

SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

MINUTES

Board of Directors Meeting

July 13, 2006

El Cariso Park

13100 Hubbard Street

Sylmar, CA 91342

President Tammy Flores called this meeting to order at 6:35 p.m., and the Pledge of Allegiance, led by Farooq Ghias, was recited.

Present: Tammy Flores; Bonnie Bernard; Richard Yamauchi; Nicholas Krall (Arvd 6:45 pm); Eugene Hernandez; Sherry Lincoln; Patty Hug; Louis Perry; Josue Barbosa; Jim Schopper; Cheri Blose (Arvd 7:00 pm); Clifford Kenney; Farooq Ghias.

Quorum was confirmed

Excused Absence: Marietta Welch

Un-excused Absence: Hector Cabrera; Daniel Delgadillo; Eugene Gatmaitan; Arminda Torres; Benjamin Cardenas

Ex-Officio Present: Maria Ventura (CD 7)

Also present, Leyla Campos (DONE)

Absent: Supervisor Yaroslavsky Representative; Mayor Villaraigosa Representative; LAFD; LAPD

Bonnie Bernard moved, Clifford Kenny seconded to approve the 6/8/06 Minutes as written. Following discussion the Minutes were **approved with Yes (7); No (1) Eugene Hernandez; Abstained (2) Josue Barbosa, Patty Hug – Minutes adopted.**

V.P. Bonnie Bernard explained location of restrooms, procedure regarding submitting a Speaker Card and procedure regarding motions for reconsideration and SNC grievance process.

President Flores requested Public Official's announcements and presentations:

Maria Ventura (CD 7) distributed fliers – On going Music classes; Pace Team –Pro active code enforcement- Hubbard to Polk, I5 to Foothill & Hubbard to Polk, Gladstone to Veterans Park; Youth Festival Sylmar Park 8/25.

Leyla Campos (DONE Project Coordinator) advised of City Attorney Round Table Discussion 7/19; Board of Commissioners 7/18 at 6:30 Valley Ctr.; Matching Fund Grants Workshop coming to the Sylmar area soon – Will give dates & locations information to SNC Secretary.

Maria Canel (Manager Community Outreach LAUSD VR Span K-8 #1) provided flier with update from 6/29/06 meeting of K-12 site selections addition of 2 (Flier distributed) and requested any other locations by Stakeholders should be submitted. (Form distributed) Another meeting will be close to the first week in August. (In lieu of Agenda Item 19 update by Rick Pulido)

Patty Hug reported Cheri Blose has been attending the MOU Planning Department meetings while she was on vacation and explained the purpose of the MOU Planning Department – Guidelines being established for the Neighborhood Councils & Planning Dept. to interact. Next meeting will be in August.

Land Use Committee Co-Chair Nick Krall requested the tabled from 5/11/06, 6/8/06 item regarding 12900 Harding (at Eldridge St.) proposed 44 small-lot homes be **further tabled** due to on going plan changes being made by the developer which will require Public Hearings.

President Flores passed the gavel to V.P. Bernard.

Tabled Item from 6/8/06: Land Use Committee Co-Chair Nick Krall made presentation regarding Land Use Committee recommendation to support the Mark Alvarez & Mereux-Maddox Development plans for a mixed-use project on the site of the old ICEON skating rink on San Fernando Rd. with changes to include moving parking access from Berg St. to San Fernando Rd. with increased parking, project moved back to allow a park effect on Berg St. with no balconies and conversion of some planned residential to commercial space. Maria Ventura (CD 7) requested for the record, CD 7 is working with the developer and the community. – Discussion was had by the Board, including Pres. after relinquishing the gavel to the V.P., Stakeholders submitting Speaker Cards and presentation by John Maddox. - President Flores requested a recess prior to a motion/vote being made.

Recess 7:40 – 7:50 p.m.

Richard Yamauchi moved, Patty Hug second to accept Land Use Committee recommendation to support the Mark Alvarez & Mereux-Maddox Development with fewer than 250 units with commercial space in front & 25 ft. buffer, no traffic access on Berg, an added traffic light in front, 2 story limit on Berg St. and no balconies facing Berg St.. Following additional Board discussion and the President relinquishing the gavel to the V.P., the Board voted **Yes (7); No (5) Louis Perry, Eugene Hernandez, Clifford Kenny, Tammy Flores, Farooq Ghias; Abstained (0) – Motion approved.**

President Flores resumed position as meeting Chair.

