

SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

MINUTES

**Board of Directors Meeting
October 11, 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 LAPD Ofcr. Cedric Ingram.

Roll call by Secretary Doris Jacobs:

Present: Tammy Flores; Bonnie Bernard; Richard Yamauchi; Hector Cabrera; Nicholas Krall; Marietta Sue Welch; Eugene Hernandez; Patty Hug; Juanita Bankhead (Arvd approx 7:00 pm); Louis Perry; Maggie Campbell; Jim Schopper; Clifford Kenney; Jamie Morado; Benjamin Cardinas.

Quorum Confirmed

Excused Absence: Cheri Blose; Farooq Ghias

Un-excused Absence: Joe Carrasco

Ex-Officio Present: Maria Ventura (CD 7); LAPD – 2 Officers

Absent: County Supervisor Yaroslavsky Representative; LAFD

President Flores announced the resignation of Elizabeth Beltran (Retail Category) and Terri Croswhite (Education Category)

Richard Yamauchi moved, Marietta Welch second the approval of 9/15/05 Minutes and 9/30/05 Minutes with a correction to show Marietta Sue Welch was excused as she had called a BOD at the office and Richard Yamauchi's personal objection to the Brown Act regarding 72 hour posting. – **Minutes adopted Unanimously**

Bonnie Bernard announced that Anne Krall will be the Time Keeper for the meeting and will signal with a "Times Up" card being shown. At the bottom of the Agenda is the Grievance Procedure and on the table are the SNC History, Speaker Cards, Bylaws, etc. Any Stakeholder may speak on any Agenda Item prior to a vote. V.P. Bernard directed restroom location and refreshments location.

President Flores announcements: Identity Theft Consumer Protection Forum 10/12/05 at Olive Vista Middle School Auditorium 6:30 p.m., Pioneer Cemetery Cleanup on 3rd Saturday each month from 9:00 a.m. to Noon, Diabetes Walkathon (CD7) 10/16/05 at Balboa Park and Empowerment/BOD Orientation 10/13 at SNC office at 7:00 p.m. – Advise Secretary of attendance for seating arrangements to be made. Confirmation requested as a BOD action to confirm the position of the SNC to oppose Edison Project. Richard Yamauchi moved, Eugene Hernandez second the opposition of the Edison Project. **Yes (12) – Approved Unanimously**

President Flores announced the presence of Mark Lewis (DONE) and the approval by the City Attorney to move Item 19 to the top of the Agenda. Secretary Doris Jacobs requested Time Keeper Anne Krall distribute to the BOD the first Petition for removal of Board Member Bonnie Bernard. Secretary read the following: "I spoke with Deputy City Attorney, Darren Martinez, LA City Attorney's Office, Neighborhood Council Advise Division and he provided me with procedures to follow. The procedures have 3 phases – (1) The Board must present a Motion to ACCEPT the Petition or REJECT, due to deficiencies in the Petition. This is to be done with EACH of the Petitions you will receive this evening, a total of 3. The guidelines for the decisions are as follows: TO ACCEPT – The Petition is acceptable by the Board as to the overall contents of the manner the Petition was presented. YOU ARE NOT to consider the "reason for removal" during this phase. ONLY CONSIDER, as an example, is it clear the signatures were received following the signer reading the "reason for removal"; is it clear the signatures are Sylmar Stakeholders, is it clear you have a true copy of the Original Petition.; Phase 2 - Should a Motion be made and approved to NOT ACCEPT the Petition, the Petition will be discarded. Should a Motion be made to ACCEPT the Petition, you will follow Phase 3; Phase 3 - According to the SNC Bylaws, "A vote of 'No Confidence' by a majority vote of the Board of Directors shall be necessary to remove the identified Board Member forthwith. The Board Member that is the subject of the removal action, shall not take part in the vote on this matter, but will be allowed to speak at the meeting to the Board prior to the vote." THIS REQUIRES A MINIMUM OF 11 YES VOTES by the Board of Directors, based on the total number of SNC Board of Directors set forth in the Bylaws, which is 21. SHOULD THERE NOT BE 11 YES VOTES, the Motion to remove will fail and the Board Member will not be removed forthwith. For this Phase you are to consider the "reason for removal" and the subject Board Member may speak to the Board prior to a vote being taken." At the time the Agenda was prepared there

