

**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, November 15, 2012**

at Sylmar High School, Spartan Theatre, 13050 Borden Ave., 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 6:33 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

2. Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by the Secretary. Board Members present: Cheri Blose, Deidre Campbell-Jones, Ann Job, Brianne King, Sherry Lincoln, Kristin Mills, Don Neal, Judi Neal, George Ortega, Rubi Ramirez and Chris Shows. Board Members absent: Ricardo Benitez, Edward Campos, Laurie Fadness, Derek Martin, Jose Oliva, Richard Perry, Jeanne Rowe, Roy Smith and Diane Valencia (all excused except Benitez). One Board Seat (Community-Based Organizations) was vacant. Also attending: 21 Stakeholders and Guests.

Eleven 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, Speaker Cards and Timekeeper -- Marty Price, Sylmar High School Assistant Principal, and Don Neal explained this.

4. Welcome and Introduction by Meeting Host -- Mr. Price welcomed everyone.

5. Approval of the Minutes

It was agreed to **TABLE** approval of the Minutes of the October 25, 2012 Meeting.

6. Public Officials and Community Representatives announcements and presentations.

There were none at this time.

7. Board Member community announcements.

There were no announcements at this time.

8. Reports

Secretary -- The Secretary reported on recent work providing information about the Bylaws, previous SNC considerations of the "Beyond Coal" issue, and Board Member name badge ordering; setting up and testing an e-mail auto-reply; forwarding land use applications and Hearing Notices, and more.

Treasurer/Budget -- Mr. Ortega indicated that there will be a report next month.

Land Use -- Mr. Ortega deferred to below Item #12.

Outreach -- Ms. Mills and Ms. Campbell-Jones indicated that there was no report.

Government Affairs, Public Safety and Services -- Mr. Shows indicated that there was no report.

Green -- Mr. Neal noted that the Chairpersonship of this Committee is open.

Equestrian -- Ms. Blöse indicated that there was no report.

Bylaws -- Ms. Blöse, Ms. Job, Ms. Lincoln and Mr. Neal volunteered to assist Mr. Martin in reviewing the Bylaws.

Additional Reports, requested by the President -- There were no additional reports.

9. Public Comments

Kristie Clark, City Council District Seven Candidate, described her community interests. Stakeholder Christine Whitaker described a zoning variance request for 280 apartments "off of Yarnell . . . instead of the condos that were promised." Mr. Neal said he will agendize this for the next General Board Meeting. Mr. Ortega encouraged her to attend the November 19th Land Use Committee Meeting. Stakeholder Nina Royal (NRoyal9259@aol.com) encouraged participating in a City Council District Seven Candidates Forum and said her newspaper, the North Valley Reporter, needs writers and editors. City Council District Seven Candidate David Barron described his community interests.

[This was addressed after Item #13.] Bart Reed, Executive Director of The Transit Coalition, reviewed their work regarding ADA-type accessibility, bus-train connection improvement survey work and the need for bus stop landing pads and curb cuts.

Unfinished Business

10. Discussion and possible action to allocate up to \$60 to purchase three standing fans for Church of the Foothills.

It was agreed to **TABLE** this Item.

11. Presentation and Q & A by Metro staff on the status and future of the East San Fernando Valley Transit Corridor: project history, study area, development process, purpose, need, modes under consideration and upcoming community activities. See <http://www.metro.net/projects/east-sfv>.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #14.*] Metro's Steve distributed an "Overview Fact Sheet" and a "Project Update" and described the project; different configurations and alignments have been considered since 2008. Stakeholder John Holmes expressed concerned that The Transit Coalition's study area does not include L.A. Mission College or Olive View Medical Center. Stakeholder Hiral Bhakta explained that Metro is "trying to create a macro unified regional" transit network and that The Transit Coalition is working more on "micro" transit planning.

12. Discussion and possible action to support the conversion of Los Angeles Mission College, a two-year community college, into a four-year California State University (CSU-Sylmar Mission).

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #10.*] Stakeholder Sam Cordova requested the SNC's support for the above. Mr. Neal related that the College has no such plans, but has discussed making four-year degrees available. He will agendize this and possibly form a Committee. Stakeholder Nina Uribe was strongly opposed to the idea because of traffic, eminent domain and other issues.

13. Discussion and possible action in response to the Sylmar Community Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report.

Mr. Neal said the Plan [see <https://sites.google.com/site/SylmarNewCommunityPlan>] will be linked to the SNC website. Mr. Ortega reported that the Committee is considering what Plan recommendations to make, for example, having a second Fire Station in Sylmar. Ms. Blose supports the Plan, which is "encouraging the Sylmar area to be rural."

MOTION (by Mr. Ortega, seconded by Ms. Lincoln): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council authorizes its Land Use Committee to investigate and respond for its Board of Directors regarding the Sylmar Community Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

Recess. There was a brief recess at this time.

New Business

14. Presentation and Q & A on the status and future of the SoCal Gas Advanced Meter Project, including locations where work will soon be started in Sylmar.

[*This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #9.*] Daisy Cristobal-Sanchez, SoCal Gas Stakeholder Education Project Manager, displayed a meter and said "the project is starting January 1st . . . co-locating units onto already-existing street lights." The meters are "battery-operated" (the batteries last around 20 years) and "will give [customers] the ability to read" the meter through various methods "to receive information on a next-day basis." The project will be completed in 2017.

15. **Appointments** of Committee Chairs, Parliamentarian, and Sergeant at Arms by the President; open Board Seat: Community-Based Organization (CBO) Representative.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #17.] Mr. Neal reminded of the availability of the CBO Representative Board Seat.

MOTION (by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Blose): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approves the appointments of Board Members Cheri Blose, Ann Job, Sherry Lincoln and Don Neal to its Bylaws Committee Chaired by Derek Martin.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

16. **Appointment** by President of a Parliamentarian.

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #11.] Mr. Neal announced that Mr. Ortega agreed to be the Parliamentarian.

MOTION (by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Campbell-Jones): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approves the appointment of Board Member George Ortega as its Parliamentarian.

MOTION PASSED unanimously by a hand vote.

17. **Appointment** by President of a Sergeant at Arms.

It was agreed to **TABLE** this Item.

18. **Appointment** by President of Committee Chair(s).

There were no appointments at this time.

19. **Board Member Comments**

[This Agenda Item was addressed after Item #15.] Ms. Blose noted that Ms. Fadness was unable to attend this Meeting.

20. **Future Agenda Items, next Meeting date.**

Mr. Neal announced that there will not be a General Board Meeting in December 2012; there will be an SNC Board Retreat and Training December 15th at 9:00 a.m. at the Sylmar Recreation Center, 13109 Borden Ave., Sylmar, CA 91342. Mr. Ortega said he is working on the location for the January 24th Meeting.

21. **Closing Remarks, Announcements, Acknowledgements and Adjournment.**

MOTION to ADJOURN (by Mr. Neal, seconded by Ms. Blose).

MOTION PASSED by a voice vote.

Mr. Neal **ADJOURNED** the Meeting at 8:06 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.