

# SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

## MINUTES

**Board of Directors Meeting  
October 12, 2006  
Hubbard Street Elementary School (Auditorium)  
13325 Hubbard Street  
Sylmar, CA 91342**

President Tammy Flores called this meeting to order at 6:33 p.m., and Charles Partello led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present: Tammy Flores; Bonnie Bernard; Ellie Brooks; Hector Cabrera; Kathleen Clement; Farooq Ghias; Nicholas Krall; Rudolfo Lopez; George Ortega; Louis Perry; Fidel Ramirez; Jeanne Rowe; Jan Sandstrom; Quyen Vo-Ramirez; Lynn Zekanis

### Quorum was confirmed

Excused Absence: Benjamin Cardenas; Eugene Hernandez; Clifford Kenny; Randall Kelly, Jim Schopper

Un-excused Absence: Cheri Blose

Ex-Officio Present: Officer Loneragan (LAPD); Maria Ventura (CD 7)

Absent: Supervisor Yaroslavsky Representative, Mayor Villaraigosa Representative; LAFD.

Also Present: Leyla Campos (DONE Project Coordinator)

Jeanne Rowe moved, Lynn Zekanis seconded to accept the 9/28/06 Minutes as written. Following discussion **Minutes approved unanimously.**

Bonnie Bernard provided Housekeeping with explanation of Stakeholder comments and Speaker Cards and on the Agenda are the procedures regarding motions for reconsideration and SNC grievance process. To receive meeting Agenda's, email can be entered on the Sign In sheet for entering into the SNC database. Time Keeper will monitor time as Secretary must leave at 8:45 p.m. and no BOD can take Minutes.

Maria Ventura (CD 7) announced Cascades Fire Station Groundbreaking 11/1/06, San Fernando Road Bicycle Path Dedication 11/2/06, the abatement of 14132 W. Hubbard St. property & upcoming street cleanup, trimming trees & picking up trash; LAPD Officer Loneragan reported crime in Sylmar down 6% over last year, Sr. Lead assigned, 10/7 Town Hall Meeting with approximately 50 attendees, Post Office homeless encampment cleaned up; Leyla Campos (DONE) advised Mayor's Budget form can be filled out online and till 11/15 the selection of two (2) representatives to participate in discussions about the L.A. City Budget, which should be on the 11/9 BOD meeting Agenda.

**Tabled Item from 7/13/06, 8/24/06, 9/14/06 & 9/28/06 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); **President Flores requested item be removed from the Agenda till further notice as a speaker is not available at this time.**

**Tabled Item from 8/24/06, 9/14/06 & 9/28/06:** Discussion and possible Board action regarding "closing down Juvenile Hall" – Invitation to Juvenile Hall official to make a 15 minutes presentation regarding the facility. – **Item further tabled** – Kathleen Clement to contact Juvenile Hall to obtain an official to make a presentation to the Board.

Nick Krall reported he and Ellie Brooks attended the BONC meeting to address the issue of 72 hours prior to meeting posting requirements. It was found that there are a half dozen other Neighborhood Councils that post on windows that are at public facility locations not open 24-7. A request was made that the City Attorney provide information making it legal to post at public facilities and other locations not open 24-7 as long as one location is open 24-7. Beginning 10/16 the Land Use Committee will be holding meetings on Mondays to allow Stakeholders to attend due to various other meetings being held on Thursdays. Ellie Brooks reported she also attended the 912 Commission Review of neighborhood councils and provided information regarding our posting location issue and has found five other neighborhood councils who are posting similar to SNC and are having meetings on all week days. Ellie Brooks moved, Nick Krall seconded that the SNC continue their posting locations, add more as they become available in the community but begin meeting any night of the week when Stakeholders are available. Following discussion, the Board voted **Yes (11); No (0); Abstained (2) Bonnie Bernard, Kathleen Clement – Motion passed**

### **Public Comments:**

President Flores introduced Monica Rodriguez, candidate for CD 7 Councilmember and Nichole Chase representative from Senator Richard Alarcon's office. Ms. Chase announced the 11/13 meeting at Van Nuys State Office regarding the coalition to develop a new regional airport in Palmdale; Hubbard Street Elementary School (HSES) Principal, Sue Ellen Torres introduced herself and hopes SNC continues having their meeting at HSES and next year her time will allow her to be involved with the SNC.

Beverly Ditomaso requested participation in the S.F. Valley Veteran's Parade Blue Star/Families Float. Karen Soriano provided information regarding "Tree People" and tree planting 11/4/06 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.  
President Flores moved to the Reports agenda item.

President Flores moved to Reports.

Treasurer Ellie Brooks reported on the transition from the 2005-2006 Treasurer.

Secretary Doris Jacobs reported no correspondence and requested public contact information for Jeanne Rowe and the submitting of members by each Committee.

Beautification/Grants Chair Quyen Vo-Ramirez reported her Board Member Co-Chair is Jeanne Rowe.

