

**SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL  
MONTHLY BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, November 15, 2007  
BIBLE BAPTIST CHURCH  
13724 FENTON STREET  
SYLMAR, CA 91342**

Meeting called to order by President Tammy Flores at 6:33pm. The Flag Salute was said by all present.

**Roll Call**

Roll call Present: Tammy Flores, Erlin Arellano, Bonnie Bernard, Rick Donnelly, Fabian Garcia, Randall Kelly, Nick Krall, Rudolfo Lopez, George Ortega, Guillermo Reyes, Jeanne Rowe, Jan Sandstrom, Quyen Vo-Ramirez, Lynn Zekanis

Not Present: Cheri Blöse, Hector Cabrera, Farooq Ghias, Eugene Hernandez

Not present Excused: Louis Perry, Jim Schopper, Fidel Ramirez

**Quorum is established.**

**Approval of Minutes:** Bonnie Bernard moved and Randall Kelly seconded to approve as corrected the minutes of October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2007. **Approved unanimously.**

Bonnie Bernard announced about the facilities and the procedures for speaking, and she welcomed the stakeholders and thanked them for coming to the meeting.

**Public Official Announcements**

Manny from Richard Alarcon's office announced that Sat Nov 17<sup>th</sup> at Bishop Alemany High School there will be a Homeowners Faire, helping people with problems with foreclosure, credit recovery, buying a home, disaster preparing for homes, and more. Sgt. Adrian Torres – LAPD Mission Division – Community Relations Unit. Dec 15, 2007 @ Sepulveda Recreation Center in North Hills - 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual San Fernando Valley toy give away. Would like help from the SNC. Need donations. Free to the public. For more information contact Mike Scott at Mission Division LAPD.

President Tammy Flores – Announced the Mayors Family Counseling Program to help with murder, suicide, and other serious problems. Next Team Training Classes January 22 - March 13 Tuesdays and Thursdays, from 6:30pm - 9:30pm at Fire Station 88 in Sherman Oaks.

Youth Environmental Conference 2007 - Saturday, December 8, 2007 – 8:00am at the Los Angeles Convention Center West Hall. Admission is free.

Sylmar Women's Club – Provide money for clothes for kids in our community. They are having a Holiday Tea and Luncheon fundraiser December 1<sup>st</sup> at 10am. Tickets are \$30.

LAPD – police officer recruitment plan - \$1000 incentive recruitment plan for persons referring prospective officers.

### Public Comments

Sandra Chapman – Parks and Recreation Representative - Roy Wheeler’s Holiday in the Park – toys for needy families – 500 kids . Has donation forms. Bring toys before December 8<sup>th</sup>. We hand out the toys on Dec 8<sup>th</sup> , Need help wrapping at Veterans Park in the Evenings of 2000 toys from December 3<sup>rd</sup> to December 7<sup>th</sup>. 7:00pm – 9:00pm.  
Eugene - This Saturday there is a book sale from 10am -1pm at the Sylmar Library.  
Fiddlers Green – Celebrate the Thanksgiving Holiday at Talking Stick Coffee Lounge 6030 Ocean Park Blvd in Santa Monica on November 24<sup>th</sup>.

Louis Perry is not present and will give his statement at a future meeting. Jim Schopper is out of town so his appointment cannot be made tonight.

### Tabled Items/Old Business

Cherie Blose is not present yet, so her report on absences is postponed.

Letters to be sent by Quyen Vo-Ramirez. Not worked on because of working on elections. She will get out the letters this weekend.

Bonnie Bernard received a response from the City Attorney regarding the removal of board members that have ceased to show up for meetings and participate. The response is basically that Bonnie should talk to Amelia from DONE. Board would like to be fair in the application of the Bylaws rule. Tabled to December meeting.

What can be done with the Edison property along 210 fwy between Sayre and Hubbard? Sent to the Outreach Committee Meeting. Nick Krall says that a passive use might allow a building . Could put banners there. There are banners on there now that should not be there. Tabled.

### New Business

Gavel is passed to Vice-Chair Bonnie Bernard.

Tammy speaks to the liaison with CARE – CARE came and asked for the Boards support. SNC joined just to support an EIR. CARE now states that they are prepared to file a lawsuit against the City.

**Motion: Tammy Flores moves** to remove the Sylmar Neighborhood Council from the coalition with CARE. Tammy says we should not go further with a group suing the city. Nick says that the Hospital has bypassed the laws. Tammy asked that CARE send a letter to our Council stated that they acknowledge our disengagement. Memo says that it shows the Chamber as a part of that. Nick will obtain a letter acknowledging our council opting out. After more discussion, **the board voted as follows: YES (11), NO (0), A ABSTAIN (1) - Erlin Arellano. Motion passes.**

Rick Donnelly recommends supporting 3 families at \$200 each, for a total of \$600 total to come from the outreach budget. And to do outreach about doing this. Lynn suggests a photo op with a Park Official.

