

SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

EXECUTIVE OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Don Neal

VICE-PRESIDENTS: George Ortega
and Kristin Mills

TREASURER: Richard Perry

PUBLIC RELATIONS: Jose Oliva



SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL

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Minutes of the
SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL (SNC)
GENERAL BOARD MEETING
Thursday, September 27, 2012

at Church of the Foothills, 13425 Glenoaks Blvd., Sylmar, CA 91342

SNC (and all other) Meeting Minutes are a summary, not an exact, verbatim, word-for-word transcript of what was said at a Meeting. The only two exceptions to this are the Motions and quotes, which are words that have quotation marks (""") at the beginning and ending of a word or words. The Minutes were not, are not and are never meant to be a comprehensive record of what was said about an issue or project.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

President Don Neal called the meeting to order at 6:43 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

2. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Board Members present: Ricardo Benitez, Cheri Blose, Deidre Campbell-Jones, Edward Campos, Ann Job, Brianna King, Sherry Lincoln, Derek Martin, Kristin Mills, Don Neal, Judi Neal, George Ortega, Richard Perry, Rubi Ramirez, Chris Shows and Roy Smith. Jose Oliva arrived later. Board Members absent: Laurie Fadness (unexcused), Jeanne Rowe (excused) and Diane Valencia (excused). One Board Seat (Community-Based Organizations) was vacant. Also attending: 34 Stakeholders and Guests.

Sixteen of the 20 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting. The SNC quorum (the minimum number of Board Members needing to be present to take binding votes on Agendized Items) is 11, so the Board could take such votes.

3. Housekeeping, Stakeholder Comments, Speaker Cards, and Timekeeper.

Mr. Neal explained the above.

4. Welcome and Introduction by Board Meeting Host.

Meeting Host Barbara Winslow welcomed and invited everyone. The Church has services every Sunday at 9:30 in English and at 4:00 in Spanish, and a Health and Wellness Center and a drum circle once a month (\$5 fee).

5. Minutes Approval

MOTION (by Mr. Ortega, seconded by Mr. Perry): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its July 26, 2012 Special Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

MOTION (by Mr. Perry, seconded by Ms. Campbell-Jones): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approves the Minutes of its August 23, 2012 General Board Meeting as written.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

Board Member Jose Oliva arrived at this time.

6. Reports

Secretary

The Secretary reported on recent work facilitating and forwarding Agendizing and funding requests; setting up all but one Board Members' e-mail accounts; assisting in getting City services; facilitating Race for Youth police fundraiser and Olive Festival communications; forwarding land use applications and Hearing Notices; responding to various Stakeholder requests; and more.

Treasurer/Budget -- Mr. Perry announced that he completed the Treasurer Training. A second Board Member needs to complete the Training and serve as the Purchase Card second signatory.

Land Use -- Mr. Ortega deferred to below Item #s 13 and 14.

Outreach

Ms. Campbell-Jones encouraged checking the www.SylmarNC.org website for information. Ms. Mills reported on the successful Olive Festival.

Government Affairs, Public Safety and Services

Mr. Shows invited everyone to attend the next Committee Meeting on the usual second Tuesday, October 10th at 6:30 p.m. He announced an Obesity Prevention Day October 13th at L.A. Mission College (LAMC).

Green

Ms. Job reported for Ms. Jenkins that the last Committee Meeting was well-attended and that Steve List and some of his Sylmar High School students are working on the Church of the Foothills Community Garden.

Equestrian

Ms. Blöse reported that the next Committee Meeting will be the usual third Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Bylaws

Mr. Martin said that there was no report.

Additional Reports, requested by the President

There were no additional reports.

7. Board Member Announcements and Comments.

Mr. Campos encouraged calling 3-1-1 for bulky items pickup. Mr. Neal announced the October 16th LAMC Math and Science Building dedication and an October 27th fundraiser at El Cariso Park. Mr. Oliva announced an October 13th recognition of the LAMC and CSUN Presidents. Mr. Benitez announced a November 4th cleanup of Hansen Dam horse trails. Alonzo Menchaca, LAPD Mission Division (north/east of Glenoaks Blvd.) Senior Lead Officer (mobile/text 818-634-0619; office 818-838-9846; 36178@LAPD.LACity.org; http://www.LAPDonline.org/Mission_Community_Police_Station), reported that crime is up 2%, with theft from motor vehicles up 27%. They also get “15 calls a day because people are upset” about LAMC students illegally parking; he reminded not to confront anyone; call the police. Officer Menchaca urged that “if it’s a crime in progress, call 9-1-1,” not him. He indicated that police patrol the Sylmar Recreation Center every day and are working with the Center’s Director.