Tabled Item from 6/8/06: Land Use Committee Co-Chair Nick Krall made presentation regarding Land Use Committee recommendation regarding project on 16,500 sq. ft. R1-1 lot at 12659 No. Bradley Ave. between Oro Grande & Astoria, through-lot to Florentine St. **Item further tabled** as no recommendation from Land Use Committee - further presentations by developer to be heard by Committee.

Clifford Kenny provided information regarding the need of a Senior/Community Center in Sylmar. Maria Ventura (CD 7) stated several areas are being looked at, one being at the Sylmar Park. Bonnie Bernard moved, Clifford Kenny seconded to **place on all future Agendas, until accomplished, discussion for a Senior/Community Center in Sylmar.** Following discussion the Board voted and **Motion approved unanimously.**

Richard Yamauchi provided information regarding an agenda item “closing down Juvenile Hall”. Bonnie Bernard moved, Patty Hug second, Juvenile Hall officials be invited to make a 15 minute presentation regarding the facility at a future meeting. Following discussion the Board voted and **Motion approved unanimously.**

Richard Yamauchi provided information regarding an agenda item “Illegal raising of trash fees”. Richard Yamauchi moved, Eugene Hernandez second, Sylmar Neighborhood Council go on record with the City of Los Angeles that SNC opposes the fee hike for the trash collection by the city of Los Angeles. Following discussion the Board voted – **Yes (7); No (0); Abstained (4) Cheri Blose, Josue Barbosa, Bonnie Bernard, Clifford Kenny – Motion approved.** Richard Yamauchi to write letter to Los Angeles Mayor.

Secretary Doris Jacobs provided information regarding an agenda item “obtaining an office cleaning service from the City and/or other.” Cheri Blose moved, Bonnie Bernard second, Council District 7 provide name of contracted service for CD 7 to be contacted by SNC Secretary for rates. Following discussion, the Board voted **Yes (10); No (0); Abstained (2) Nicholas Krall, Patty Hug – Motion approved.**

Eugene Hernandez moved, Sherry Lincoln second to support a letter written by Tammy Flores to the Land Use Committee requesting a moratorium on development in Sylmar. Following the reading of the letter by Stakeholder, Mark Bauer, and amendment of motion by Flores, seconded by Nicholas Krall to rewrite the letter, with assistance from Cheri Blose and Ellie Brooks, include zone changes, height restrictions – amendment withdrawn. President Flores removed herself as Chair and following discussion, the Board voted on the original motion – **Yes (8); No (0); Abstained (4) Josue Barbosa, Cheri Blose, Nicholas Krall, Patty Hug - Motion approved.**

President Flores resumed chairing the meeting.

Election Committee Chair Cat Bartik-Sweeney presented an update on preparations for the 7/22/06 Board Elections and the Committee’s thankfulness for her Committee and the SNC having an office and Secretary to stay on top of last minute demands. Election Candidate Forum 7/17/06 – Please attend and hear from the Candidates. President Flores commended Ms. Bartik-Sweeney for all her hard work.

Treasurer, Richard Yamauchi presented the 2006-2007 Proposed SNC Budget to request funds beginning July 1st. Details may be amended by the next Treasurer & Budget Committee. Mr. Yamauchi states he was aware of some concern regarding the \$38,000 for the office and staff but agreed with Ms. Bartik-Sweeney's statements. Richard Yamauchi moved, Sherry Lincoln seconded to approve the 2006-2007 Proposed SNC Budget. Following discussion, the Board voted - **Motion approved unanimously.** President Flores read, for the record to be included in the Minutes, a Memo from SNC Secretary Jacobs to the President & Board: “In the process today of performing my many, many duties as the SNC Secretary and in particular the posting of the 2006 Election Candidate Statements, I was not pleased to see Candidates who appear to believe the current & past Board of Directions have not done a very good job. As I have been in a daily position to really know all that these Board members have done for the community, I must tell them their work has been outstanding considering the difficulties and challenges presented the SNC. I must comment that it would appear the Candidates who believe the Board has not spent the allotted funds wisely and believe the SNC has no need for an office and/or Secretary, have not spent a day in the SNC office to be educated on the daily operation. Had they done so, they would certainly have a different perspective on all the SNC Board has done and is continuing to do for the community. It is my hope that the 2006 Election will have a huge turn out of voters and that the voters will read carefully the Candidate Statements prior to casting their Ballot. Thank you all for allowing me to be a part of the SNC organization.”