were 21 Board Members but now there are 19 due to the 2 resignations, therefore, a minimum of 10 Yes votes are needed for voting on this matter. Secretary advised Petition #1 was a Petition from Maggie Campbell to remove Board Member Bonnie Bernard and was received via email October 4th with separate attachments – (1) 2 – Signature Pages & (2) 7 Pages of Reason for Removal. An Original of the Petition has not been received. A certified copy of this emailed Petition was sent via US Postal Service to Bonnie Bernard October 6th. Please Make a motion to "accept" or "not accept" the Petition." **Patty Hug moved the Petition not be accepted due to deficiency of addresses and no way to confirm signers are Stakeholders.** **Clifford Kenny seconded the motion.** Pres. Flores advised receipt of Speaker Cards on this issue. Becky Bascom requested the Petition be rejected in accordance to the motion and that the "reason" was very slanderous against Bonnie Bernard who has been a long standing business in the community and the Petition accuses her of criminal acts (Pres. Flores reminded this vote was not to consider the "reason" in the Petition). Ms. Bascom made statements regarding the inability to confirm the signers as Stakeholders. Bob Carter withdrew his Speaker Card request. Terri Crosswhite rejected the wording of the agenda item to read "sufficiency/validity". Mark Lewis read the "suggestion" for the Agenda item from the City Attorney which did not include the word "validity". Secretary Jacobs ask if this word could be removed and continue. Mr. Lewis said "yes" and Pres. Flores requested this correction be made on the Agenda. Cindy Blazer commented on the deficiency as previously stated by Ms. Bascom. Pres. Flores requested Board Comments – Nick Krall saw 60 signatures who stated they were Homeowners with no phone number or address and Students with no name of the School and there was nothing to show the signers knew what they were putting their signature to. Clifford Kenny did not feel the Petition had any validity. Patty Hug stated there was nothing to verify the signers were Stakeholders. Maggie Campbell said if you read the By laws it does not say there should be anything except "50 Stakeholder signatures" period. Ms. Campbell further advised she issued an Exparte Hearing Notice to Board Members for tomorrow morning. Pres. Flores instructed this was not to be discussed. Ms. Campbell stated that this Hearing was regarding the Signature Page and would be dealt with tomorrow morning at 8:30 a.m. and the Bylaws does not state anything about the need for verification of signatures. Unidentified Board Member stated he was concerned there was no signature verification. Hector Cabrera was confused about the issue. Secretary Jacobs clarified for Mr. Cabrera that the "deficiency" was to be determined by the Board as to how they got it, how it arrived by mail or any manner and need not zero in on the signatures which was presented as an "example" as the City Attorney used this as an example. – Pres. Flores called for a vote **Yes (8); No (1) ; Abstained (3), - Motion passed**

Anne Krall distributed First Petition from Stakeholders to remove Board Member Maggie Campbell. Secretary reminded, again, of the 3 Phases to be considered. President Flores requested a Motion to Accept or Reject. **Richard Yamauchi moved and Marietta Welch seconded to Reject the Petition as lacking legible signer's name, just signatures.** Stakeholder Becky Bascom requested the Petition be considered as the signer's address was legible. Further discussion ensued regarding the applicability per the SNC Bylaws. Louis Perry apologized to the Stakeholders & Police Officers regarding this issue (Petitions) and stating this should have never happened. Patty Hug and Marietta Welch both felt the names should be printed by the signatures. President Flores requested a vote on the Motion. Maggie Campbell stated there is an Exparte Hearing Notice requesting an Injunction from the Judge to set aside this Petition and no vote should be taken and a Summons has been presented to Board Members. Stakeholder Cindy Blazer stated that SNC does not have an attorney present and Maggie seems to be the only individual present with any legal knowledge and she (Blazer) believes the meeting should be adjourned until SNC can discuss with legal counsel. Secretary Jacobs reported an E-mail had been received from the City Attorney with instructions, if SNC was served, all should be turned over to him. President Flores advised we should turn over to the City Attorney and questioned DONE Mark Lewis if this was a correct procedure. Mr. Lewis stated he would need to get information to the City Attorney who is "your" legal counsel. LAPD Officer Ingram advised nothing be done and wait to go before a Judge. **President Flores instructed this be tabled until instructions are received from the City Attorney.** Mark Lewis requested a copy of the Summons that had been served on various Board Members & Stakeholders and he would contact the City Attorney by cell phone. V.P. Bernard requested clarification – **both remaining Petitions are being Tabled;** Answer "yes".

