:** Chair Jaunita Bankhead absent: No Report

**Special Events Projects:** Pres. Flores reported that the Chamber of Commerce is unable to sponsor the Sylmar Parade due to the cut back of funds by the City which will not provide a grant this year. Cheri Blose requests that the SNC be a co-sponsor. It is hopeful that LA Mission College will provide space for a Town Hall Meeting; The Committee will be hosting a concert at the park; At present main projects being worked on are the Pioneer Cemetery event and Election. A meeting will be scheduled for a Tuesday. The Treasurer has advised funds are available for a projector. President advised that Secretary Doris Jacobs has registered the website and Webmaster Robert Cabunoc reported the site is now visible under Sylmarnc.org or Sylmarneighborhoodcouncil.org and information will be added as received from Jacobs. President Lopez complimented Robert Cabunoc and Secretary Doris Jacobs for all their hard work in getting the website up and running.

President Lopez acknowledged Secretary Doris Jacobs for all the outreach she has been doing, including registering the website, providing website updates, advertising meetings via VHTV, Daily News and San Fernando Sun, plus distribution to stakeholders and making sure agendas are posted for all meetings.

**Bylaws:** Co-Chairs Marietta Welch and Joe Carrasco will be meeting to clean up Bylaws regarding elections.

**Youth Issues:** This Committee will be merged with School Issues on future agendas. A meeting will be had 5/14 at the SNC office.

**Legislative/Civic Issues:** Chair Elizabeth Beltran no additional report.

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**School Issues:** Chair Delmarie Carver reported 4/18 meeting cancelled. Next meeting 5/16 at Dyer Street Elementary School at 4:00 p.m.. Various schools have been contacted to have representative join the committee. Stakeholder Barbara Perkins reported on the Commission of Education and LAUSD setting down to make some changes in the structure to better facilitate the community.

**Budget Committee:** Chair Yamauchi absent – No Report

**Senior Issues:** Chair Carole Vork reported meeting scheduled for 4/28/05 at 11:00 a.m. at the El Caruso Park Senior Center.

**Election Committee:** Chair Cindy Blazer reminded attendees of the timeline dates for the upcoming election.

**Board Member Comment:**

Erica Lopez commented that Sylmar needs more businesses and restaurants.

V.P. Bonnie Bernard read Bylaws and Board Rules regarding President has the right to appoint a Chair person to any Committee and can replace a Chair if the existing Chair is not effective and commented that if the Bylaws, Brown Act was silent on the issue, then Robert's Rules of Order will apply. Bernard requested that the Bylaws Committee should investigate the proper language to be added to the Bylaws.

Louis Perry commented regarding the mass of emails that he had received that were basically conversations between individuals and does not feel these types of emails should be sent to the Board unless it relates to their Committees or requires action by the Board.

George Ortega commented he did not believe emails should be used to make decisions but where there is a difference of opinion on an issue, this should be discussed face to face. Mr. Ortega further stated that it is difficult when an individual is at work and cannot allow these issues to interfere with the individuals work.

**Public Comment:**

Eugene Hernandez commented on killings in the area and a Peace March in Pacoima. Also he stated that Councilman Padillia should use some of the funds he has available to offer rewards for criminals who have killed someone.

Terri Crosswhite commented that a larger meeting place needs to be found for the larger meetings, such as Land Use Committee meetings.

Barbara Perkins commented that funding from Councilman Padillia for rewards may have been presented in a manner which would not allow him to do so.

Charlotte Beddard commented that following the election, SNC should rent a bus to give the Board a tour of Sylmar as there are many good things to see in Sylmar and it would help the Board to better know the community. Also, she commented that the City has used equipment, such as a PA system which can be obtained through CD 7 as it is often very difficult for the attending Stakeholders to hear what is being said at the meetings. Ms. Beddard further commented that the offices could be made larger by removing a false wall and Graffiti Busters could help with the removal of the wall, which could be accomplished in one morning.

The next meeting will be May 19, 2005 – 6:30 p.m. at Dyer Street Elementary School Auditorium. Future Agenda Items: Discussion regarding possible change of meeting location; Beronica Sanchez, Community Program Assistant, Department of Aging Presentation; Human Relations facilitation of a Retreat; Brown Act Training by the Office of the City Attorney.

Cheri Blose moved and Jorge Lara seconded the meeting be adjourned.

Meeting adjourned 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by  
Doris Jacobs, SNC Secretary 5/3/05

Approved by: TF51205