

**SYLMAR NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL
OUTREACH AND PUBLIC SERVICE COMMITTEE AND EVENTS SUBCOMMITTEE
JOINT MEETING
MINUTES
Tuesday November 10, 2009
Sylmar Park
Susan B. Anthony Building
Sylmar, CA 91342**

1) The meeting was called to order by Hiral Bhakta, co-chair of the Outreach Committee at 6:35pm.

2) Introductions were made:

Guillermo “Memo” Reyes: Co-Chair of Public Service Committee

Jeanne Rowe: Co-Chair of Outreach Committee

Hiral Bhakta: Co-Chair of Outreach Committee

Jim Schopper: Co-Chair of Outreach Committee

Erlin Arellano: Chair of Events Subcommittee

Ricardo Benitez: Sylmar Neighborhood Council Board of Director

Lani Gonzalez: Stakeholder

Melba “Mama Hazze” L. Gilkey: Director, Hazze Hip Hop Culture Dream Center

(Outreach)

3) Director Jeanne Rowe moved, and Director Ricardo Benitez seconded, to accept the minutes of October 13, 2009, for the Outreach Committee, as corrected. PASSED. 4-1-0

(Public Services)

4) Adoption of Minutes for previous Public Service Meeting- TABLED

(Outreach)

5) Director Jeanne Rowe gave two (2) reports on previously discussed agenda items:

1) Farmers Market: Meeting for the Farmers Market will take place at 10:00am, on Thursday, November 12, 2009, at Los Angeles Mission College; room is unknown.

2) MB2 Raceway: Planning is going well. Auctions items are needed. Next Planning Meeting will take place at Director Jeanne’s house on Wednesday, December 3, 2009, at 6:00pm.

(Outreach)

6) Outreach Committee presented Agenda Item #6. According to previous bylaws, Vice Chair of a committee can be a stakeholder; however per new bylaws, Vice Chair must be a Board Member. Director Bhakta motioned to make Director Ricardo Benitez, Vice Chair of the Outreach Committee; Director Benitez has been attending both Outreach Meetings and General Board Meetings prior to becoming a Board Member. Director Guillermo “Memo” Reyes seconded. Motion passes unanimously. 8-0-0

Secretary of Outreach Committee was previously named in by Director Jeanne Rowe in 2008.

Director Bhakta motioned to rename Sherry Lincoln as Sylmar NC Outreach Secretary. Director Rowe seconded. Director Rowe called for the question.

Motion passes unanimously. 8-0-0

(Public Services)

- 7) Public Service Committee presented this item. Director Reyes mentioned that Norris St. is in need of street lights. Various stakeholders have complained about lighting. Director Schopper recommended calling and investigating with the Department of Street Lighting for further information on the issue. Director Schopper also recommended that the stakeholders give input on the issues, as costs will be given to stakeholders from Norris St and mentioned that cost may also be included in property tax. Stakeholder for the issue was not present; therefore Director Schopper recommended receiving a petition from stakeholders on Norris St. before resolving the issue and possibly enclosing a letter on behalf of the Public Service Committee.

(Public Services)

- 8) Stakeholder Gary Sanders joined the meeting during the discussion of Agenda Item # 8 at 7:07pm and introduced himself. Public Service Committee presented this item. Director Schopper mentioned that water is not being conserved due to water bursts and poor maintenance of water mains. Director Schopper recommended that an audit be done on conditions and location of water mains in Sylmar. Director Reyes and Director Schopper agreed to invite Greg Bartz, Neighborhood Council liaison for DWP, to next Public Service Committee Meeting. Director Reyes, set a goal to draft a letter regarding the water mains, and present it at the next meeting for approval.

(Outreach)

- 9) Outreach Committee presented this item. Was tabled last Outreach Meeting, due to mishap in communication. Melba "Mama Hazze" Gilkey spoke briefly about the Hip Hop Pow Wow event which will be held in North Hills, CA on December 12, 2009. It is a gathering of youth of multi-cultural background where the youth come together to promote the arts and self-express themselves through the arts. Mama Hazze would like to request a \$600 donation from the Council. Concerns were brought up about the event not being held in Sylmar. Ms. Gilkey mentioned that the Center used to be held by Tia Chucha's before Tia Chucha's left Sylmar; the program is currently housed by the Jeopardy Program and House of Brews. A portion of the youth that are involved in the program are from Sylmar. However, due to the fact that the program and event are not in Sylmar; there was no action taken on the agenda item.

(Public Services)

- 10) Public Service Committee presented this item. Director Fabian Garcia joined the meeting at this time and introduced himself. Director Schopper and Director Reyes brought up the concern that the date is unknown for the Mayor's Day of Service; the Mayor's Day of Service may not occur this year due to the economic situation. There was no action taken on the agenda item.

(Outreach)

- 11) Outreach Committee presented this item. Director Bhakta mentioned that the BoBo's issue has been resolved. Its prospective date of opening is next year. No action on the item was needed.

(Outreach)

- 12) Outreach presented this item. Director Bhakta mentioned that the Fresh an Easy supermarket withdrew from building their supermarket in Sylmar, after rumors spread about the franchise allegedly abusing their employees. Stakeholders had expressed that a Traders Joe or a Whole Foods be brought into Sylmar to replace the unoccupied facility, where Fresh and Easy would have been built. Director Fabian Garcia recommended we ask to receive a letter from Councilman Alarcon's office as to what problems arose from building the Fresh an Easy supermarket in Sylmar and if any replacements have been acquired. Director Bhakta said he would investigate further on the issue and follow up on the issue.

(Outreach)

- 13) Outreach Committee presented this item. Director Bhakta mentioned that he requested this item to be placed on the agenda due to the changed conditions Apple One placed on SNC Office Administrator David Levin's, contract. The new contract would require Mr. Levin to work in another office, provided by Apple One, in Downtown LA. Many concerns arose due to the change of location. Director Bhakta motioned to write letter to DONE requesting the restoration of the original terms and conditions applying to Neighborhood Council Office. Director Reyes seconded the motion. Motion passes unanimously. 9-0-0

- 14) Comments: Director Rowe reminded everyone of the Veterans Day Parade, which will be held on November 11, 2009, at 11:11am. The Sylmar NC's float will be provided by Cooper Hardware and Director Jim Schopper will be riding on the float. Director Rowe graciously bought a sign for the float, with the Sylmar Neighborhood Council's name on it.

- 15) Meeting adjourned at 8:30pm , next scheduled meeting, which will be another joint meeting, will be held on December 8th, 2009, at 6:30pm in the Susan B. Anthony Building, in Sylmar Park.

Respectfully Submitted,

Erlin V. Arellano

Modified By

HB