President Flores **will continue to Table** item regarding scheduling regular monthly meetings and locations until further information becomes available regarding locations. Also, regarding a date and time for transition meeting of old and new Committee Chairs and Board Officers.

President requested the removed of **Old Business** Agenda Item #8, due to the resignation of Director Elizabeth Beltran and the selection of a new Legislative Chair.

Public Comment:

Dan Lesh reminded of Holy Cross expansion and the 10/21/05 Hearing requesting an Environmental Impact Report and advised he had copies available.

Public Comment continued:

Cindy Blazer commented on an individual holding the SNC hostage and threatening Stakeholders and this needs to end.

Robert Carter commented on Maggie Campbell allegations regarding he is being sued as a Lawyer for the SNC and is not an attorney or lawyer and this is a loose cannon who sues people without due diligence and thanked Maggie Campbell for what she has done, stating "Maggie be proud of yourself". He also questioned Maggie regarding "What is it about false witness"?

Becky Bascom stated she became involved with SNC in February as there were issues threatening the community, such as the Edison Project. Her electing the Board was to have issues presented to be taken "up the ladder" and this had been done till August when the new Board was elected. Now nothing is getting done only vile accusations being made against a member of the SNC, Bonnie Bernard, who helped create the SNC and a personal vendetta is being subjected by one individual and it is time the SNC got back to protecting the Stakeholders – as elected to do.

Recess 7:23 p.m.

President Flores recalled the meeting to order at 7:47 p.m.

Nick Krall moved, Bonnie Bernard seconded to revoke the approved motion 9/15/05 to accept the approved wording relevant to definition of Co-Chairs & Vice-Chairs in the Revision of the Board Rules. Following discussion the **Motion approved unanimously**

Nick Krall moved, Richard Yamauchi seconded to move the definition from Board rules to Bylaws. Discussion ensued and Maggie Campbell moved, Marietta Welch seconded to table this issue or anything having to do with Bylaws. Following discussion - **Yes (1) Maggie Campbell; No (10); Abstained (2) Hector Cabrera & Jamie Morado – Motion failed.** First motion was reconsidered **Yes (10); No (0); Abstentions (4) Maggie Campbell, Marietta Welch, Hector Cabrera & Jamie Morado – Motion passed by 2/3 vote**

Bonnie Bernard moved, Nick Krall seconded to approve Bylaws amendment to include the addition of "committees" "scope" as the wording on the Agenda 8/23/05 did not include "Board Action" and DONE rejected the approved "committee scope" to the Board Rules. The Board then voted to move it to the Bylaws and submit the change with an application to DONE, which has been done but a vote is required to be recorded in the Minutes and Agenda to submit to DONE. Following discussion **Yes (12); No (0); Abstained (2) Maggie Campbell & Marietta Welch – Motion passed by a 2/3 vote**

Bonnie Bernard moved, Clifford Kenny seconded to approve the revision of the Board Rules to reflect the change of "Parliamentarian" wording and content to "Rules and Policies Person(s)" to comply with the approved title change at the 9/30/05 Special Board Meeting. Following discussion, Eugene Hernandez moved, Richard Yamauchi seconded to table item. Following discussion - **Yes (9); No (2) Clifford Kenny & Bonnie Bernard; Abstained (1) Benjamin Cardenas – Motion Tabled**

Richard Yamauchi moved, Patty Hug second to establish an Ad Hoc Translation Committee charged with providing Spanish Translation Committee charged with providing Spanish translation of SNC documents for the public and to determine who will translate or how it will be accomplished, with Chairs Hector Cabrera and Tammy Flores. Following discussion - **Approved unanimously**

