

**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, March 28, 2013**

L.A. Mission College, Campus Ctr., Rm. 1-2, 13356 Eldridge 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 6:34 p.m.

**2. Roll Call**

Roll Call was taken. Nineteen of the 21 Board Seats were filled. Two Board Seats (Community-Based Organizations and Retail) were vacant. Thirteen of the 19 Board Members were present at the beginning of the Meeting: Ricardo Benitez, Deidre Campbell-Jones, Ann Job, Sherry Lincoln, Derek Martin, Kristin Mills, Don Neal, Judi Neal, Richard Perry, Rubi Ramirez, Chris Shows, Roy Smith and Diane Valencia. Cheri Blose arrived later. Board Members absent: Laurie Fadness, Brianne King, Jose Oliva and George Ortega (all excused) and Edward Campos (unexcused). 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**

Mr. Martin volunteered to be the Timekeeper.

**4. Welcome and Introduction by Board Meeting Host.**

The Meeting Host was unavailable.

**5. Approval of the Minutes**

Mr. Neal requested and it was agreed to TABLE approval of the Minutes of the January 24, 2013 and February 28, 2013 General Board Meetings.

**6. Public Officials and Community Representatives announcements and presentations.**

Manny Figueras, Constituent Svcs. Rep. for L.A. City District Seven Councilman Richard Alarcon (818-756-8409; Manny.Figueras@LACity.org), reported that the Police are looking for whoever has been setting trees on fire.

**7. Board Member community announcements.**

See below Item #16.

## 8. **Reports**

Secretary -- The Secretary could not be present and there was no report at this time.

Treasurer/Budget -- Mr. Perry deferred to below [the first] Item #10.

Land Use -- Mr. Ortega indicated that there was no report.

Outreach -- There was no report..

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

Equestrian -- Ms. Blose reported on the Committee Meeting.

Bylaws -- Mr. Martin indicated that there was no report.

Education -- Mr. Neal reported on the Committee Meeting.

## 9. **Public Comments**

There were no public comments at this time.

## **Old Business**

10. **Discussion** of SNC Outreach activities, goals, outreach vehicles, SNC Board Member responsibilities and expectations of the Sylmar Neighborhood Council. Discussion of revision of SNC Bylaws. There was discussion.

*Board Member Cheri Blose arrived around this time.*

## **New Business**

10. [The second Item #10.] **Presentation and possible vote** [see the below Motion]. Presentation by Imelda Padilla, Alex Reza, or Frank Muniz from CSUN. A CSUN representative described the event.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Lincoln, seconded by Mr. Perry): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council supports the "Adelante Hombre Youth Summit" on Saturday, April 27, 2013 that inspires young men from the northeast Valley to attend college and seek professional careers. Amount not to exceed \$200 to purchase educational supplies: single subject notebooks, backpacks, calculators, reading books and protractors. The SNC logo will be featured in the final recruitment flyer and program.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with 12 in favor; two abstained.

11. **Discussion and possible vote** [see the below Motion].

Sandra Monrrigo, Community School Program Assistant, Sylmar Neighborhood Partnership (818-833.3706; SMonrrigo@laep.org; <http://www.laep.org/sylmar>), presented about the event.

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Martin, seconded by Mr. Benitez): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council supports the Sylmar High School Healthy Living Resource Fair on Saturday April 20th, 2013 from 9:00-1:00 pm in an amount not to exceed \$200 for printing costs and other support supplies.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with 12 in favor; two abstained.

**12. Discussion and possible vote** [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Mr. Benitez, seconded by Mr. Perry): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council supports Herrick Elementary School in an amount not to exceed \$500 towards supplies for two raised vegetable beds, one compost bin, picnic tables and seeds for construction of an edible garden.

**DISCUSSION:** Stakeholder and former Sylmar Neighborhood Council President Quyen Vo-Ramirez distributed a "Herrick Elementary School Proposed Edible Garden and Memorial Project" handout and described the community benefits.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with 13 in favor; one abstained.

**13. Discussion and possible vote** [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Campbell-Jones, seconded by Mr. Benitez): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council supports the Spay Neuter Project of Los Angeles (SNPLA) in the amount of \$1,000 for a community improvement project that will allow 20 animals to be spayed/neutered.

**DISCUSSION:** Ann Sturman, Development Director of the SNPLA (818-849-6374; www.snpla.org), presented. The SNPLA has a clinic in Van Nuys. Concerns were expressed about the clinic not being in Sylmar and that the funding could be allocated for community projects that are in Sylmar.

**FUNDING MOTION FAILED** by a hand vote with one in favor; 12 opposed; one abstained.

**14. Discussion and possible vote** [see the below Motion].

**FUNDING MOTION** (by Ms. Campbell-Jones, seconded by Ms. Job): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council opposes putting off Neighborhood Council elections until 2015, opposes deducting \$7,500 from Neighborhood Councils to pay for those elections and supports reinstating Neighborhood Councils to previous funding levels of \$50,000.

**DISCUSSION:** The Motion was discussed.

**FUNDING MOTION PASSED** by a hand vote with 13 in favor; one abstained.

15. **Discussion and possible vote** to pass a resolution supporting, opposing, or recommending changes to the proposed motion, and filing a Community Impact Statement on the Council Files so that SNC opinion is attached to the Council File. The Stakeholder definition is currently defined as a person who "lives, works, or owns property in the neighborhood and any individual who declares a stake in the neighborhood and affirms the factual basis for it."

**MOTION** (by Ms. Job, seconded by Ms. Campbell-Jones): The Sylmar Neighborhood Council approves the following Resolution:

"Resolved, the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners recommends that sections of the city's Administrative Code which touch upon neighborhood council stakeholders be amended as follows:

1. remove the requirement that neighborhood councils provide governing board positions for factual basis stakeholders;
2. allow each neighborhood council to determine the number, if any, of governing board seats that be allocated to factual basis stakeholders;
3. remove the current definition of factual basis stakeholder; and
4. allow each neighborhood council to adopt its own definition of factual basis stakeholder."

**DISCUSSION:** The Commission delayed a vote on the Stakeholder definition Motion for 60 days to May 20, 2013 in order to give Neighborhood Councils time to weigh in on the issue. Neighborhood Councils should take a position to send to the Commission for consideration in their April meetings, if possible.

**MOTION PASSED** unanimously by a hand vote of all 14 Board Members present.

16. **Presentation** about the results from the Los Angeles Budget Challenge. Ms. Job presented the results of the Mayor's Budget Survey.
17. **Appointments and/or vote** to name new Board Members. Open seats: Community Based Organization (CBO) and 3rd Retail Representatives, Committee Chairs, Parliamentarian, and Sergeant at Arms  
There were no candidates at this time.
18. **Board Member Comments**  
There were no comments at this time.
19. **Future Agenda Items, next Meeting date**  
Write to Executive Board at ExecutiveBoard@SylmarNC.org, or mail c/o Sylmar Neighborhood Council, c/o Sylmar Recreation Center, 13109 Borden Ave., Sylmar, CA 91342. The next General Board Meeting will be on April 25, 2013 at a location to be announced.
20. **Closing Remarks, Announcements, Acknowledgements and Adjournment**  
Mr. Neal **ADJOURNED** the Meeting without objection at 8:20 p.m.

Minutes written by DL.