

SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

MINUTES

**Board of Directors Meeting
August 23, 2005
Dyer Street Elementary School Auditorium
14500 Dyer St., Sylmar, CA 91342**

President Tammy Flores called this meeting to order at 6:40 p.m., followed by the Pledge of Allegiance lead by Richard Yamauchi.

Roll call by Secretary Doris Jacobs:

Present: Tammy Flores; Bonnie Bernard; Richard Yamauchi; Hector Cabrera; Marietta Sue Welch; Eugene Hernandez; Terri Croswhite; Louis Perry; Maggie Campbell; Jim Schopper; Cheri Blose; Clifford Kenney; Farooq Ghias; Jamie Morado; Benjamin Cardenas

Quorum Confirmed

Excused Absence: Nicholas Krall; Patty Hug; Elizabeth Beltran

Un-excused Absence: Jaunita Bankhead; Erica Lopez

Ex-Officio Present: Dan Rosales

Absent: LAPD; LAFD; Mayor Villariagosa Representative, County Supervisor Yaraslavsky Representative.

Richard Yamauchi moved, Terri Croswhite seconded, to adopt the 8/9//05 Minutes with the following corrections: Pg. 2, Paragraph 4 – delete "Non" and correct name spelling to "Bodganovich". Following discussion, the Board voted: **Yes (14); No (0) Abstention (0) – Motion approved.**

V.P. Bonnie Bernard explained the procedures regarding Stakeholder comments and Speaker Cards; and, procedure regarding motions for reconsideration and SNC grievance process.

President Flores thanked all who attended the Retreat and announced the Brown Act Training combined with NC Foothills Trails will be 8/31/05 with the City Attorney at the Mission Hills Police Station. President Flores requested any Committee needs for funds be provided in writing to Treasurer Richard Yamauchi. President Flores further announced that the office copier is just for SNC document copying and should there be a need to make copies for any other organization, this may be done at the CD 7 office. Keys for the office are for Board member's use only and if used by a volunteer, they must be returned to the lender. Distribution was made of documents from the Retreat to Board members who were unable to attend. Software has been received at the office for website updating which will be done by Secretary Doris Jacobs. Grant workshop was attended by five Board members.

The Tujunga Watershed Project presented at the 6/21/05 Meeting with the request for a letter of support for the project which was **tabled from 8/9/05** meeting was re-presented by Miguel Lunas. Tammy Flores and Eugene Hernandez are on the Project's Steering Committee. Richard Yamauchi moved, Eugene Hernandez seconded, that the SNC provide a letter of support for the Tujunga Watershed Project. Following discussion **Yes (14); No (0); Abstention (0) – Motion approved.**

Tabled from the 8/9/05 meeting was the 6/21/05 approved Amended Bylaws and Board Rules(Committees). Following discussion, Bonnie Bernard moved, Richard Yamauchi seconded the revision be accepted with provision subject to City Attorney approval and a quorum be a majority of the Committee and the correction under Treasurer responsibility be changed to read Roman Numeral XI NOT XII: **Yes (9); No (2) Maggie Campbell & Marietta Welch; Abstention (2) Eugene Hernandez & Terri Croswhite – Motion approved**

Upon the arrival of Daniel Rosales (CD 7), Youth Board of Director, Benjamin Cardenas was sworn in.

Bonnie Bernard advised of the usefulness of a meeting with the old and new Committee Chairs for transition as a form of assisting "new" Chairs.

Discussion was had regarding the establishing of scheduling regular monthly meetings and location. Following suggestions of days, this issue was not resolved.

Old Business: Director Elizabeth Beltran to present/hand out document – Community Impact Statement – regarding opposition of Edison Project. The SNC Board moved to oppose all of the Edison projects and to put them on hold and return to the SNC with a solution for using this space at the June 2005 Board Meeting. The Legislative Chair agreed to follow through with the Impact Statement. – **Item Tabled**

President Flores left the Agenda to introduce Senator Richard Alarcon who commended the SNC on all their hard work and presented numerous verbal compliments and Certificates of Recognition to Stakeholder Frank Jacobs, SNC Secretary Doris Jacobs, Alternate SNC Secretary Cat Bartik-Sweeney and Stakeholder Cindy Blazer. President Flores commented that Frank Jacobs helped put the office together, even following his heart surgery he continued to help; Doris Jacobs prepares Agendas, Minutes and do not know where we would be without her; Cat Bartik-Sweeney is one of the most awesome volunteers; and Cindy Blazer worked hard painting the office and running the Elections. Senator Alarcon also requested the notification to any 12th graders of the Young Senators Leadership Program and explained the program which additional information can be found on Senator Alarcon's website. Frank Jacobs thanked Senator Alarcon.

Public Comment:

Charlotte Bedard commented regarding the Outreach Program and that Graffiti Busters can distribute fliers to selected areas for SNC on an every-other-week schedule. Also, regarding signage on windows causes graffiti and needs to be addressed with the businesses.