Commercial/Business Interests Co-Chair Bonnie Bernard advised "no report".

Education Chair Fidel Ramirez reported he is recruiting potential Committee Members.

Land Use Committee Chair Nick Krall reported the next meeting is Monday, 10/16/06.

Outreach Committee Chair Ellie Brooks reported upcoming meeting being scheduled and requested information on all Sylmar organizations to create a larger outreach database. There will be Sub-Committees of Youth, Seniors, Organizations, Faith Based.

Public Safety/Emergency Preparedness Co-Chair Hector Cabrera reported work being done to obtain Committee Members.

Public Services Chair Louis Perry reported problem with gentlemen's standing water in street resolved, crime prevention tips provided the Valley Produce shopping center, sex offender issue addressed with LAPD & City official re not housing offenders in Super 8 and re educating the community regarding the various levels/type of sex offenders – LAPD, Montanez & Padillia offices working on a package to make available to the public, the trucking company owner by the "Welcome To Sylmar" sign has placed lights for the sign, per a request from Doris Jacobs, an event being planned at Mr. Perry's home for the City Services Appreciation Day with invitations to the Board and City officials with food & beverages provided to show appreciation for all the good work these individuals have done in the community and requested Committee support re the street cleaning project. The 85 Building & Safety issues presented have all been taken care of with the assistance of Mr. Perry's staff.

**President Flores called for a Recess at 7:20 p.m.**

**President Flores recalled the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.**

President Flores moved to the Agenda Item regarding the Land Use Committee recommendations.

Land Use Committee Chair Nick Krall provided information of the 6 agenda items and the Committee recommendations:

1. Nick Krall moved, Ellie Brooks seconded the SNC support development at 13389 Hubbard Street only if there is no density-bonus, giving a maximum of 27 units. Following discussion, the Board voted – **Yes (7); No (5) Hector Cabrera, Kathleen Clement, Rudy Lopez, Quyen Vo-Ramirez, Lynn Zekanis; Abstained (1) Fidel Ramirez – Motion passed.**

2. Nick Krall moved, George Ortega seconded the SNC support of the proposed 45-foot monopine telecommunications towers at 16045 W. Foothill Blvd.. Following discussion, Krall amended the motion, Ortega seconded the motion include financial responsibility for any damage. The Board voted on the amended motion – **Approved unanimously** Following discussion the Board voted on the original motion – **Yes (4); No (9) Lynn Zekanis, Jeanne Rowe, Quyen Vo-Ramirez, Fidel Ramirez, Louis Perry, Rudy Lopez, Farooq Ghias, Kathleen Clement, Hector Cabrera; Abstained (2) Bonnie Bernard, Ellie Brooks – Motion failed.**

3. Nick Krall moved, Bonnie Bernard seconded that for the safety of our community and the Sylmar area, a request be made from the council office regarding the implementation of one or more Interim Control Ordinances. Following discussion, the Board voted – **Yes (7); No (3) Lynn Zekanis, Quyen Vo-Ramirez, Kathleen Clement; Abstained (3) Farooq Ghias, Fidel Ramirez, Jeanne Rowe – Motion passed**

4. Nick Krall moved, Kathleen Clement seconded the adoption and refinement of a Community Vision Statement establishing list of community desires regarding various aspects of Sylmar land use for now and in the future. Following discussion, the Board voted – **Approved unanimously**

5. Nick Krall moved, Ellie Brooks seconded support with conditions of a reduced project of 200 town-homes on Foothill at Harding. Following discussion, the Board voted – **Yes (9); No (4) Kathleen Clement, Fidel Ramirez, Quyen Vo-Ramirez, Jeanne Rowe – Motion passed**

6. Nick Krall moved, Bonnie Bernard seconded the SNC support of R1 single family home development at 13147 Gladstone Ave. with conditions of removal of squatters, illegal homes & junk within 30 day that is on the property. Following discussion, the Board voted – **Yes (2); No (10) Ellie Brooks, Hector Cabrera, Kathleen Clement, Farooq Ghias, Rudy Lopez, Louis Perry, Fidel Ramirez, Jeanne Rowe, Quyen Vo-Ramirez, Lynn Zekanis; Abstained (1) Bonnie Bernard – Motion failed**

President Flores requested Board approval for a Street Vendor Ad Hoc Committee, motion by Ellie Brooks, seconded by Bonnie Bernard. Following discussion, the Board voted – **Yes (5); No (4) Hector Cabrera, Kathleen Clement, Rudy Lopez, Lynn Zekanis; Abstained (4) Fidel Ramirez, Jeanne Rowe, George Ortega, Louis Perry – Motion Approved** – President Flores appointed Jan Sandstrom to Chair the Street Vendor Ad Hoc Committee.

President Flores tabled Item 16 – appointment of Rental/Manufactured Homes Protection Committee Chair(s).