**Rick Donnelly moves and Tammy seconds** that the Sylmar Neighborhood Council provide \$200 for Toys for tots, \$200 for Holidays in the Park, and \$200 for a needy family. Randall suggests giving directly to families. Tammy asks Manny if they have a list of needy families.

**Tammy Flores moves to amend and Lynn Zekanis seconds** to remove giving to Toys for Tots, and to give to selected families listed by the Councilman's Office, or the Parks, and to evenly distribute the gifts without a photo op.

Randy suggest \$500 for families , and \$200 to the park, Tammy suggests \$800 total to be distributed by the outreach committee. Jeanne says must be specific line items.

Amendment withdrawn.

**Tammy Flores moves to amend and Lynn Zekanis seconds** to give \$800, remove toys for tots, keep \$200 for Holidays in the Park and, \$200 for San Fernando Valley Toy Giveaway and \$400 for needy families.

Martin Laufer "call me crazy and at the risk of sounding like scrooge", we are talking about tax payers money that were giving away. I'm against it. The money could be used for an awful lot of things to help this community. Lynn Zekanis responds that it is being used for outreach. It is in the NC Budget and NC Scope. Nick Krall says its good PR. Bonnie Bernard would have reservations but this is ok. Randy Kelly feels that it is ok. Stakeholder Gilbert Cacias – says it is a good idea and that the person that wanted to help that doesn't want to spend "taxpayer money" should donate something himself. Stakeholder Hiral Bhakta – says that the council should be spending its money or the city will not give anymore.

**The board voted on the amendment as follows: YES(11), NO(0), ABSTAIN(1), Fabian Garcia. UNDERAGE(1) Erlin Arellano. Amendment Passes.**

**The board voted on the motion as follows: YES(12), NO(0), ABSTAIN(0), UNDERAGE (1) Erlin Arellano. Motion Passes.**

**Motion: Lynn Zekanis moves and Nick Krall seconds** to buy a digital camera for the use by the Sylmar Neighborhood council, not to exceed \$200. YES(10), NO(), ABSTAIN(2) Randall Kelly, George Ortega, UNDERAGE (1) Erlin Arellano.

### **Committee Reports**

Treasurer Report – Lynn Zekanis – Finished Report for DONE.

Secretary Report - Correspondence – done by Tammy Flores

Beautification Committee – Quyen Oct 6 , Sylmar Beautification Day. George Ortega headed up the cleanup of the Freeway offramps. Fabian helped with the bulky items. Louis Perry headed up the Foothill Blvd cleanup. City picked up the bagged trash. Erlin worked with Lilly from the Mayors office all over the community. It was a very successful event. Starbucks donated coffee. Jeanne Rowe paid for catering lunch for the volunteers.

Business – Tammy Flores – We want to work on Sylmar Day outreach with the Business community. Working with the councilmans office on this.

Education – not here

Land Use Committee– Nick Krall– Eventful week with Holy Cross coming up. Planning Commission ruling is upheld, and the hospital can move forward at this time. Several

other developements have not been approved. The committee asked them to adjust their project and come back.

Outreach – Rick Donnelly– Working with the outreach comm. to publicize the election and the December 5<sup>th</sup> Townhall meeting. Randall Kelly got the faith-based organizations. Lots of flyers out. And also on the Webpage. A very successful event was held on Sat the 10<sup>th</sup>, the SFV Coalition on gangs street faire.. It was attended by many board members. About 600 families were reached out to. We also participated in the Clean Up. Public Safety – Emergency Preparedness – Tammy Flores– We need to start preparing for emergencies. Need to work on a Community Emergency evacuation plan. Need to find help to convert from septic tanks.

Public Services – not here

Rental – no chair

Election Committee – Quyen V0-Ramirez. 11 registered candidates. They can solicit voters. Passed out flyers.

### **Ad hoc committee reports**

Cheri Blose - not present.

Las Lomas – Brad Sherman is against it.

Santa Clarita meeting to set up a Las Lomas Project Coalition.

### **Board member comments**

Tammy Flores – Thanks everyone. Quyen for elections . Nick and George for attending the grueling meetings downtown, Rick did a fabulous job. Everybody is doing a great job. Tuesday, Tammy met with Mayor’s office representative Antonio Sanchez 3 hours. Irrigation and green on freeways. She is meeting with elected officials to get things done. We need to get sidewalks repaved.

Bonnie Bernard – We have a good board.

Lynn Zekanis– participated in the San Fernando Valley Veterans Parade. Everyone brings their own vehicle. Fire Engines to Hummers.

Erlin Arellano– Also went to the Veterans Day Parade. It was really good.

Future meeting – Dec 13<sup>th</sup>, 2007 at the Bible Baptist Church

Adjourn At 8:10 PM