President Flores waived the 2 Minute speaker time for Wayne Hunter, Pres. of Coalition & Bart Reed of the North Valley Coalition and advised that they were to be on the September Agenda. Material was distributed for consideration as an agenda item for the next Board Meeting. Displays were erected and information verbally provided regarding the Sunshine Canyon Landfill location and statistics regarding the creation of the landfill and its capacity of fill to date and expansion and the contract with the City of Los Angeles, which is opposed by the North Valley Coalition.

Miguel Luna announced "Thirsty For Justice" to be added to SNC Library.

Becky Bascom questioned: Where is the approved Interim Control Ordinance Letter?

Discussion and possible Board Action regarding Conflict Resolution training presented by Loyola Law School's Center for Conflict Resolution and list of dates available for Board members and Secretaries to schedule. (Board approved to provide voluntary training for those interested), it was agreed this to be scheduled for a Monday and Bonnie Bernard to contact Loyola Law School's Center for Conflict Resolution for available date.

Discussion and possible Board Action regarding the removal of the cross symbol from the L.A. County emblem: David Hernandez from the Los Angeles County Heritage Coalition advised that a petition drive regarding this issue to have the issue on the June 6, 2006 ballot and requests SNC to endorse the issue. Richard Yamauchi moved, Eugene Hernandez seconded, SNC support the ballot measure that will allow people to vote "yes" or "no" for keeping and/or changing the emblem. Following discussion, **Yes (13); No (0); Abstention (1) Clifford Kenney – Motion approved (Terri Croswhite to write letter, email to Board for approval – no response affirms approval - for President Flores signature to be sent to David Hernandez)**

The meeting continued without the scheduled recess – raise of hands revealed acceptable.

Richard Yamauchi advised there was not a quorum at the last meeting and therefore there are no issues for discussion and possible Board Action of Budget Committee recommendation regarding Committee(s) funds requested to be entered as a line item on the 2005-2006 Budget. However, a Financial Report for July & August 2005 was distributed showing a deficit in July and September spending needs to be curtailed. There was some discussion regarding office rent and staffing expenditures being excessive. Mr. Yamauchi advised that if the lease is broken, someone would need to find a new office and negotiate a lease, which would be a waste of time. Mr. Yamauchi further advised that SNC has a very nice office and very competent help in its Secretary and to reverse those items would be counter productive; what is needed is to lobby our City Councilperson and fellow Neighborhood Councils to see if the City is willing to provide more than \$50,000 per year for operation. Louis Perry supported Mr. Yamauchi's statements and commented on the various avenues for securing grants for various committee's needs. Mr. Yamauchi announced that Terri Croswhite has been appointed Co-Chair for the Budget Committee and he is training her. Treasurer Yamauchi announced the next Budget Committee meeting is scheduled for 9/8/05 at his office at 6:30 p.m.

Discussion and possible Board Action regarding Board of Directors business cards: President Flores advised the Outreach Committee will be discussing this issue and without an SNC logo, temporary cards will be issued. This item to be a **Future Agenda Item.**

Discussion and possible Board action of all regular and Ad Hoc Committees: President Flores re affirmed Committee appointments from the previous meeting which were recorded as Tabled in the 8/9/05 Minutes: CPR (City Planning Reform)

Ad Hoc Committee, previously approved by the Board, is Chaired by Tammy Flores and Marietta Sue Welch; Edison Project Ad Hoc Committee Chairs are Becky Bascom, Bonnie Bernard and Cat Bartik-Sweeney Stakeholder Member; Election Committee has not been formed at present.

President Flores requested Board approval of the following Ad Hoc Committees: Las Lomas – Chair Eugene Hernandez, Tammy Flores, Bart Reed Stakeholder Member; Sunshine Landfill – Chair Tammy Flores; Griffith Park Development (coordinated with other NC's) – Chair Tammy Flores & Member Cat Bartik-Sweeney. Following discussion the approval of the Sunshine Landfill Committee was **Tabled**; Las Lomas Committee vote: **Yes (8); No (3) Richard Yamauchi, Maggie Campbell, Joe Carrasco; Abstained (2) Clifford Kenny, Jamie Morado – Approved**

Confirmed Regular Committees: Beautification – Chairs Joe Carrasco, Erica Lopez; Budget Committee – Chair Richard Yamauchi, Co-Chair Terri Croswhite; Bylaws – Marietta Sue Welch Chair; Faith Based – Jaunita Bankhead, Hector Cabrera Co-Chairs; Legislative/Civic Affairs **Tabled**; Outreach – Maggie Campbell, Tammy Flores, Hector Cabrera Co-Chairs; Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness – Hector Cabrera Chair; Emergency Preparedness to be Sub-Committee of Public Safety, Richard Yamauchi to report to Public Safety Chair; Public Services – Louis Perry, Marietta Sue Welch Co-Chairs. Land Use - Patty Hug and Nick Krall. Maggie Campbell disputed the defining Chair & Co-Chair as equal and that she may not have accepted the appointment unless she was the only Chair. Bonnie Bernard provided the dictionary description for "Co" and Manny Durazo (DONE) advising her a Chair and Co-Chair are equal. Following discussion, President Flores advised all would be Co-Chairs until further clarification could be obtained from DONE. Stakeholder Cindy Blazer commented that unless someone is on a power trip, Co-Chairs should be equal. Maggie Campbell responded this was out of line and pointed directly at her and she felt that her being appointed as Outreach Chair, as Secretary Doris Jacobs advised was stated at the 8/9 meeting, should not be changed. Richard Yamauchi suggested that the Outreach/Special Events Committee be considered as separate; School/Youth Issues – Co-Chairs Terri Croswhite, Benjamin Cardenas; Senior Issues – Co-Chairs Clifford Kenny, Jamie Morado. Bonnie Bernard advised of the numerous events held through the Special Events Committee, which required often weekly or every other day meetings, and suggested this Committee be separate from Outreach. Maggie Campbell offered to co-chair Special Events. Dan Rosales (CD 7) advised that Outreach and Special Events should be kept separate as they have totally different functions. President Flores made the decision to keep Outreach and Special Events as separate committees – Special Events, Tammy Flores Chair, Maggie Campbell Co-Chair; Outreach – Maggie Campbell Chair, Tammy Flores, Hector Cabrera Co-Chair.