LAMC Ad Hoc Committee Chair, Lois Fife, gave brief update re LAMC with literature distributed and requested Committee Member Ellie Brooks make presentation regarding the LAMC President's letter "Notice of Preparation – Draft Program Environmental Impact Report. Next Committee meeting at the SNC office 7/20/06 – 4:00 p.m. with attendance of an individual from the LA Planning Bureau to provide information regarding the funding process etc..

Public comments on non-agenda items Speaker Cards submitted were made by Colleen Patton re freeway sound wall needed at Astoria, opposing the building of more self-storage facilities and appreciation to Public Service Chair Louis Perry and SNC Secretary for all they have done; Comments from Sandra Chapman (LA County Dept. of Parks & Recreation) regarding El Cariso Park events and welcoming SNC for having their meeting at the Park; Barry Sylvan commented on the extensive research and work done by the Land Use Committee regarding developers, prior to making recommendations to the Board.

Reports:

Treasurer Richard Yamauchi had no additional report. – Recognized Maggie Estrada from Santa Clarita.

Secretary reported correspondence available for review from the LA City Board of Fire Commissioners regarding Disaster Awareness Course.

Public Service Chair Louis Perry stated he will do a report at another meeting due to the late hour.

Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Chair Richard Yamauchi no additional report; Pres. Flores advised she & Richard Yamauchi are a part of the Emergency Preparedness Task Force for the City of LA. – Master plan of communication to necessary agencies is not presently in place but needed. Board members needed to follow up on this project. Possibly the SNC office may be assigned as the base for all NC communication from Sylmar to the Harbor.

Land Use Committee Co-Chair Nick Krall - Requested all to look at the K-12 School site locations and email/write preferences to the Committee; Developer for the 4 ½ acres by hang-glider property will not build if he can get his money back out of the property – Contact others that may put to better use, such as a Fire Station or Senior-Community Center; Request to moving Juvenile Hall out of the community as it is now used as a "holding location" not just for juveniles – Put on next Agenda; Bad area along railroad tracks/San Fernando Rd. being addressed for cleanup.

Outreach (Senior & Youth) – President Flores advised Outreach is putting together a program to work with other Neighborhood Councils (NC) as all are having problems reaching Stakeholders.

Senior Issues Chair Clifford Kenny regarding statement made by LA Mayor regarding Task Force Committees – Many do not operate by any code of ethics. The Local Home Task Force Committee stated that they do not keep any Minutes of meetings which does not allow the public knowing what they are doing – not following the LA Mayor statements regarding "transparency".

Business Development – No Report

Board Member Comment:

Nick Krall commented developer is attempting to build condo's along Foothill Blvd, which needs to be addressed.

Eugene Hernandez commented that those concerned about the LA Mayor taking over the schools should attend a meeting 8/3 at Valley College at 6:00 p.m.; Disappointed at Mayor's appointments to 912 Commission; Won in court re legality being questioned by L A farmers of Horowitz take over.

Tabled - Supplemental Agenda Item 1: Discussion and possible board action on a letter addressing traffic issues arising from Mission College expansion plans; the letter to be distributed to Mission College, Gateway Science & Engineering, URS Corporation and Leo A. Daly, Board of Trustees of the L.A. Community Collect District, Councilmember Padilla, Mayor Villaraigosa and the head of the L.A. Dept. of Transportation.

Tabled – supplemental II Agenda Item 1 & 2: 1. Discussion and possible BOD action a request for SNC to join and appoint a Board member to the L.A. Neighborhood Council Congress (LANCC); 2. For discussion and possible BOD action regarding a resolution to the DWP rate hike – Resolution letter to be presented at BOD meeting.

President Flores stated it has been her pleasure to work with the Board and Stakeholders and the many difficulties we have incurred but we all know we are doing a good job for the community while holding down full time outside jobs.

Clifford Kenny stated this has been a hard year but we have all done an excellent.

Nicholas Krall stated he wanted to recognize all that are finishing their term and we need to use pressure on DONE and/or the Election group regarding no provision for absentee voting due to elections being after school is out and on a weekend, which is a problem for many.

Next meeting scheduled for 8/10/06 – 6:30 p.m. at El Cariso Park .

Meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Doris Jacobs SNC Secretary (7/29/06)

To Be Approved by Board of Directors 8/10/06