President Flores moved to Item 13 regarding SNC support or oppose Proposition R and inform the LA City Council and other neighborhood councils (NC), associations of NC's and other organizations who are compiling lists of supporting or opposing organizations.

Jacque Lamishaw made presentation requesting a "No" vote on Proposition "R"; Liza White (League of Women Voters" made presentation requesting "Yes" vote on Proposition "R".

Ellie Brooks moved, Jeanne Rowe seconded the following motion:

1. Whereas ballot Measure R is entitled "Councilmember Term Limits of Three Terms; City Lobbying, Campaign Finance And Ethics Laws, Charter Amendment And Ordinance Measure; and

2. Whereas the Measure mixes the separate issues of term limits extension and lobbying on a single ballot question and the title obscures its primary effect, which is to give City Council members the possibility of four more years in office; and

3. Whereas the City Attorney has advised that, as such, the Measure may not conform to State law and has already led the City into costly litigation; and that the City Attorney has also suggested that the Measure may in fact weaken current City Ethics standards; and

4. Whereas the City Ethics Commission, an independent watchdog panel created by voters, was denied the opportunity to approve or reject the recommendations, nor even to review the proposal and/or to make recommendations for the revisions before it was adopted; and

5. Whereas the Measure revises current lobbying standards making it significantly more difficult to track compliance, and

6. Whereas the Measure was rushed through City Council hours after its arrival; and

7. Whereas there was no Early Notification to Neighborhood Councils, as required by the City Charter; and

8. Whereas our stakeholders were refused an opportunity for informal participation in drafting the Measure; and

9. Whereas the Sylmar Neighborhood Council insists that Los Angeles city government remain open and transparent and include opportunities for public participation in all decision-making processes;

Therefore be it resolved that the Sylmar Neighborhood Council opposes Ballot Measure R and urges its stakeholders to vote "No" on November 7.

(Secretary Jacobs excused herself from recording Minutes at 8:45 p.m. and V.P. Bernard continued monitoring the tape recording of the meeting.)

Following Board discussion, the Board voted – **Yes (1); No (9) Hector Cabrera, Kathleen Clement, Rudolfo Lopez, George Ortega, Louis Perry, Fidel Ramirez, Jeanne Rowe, Quyen Vo-Ramirez, Lynn Zekanis; Abstained (3) Farooq Ghias, Bonnie Bernard, Nick Krall – Motion failed**

President Flores tabled Item 11 - Discussion and possible board action regarding an SNC recommendation to the L.A. City Council as presented by Eugene Hernandez: "Whereas, Neighborhood Councils were created by the City Charter to give a voice to residents throughout the City of Los Angeles" and "Whereas, as Neighborhood Council Directors, are elected by the Stakeholders as representatives of the neighborhood" and "Whereas, as elected Neighborhood Council Directors representing a constituency of the elected voters of the City of Los Angeles, such Neighborhood Council Directors should be accorded the same rights and privileges accorded other elected officials when addressing the Los Angeles City Council during Public

Comment periods and in Special Hearings, whereby the Los Angeles City Council President suspending the one minute rule for Neighborhood Council Board Members during the public comment period."

President Flores tabled Item 14 regarding obtaining an office cleaning service from the City and/or other – Bid submitted by Mission Carpet Care.

President Flores moved to Item 15 and appointed Melanie McShane as Election Committee Chair and requested Josue Barbosa report on possible Board action regarding Election Committee recommendations for Bylaw changes. Bonnie Bernard suggested this be tabled due to the meeting running far beyond allotted time. Josue Barbosa advised he did not attend his NC meeting to be able to present the suggested Bylaw changes and the EP for 2007 has been prepared and reviewed by DONE and await the SNC Board decision. Bonnie Bernard advised each BOD is to review the suggested changes they have received copies of and this item will be on the agenda for the November meeting.

President Flores moved to Item 18 regarding the Board selecting one of the dates submitted for the Board Retreat with Gary de La Rosa. President Flores took a count from the Board for date available – The majority choose November 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

President Flores then moved to Ad Hoc Committee Reports – Lois Fife reported the need of two individuals for the LAMC Ad Hoc Committee to replace those leaving. The DEIR due 10/19 and a short period of time to study it. Community Planning meeting and LAMC meeting in conflict.

President Flores advised that due to everyone's efforts, the amount of sex offenders located in Sylmar has been reduced from 168 to 33.

President Flores then moved to Board Member Comments. Kathleen Clement stated that she did not believe any further political issues should be presented without the issue first being approved to be put on the Agenda by the Board; Nick Krall commented on the 2 ½ hour delay for LAPD to arrive when his home alarm sounded; President Flores advised she will have a cell phone again tomorrow and will advise if the number has changed.

President Flores advised the next meeting is November 9<sup>th</sup> and possible agenda items should be submitted to the Secretary.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:57 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Doris Jacobs SNC Secretary (10/20/06)

To Be Approved by Board of Directors 11/9/06