Request by Bonnie Bernard to create a regular committee "Business Development", which Farooq Ghias would Chair, Co-Chair Richard Yamauchi. Following discussion, a show of hands approved the developing of a "Business Development Committee" – **Unanimously approved.**

Bonnie Bernard advised she will request, in writing, from Manny Durazo (DONE) the definition for Chair and Co-Chair.

REPORTS:

Secretary: No Correspondence; Reported Becky Bascom is doing physical posting at Ross Liquor & Roxford Vet & all other via email by Doris Jacobs. Program to update website received today and when installed on office computer, Doris will begin updating website and Becky Bascom will be backup. Webmaster, Robert Cabanoc, working long hours on "paying" job and can not do updating. Any further information needed regarding the website, call Doris at the office or via website "Contact" page "Secretary".

Public Services: Chair Louis Perry reported new Committee Members include Becky Bascom, Jim Schopper, Marietta Welch & Cat Bartik-Sweeney. Next meeting scheduled for 9/22/05, 6:00 p.m. at the SNC office. Distribution of 70,000 fliers being done with an introductory letter of Maria Ventura (CD 7) at no cost to SNC. Louis met with all the City Department heads who have been very helpful along with Senator Alarcon and Cindy Montanez's office; Thirty minute commercial being created to promote 311 services and Louis & Maria Ventura (CD 7) did a talk show on 311 to air Thursday night on Channel 20 at 8:00 p.m..

Beautification: No Report

Public Safety/Preparedness: No Report

Land Use: No Report

Outreach/Special Events: Chair Maggie Campbell reported Outreach Agenda to be revised to eliminate Special Events issues and invitations sent to the BOD and others inviting them to come to Outreach meetings. Next meeting 8/30 at the SNC office.

Faith Based: No Report – Secretary Doris Jacobs advised Committee meeting scheduled for 8/29/05 at SNC office.

Bylaws: No Report (Speaker not auditable on tape)

Legislative/Civic Issues: No Report

Senior Issues: Chair Jamie Morado reported not much progress on creating a Senior Center due to lack of support from CD 7. Requests that any seniors present to please get involved with Committee. Dan Rosales (CD 7) responded that some funds have been made available for a Senior Center and apologized that the Representative Jamie spoke to had not been updated on the matter.

School/Youth Issues: Chair Terri Croswhite advised of the continued search for a school site and there will be a meeting scheduled in the near future. (Speaker not auditable on tape)

Ad Hoc CPR (Charter Planning Reform): President Flores reported a meeting being had at the SNC office this Friday evening.

Ad Hoc Edison Project: Chair Becky Bascom reported on input at meeting regarding what PUC allows under power lines; it must be removable and research is being done to see if self-storage units qualify – PUC approves on a case by case basis and has no list of allowable items but encourages creative use of this land. Also there are at least 3500 storage units in Sylmar at present. Also revised plans were submitted at the last Land Use Committee meeting but the community is still strongly opposed to any storage units. Meeting scheduled for 9/1, 6:30 p.m. at the SNC office.

Board Member Comments:

Maggie Campbell advised that her phone number was incorrect on the "Public Contact Information" sheet. The correct phone number should be 818-238-0375 and her name should have her title "Evangelist". Secretary Doris Jacobs responded that the information, according to instructions from DONE, was to be listed as it appeared on the Candidate Application for a BOD and requested any other instructions DONE provided Maggie be forwarded to the office.

Eugene Hernandez commented on phone calls not being returned. (Speaker name & input not auditable on tape)

Richard Yamauchi advised that internet Google Earth can be accessed to view areas of land.

Bonnie Bernard advised that the definition of Chair and/or Co-Chair be on the next Agenda as it needs to be incorporated into the Board Rules.

Any future agenda items should be submitted to President Tammy Flores.

Next meeting date Sept. 15, 2005, 6:30 p.m. at Dyer Street Elementary School.

Richard Yamauchi moved to adjourn, seconded by Maggie Campbell. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Doris Jacobs
SNC Secretary
9/9/05

Approved by: BB 9/11/05