Richard Yamauchi moved, Juanita Bankhead seconded to establish an Ad Hoc Committee to address posting location to comply with the Brown Act & DONE requirements to be Chaired by Jim Schopper. Following discussion – **Approved unanimously**

Richard Yamauchi moved, Patty Hug seconded to establish an Ad Hoc City Budget Committee and the assignment of CIS (Community Impact Statement) individuals Chairs Tammy Flores and Eugene Hernandez. Following discussion – **Yes (12); No (0); Abstained (1) Jamie Morado – Motion passed**

Patty Hug moved, Richard Yamauchi seconded to split the School/Youth Issues Committee into two Committees – School Issues Committee and Youth Issues Committee, chaired by Benjamin Cardenas, to report to report to School Issues Committee. Following discussion – **Motion passed unanimously**

Reports:

Treasurer Richard Yamauchi reported the Audit Report was received by the City Funding but needs a correction. Petty Cash is available for Land Use parking.

Secretary Jacobs reported no correspondence received.

Public Services Chair Louis Perry reported Marietta Welch distributed 311 fliers throughout Sylmar and various repairs accomplished (**tape did not record from this point on – Remainder of Minutes from handwritten notes**)

Stakeholder Karen Sariona reported for Beautification Committee: Brainstorming done at meeting regarding shopping carts and other issues to help beautify Sylmar. Charlotte Bedard advised of a Cleanup in October and on 11/17/05 – Graffiti Busters looking for trees that have been knocked down to report to Tree People who have trees.

Richard Yamauchi, Public Safety/Preparedness Chair advised of distribution via email regarding Red Cross & State information.

Nick Krall, Co-Chair Land Use, reported Land Use meeting 10/24 at SNC office at 6:30 p.m.; 10/21 Hearing re Holy Cross and 10/27 Cascades Hearing.

Maggie Campbell, Chair Outreach, reported Directory biggest project being worked on; Logo and General fliers being distributed and all meetings will be Pot Luck at the Sylmar Library on Saturdays – Next meeting 10/22

President Flores, Chair Special Events, will send Agenda for a meeting and is working with CD 7 regarding a Sylmar Parade.

Juanita Bankhead, Chair Faith-Based, reported on Mission Statement to build bonds within the community and distribute toys, etc. at Christmas.

Richard Yamauchi, Chair Business Development, reported a meeting will be scheduled soon.

Marietta Welch, Chair Bylaws, reported a meeting scheduled for 10/17 at the Sylmar Library with a DONE Representative and Deputy District Attorney.

Jamie Morado, Senior Issues Chair, reported on recognition of appreciation being received from Seniors; 10/26 at 11:00 a.m. meeting at Sylmar Library with free flu shots for Seniors and transportation made available for those who do not have transportation.

Benjamin Cardenas, Youth Issues Chair, reported researching youth groups in the community to create a network with youths.

Ad Hoc CPR Committee – No Report

Becky Bascom, Co-Chair Ad Hoc Edison Committee, reported research is being done for alternatives for the Edison property (park, green house) and there is an upcoming Appeal 11/8/05.

Eugene Hernandez, Chair Ad Hoc Las Lomas Committee, reported that he and Bart Reed did a study and feel this project is destructive – A resolution is being prepared for Board approval.

Board Member Comment:

Eugene Hernandez passed out LAMC student newspaper; BsU established; 10/12 at 6:00 p.m. United For Education Coalition.

Nick Krall thanked Charlotte Bedard for her contribution to the Land Use Committee; What do we want our community to be like in the future.

Louis Perry commented he has had most positive employees who have turned around and worked as a team.

Bonnie Bernard commented re meeting with Louis Perry and another Board of Director who resigned anyway; Comment re the seven (7) page Petition being harmful to her business and reputation.

President Flores announced the next meeting is 11/17/05 at Dyer Street Elementary School Auditorium.

Richard Yamauchi moved to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by:

Doris Jacobs
SNC Secretary (10/31/05)

Approved by: BB 110105