8. Public Comments

Stakeholder Mack Hunter announced an October 6th shredding truck appearance at the Granada Hills Target and the October 10th Officer Appreciation Day at LAPD Mission Station. Daniel Campos, L.A. Community College District Student Trustee, spoke regarding education funding challenges and encouraged supporting Propositions 30 and 32.

Unfinished Business

9. Discussion and possible action to submit a letter to L.A. City Councilmember Alarcon to support the Beyond Coal LA Coalition and endorse the campaign to get L.A. off coal by 2020.

Ms. Job requested and it was agreed to **TABLE** this Item.

New Business

10. Discussion and possible action [see below Motion].

FUNDING-RELATED MOTION (by Ms. Campbell-Jones, seconded by Mr. Perry): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council will financially support five major community events this year: Sylmar Olive Festival, Race for Youth, Veteran’s Day Parade, and Sylmar Park Easter/Halloween events.

DISCUSSION: Mr. Neal explained the need to carefully allocate funding, partly due to the SNC budget having been cut to \$37,000 this Fiscal Year. Mr. Ortega described concerns regarding how some organizations have handled previous funding received from the SNC.

Mr. Neal requested and it was agreed to **TABLE** this Item.

11. Discussion and possible action [see below Motion].

Dan Rosales, Jr., Planning Deputy for L.A. City District Seven Councilman Richard Alarcon (818-756-8409; Dan.Rosales@LACity.org), explained the Parade’s purpose.

FUNDING MOTION (by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Benitez): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council will financially support the SFV Veteran's Parade, scheduled for 11/10/12, in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.

DISCUSSION: Board Members expressed support. Stakeholder Eugene Hernandez strongly opposed the Parade as "glorifying war."

MOTION to CALL FOR THE QUESTION (by Mr. Neal); there were no objections.

FUNDING MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of all 18 Board Members present.

12. Discussion and possible action [see below Motion].

Mr. Neal requested and it was agreed to **TABLE** this Item.

Recess. There was a brief recess at this time.

13. Discussion and possible action to support the following recommendations by the SNC Land Use Committee [see the below Motions].

Mr. Ortega distributed a "Summary of Land Use Committee Recommended Projects 9-27-12" and described the project.

MOTION (by Ms. Job, seconded by Mr. Martin): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council opposes a Zoning Variance for 13389 Hubbard Ave.

DISCUSSION: The Committee recommended opposing the Variance. There was discussion of the project's merits.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of all 18 Board Members present.

14. Discussion and possible action [see below Motion].

Mr. Ortega distributed a "Summary of Land Use Committee Recommended Projects 9-27-12" and described the project.

MOTION (by Ms. Blose, seconded by Ms. Lincoln): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council supports of a Zoning Variance for 13064 Borden Ave.

DISCUSSION: The Committee recommended approving the Variance. There was discussion of the project's merits.

MOTION PASSED by a hand vote with 13 in favor; two abstained.

[At this time it was noted that Item #11 was inadvertently voted upon by the Youth Representative, who is not yet of age (18) to vote on financial matters.]

MOTION to RESCIND (by Mr. Ortega, seconded by Mr. Smith): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council rescinds the Item #11 Motion to financially support the SFV Veteran's Parade, scheduled for 11/10/12, in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of all 18 Board Members present.

MOTION (by Mr. Neal, seconded by Mr. Perry): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council will financially support the SFV Veteran's Parade, scheduled for 11/10/12, in an amount not to exceed \$2,000.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote of all 17 eligible Board Members present; Ms. Ramirez abstained due to not yet being of age (18) to vote on financial matters.

15. Discussion and possible action [see below Motion].

Mr. Neal requested and it was agreed to **TABLE** this Item.

16. Board Member Comments

Mr. Smith thanked Board Members for their personal support. Ms. Campbell-Jones hosts exercise classes here on first Fridays; Stakeholder Jonathan enjoyed it. Ms. Blose reminded that the SNC has "very limited" powers and cannot approve or stop a land use project. She encouraged the community to help save its olive trees. Stakeholder John Holmes encouraged attending third Thursdays LAPD Mission Station Captain's Meetings. Mr. Martin announced the October 9th Sylmar High School 50th Anniversary Celebration.

17. Future Agenda Items, next Meeting date

The next General Board Meeting will be on Thursday, October 25, 2012 at 6:30 p.m. at the Sylmar Recreation Center, Small Gym, 13109 Borden Ave., Sylmar, CA 91342 [not Concordia Jr./Sr. High School, as was announced].

18. Closing Remarks, Announcements, Acknowledgements and Adjournment

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. Neal).

MOTION PASSED without any objections.

Mr. Neal **ADJOURNED** the Meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.